

Legislature of Ontario Debates

Tuesday, February 24, 1970-Friday, April 10, 1970

Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Committees Branch - Procedural Research Section

No. 1

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, February 24, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, February 24, 1970

Speech from the Throne, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor 3

Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act, bill intituled, Mr. A. F. Lawrence first reading 6

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Robarts, agreed to 6

Appendix 7

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Tuesday, February 24, 1970, being the first day of the third session of the 28th Parliament of the province of Ontario for the despatch of business pursuant to a proclamation of the Honourable W. Ross Macdonald, Lieutenant-Governor of the province.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY, 24, 1970

The House met at 3 o'clock p.m.

The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, having entered the House and being seated upon the throne, was pleased to open the session with the following gracious speech.

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald (Lieutenant-Governor): Mr. Speaker and members of the legislative assembly of Ontario, I extend warmest greetings and a sincere welcome to each and every one of you.

As we begin the third session of the 28th Parliament of the province of Ontario, we enter a new decade with full confidence in the ability of the people of Ontario to recognize, accept and deal with the challenges before us. These are momentous days. These are exciting days. Let us devote our energies, our abilities, our judgment and our common sense to our collective tasks for the betterment of all.

For you, our elected representatives, this third session of the 28th Parliament provides an unparalleled opportunity to meet squarely the challenges of the 1970's. Let us do so, secure in the knowledge that planning and foresight have established a solid foundation of good government, a sound and vigorous economy, and a potential matched by few. The province of Ontario is, and we hope will always be, a dynamic partner in the Canadian federation, contributing in every possible way to the strength, vitality and unity of our beloved country.

As a people, we in Ontario must be engaged not only in the re-evaluation of our past, but also in the process of charting a course for the final decades of this century. The backlog of problems bequeathed to us by two world conflicts, a major economic depression and a host of lesser roadblocks of the earlier years of this century, has been largely overcome. But we are still locked in the continuing task of providing for day-to-day living.

There is the necessity of developing and providing a system of education for our children that is adequate to their changing needs. There is the continuing urgency of making available housing within the means of our people. There is the necessity of assuring a fulfilling life in our cities. There is the necessity of providing more and more new and rewarding jobs. There is the requirement to maintain a healthy agricultural industry to provide for our expanding population. There is the necessity of ensuring that we have an honest and profitable climate for the conduct of business and commerce. There must be an efficient and rational integration of transportation throughout the province. And through the provision of social services of high standards, we must ensure that the basic needs of our people are met.

Underlying all of this is the necessity to protect the rights of the individual while, at the same time, ensuring that we achieve higher standards of responsibility on the part of each and every person.

The powerful muscle and sinew created during the postwar years must be fully harnessed in the '70's for the betterment of all. For a quarter century, Ontario has been expanding its industrial capacity, harnessing its natural resources, building great cities and providing goods and services to a rapidly growing and increasingly affluent population. We have been preoccupied with many of the material necessities of life which accompany such rapid growth. As residents of a dynamic province we have been flexing our economic muscles and each of us has shared in the benefits of having created one of the highest standards of living in the world.

Let us take pride in our accomplishments. However, the time has come to ensure that what we have created reflects adequately the quality of life to which we aspire. As we move into the decade of the '70's, we must devote more of our attention to the provision of a richer, more rewarding life for ourselves, our children and their children. Such a fresh approach can make the 1970's a new decade of discovery. The 1970's will be a

period when personal involvement in the activities of our communities will be encouraged and more pronounced; when the individual will relate more readily with his neighbours and his governments; when important steps will be taken to reduce the damage already wrought upon our environment; when the machinery of government will evolve to deal more efficiently with the complex problems of modern life.

During this session of the Legislature, you will have placed before you some of the plans of the government of Ontario to meet the challenges which will be uniquely those of the 1970's.

Through the years, the government of Ontario has developed a broad programme of essential services for the people of our province in fields such as health, education, housing, industry and agriculture. At the same time, it has created special programmes related directly to the role of the individual within the larger society. Many of these special programmes, such as the integration of newcomers into the mainstream of life in our province, respect for human rights, leisure, recreation, and cultural activities, enable the individual to enjoy a full and meaningful life and to make a positive contribution to our province and to Canada.

As we enter the 1970's, however, even greater effort must be directed to these ends. To achieve these purposes, it is the intention of the government to consolidate and co-ordinate in a reorganized Department of Citizenship many such activities now directed to indvidual groups of residents. This comprehensive programme will demonstrate in a vigorous manner the commitment of the government to the assurance of full and equal citizenship for all residents of Ontario. The role of each and every person, whether he be an established resident or a newcomer, will be emphasized. Specific steps will be taken to assist and encourage the individual to become an active, contributing member of our society. This ministry will encourage interests in community affairs and an increased awareness of the challenges which we face and the community goals which must be attained. By drawing together all of these programmes in a single department and by giving emphasis to total involvement, a comprehensive citizenship programme can be developed to further enrich the quality of life in our province.

To further safeguard the civil rights of the people of Ontario, the historic protections which we all enjoy will continue to be woven into the fabric of our laws. To this end, proposals for revising the jurisdictions and procedures of our courts will be placed before you. These and other important matters reflected in the reports of the Hon. J. C. McRuer will merit the full consideration of the Legislature.

During the 1970's, the accessibility and availability of government to the people will continue to be a challenge requiring the utmost dedication of all levels of government. Last autumn the people of northern Ontario discussed their aspirations directly with the government of Ontario. Springing from a series of exceedingly successful development conferences, the government will place before you during this session its plans to co-ordinate activities related specifically to northern Ontario.

This will be accomplished within a department of mines and northern development, which will have special co-ordinating and policy-making functions. Through this enlarged function of The Department of Mines, the people of northern Ontario can be assured of a new forum and an entirely new mechanism by which their concerns, requirements and aspirations can be heard and more effectively communicated.

Ontario has been truly blessed by providence with the bountiful gifts of nature. But this bounty of natural resources, including soil, water and air, must be recognized for what it is: a fragile gift to be treated with the utmost respect; an heirloom to be passed on unimpaired to our children. The ecological balance is extremely delicate. We cannot continue to abuse our environment.

One of the great challenges we face during the 1970's is to restore this balance. The challenge to reduce and prevent pollution is, of course, not that of Ontario alone. It is world-wide. But it is one to which the people of Ontario can make—indeed must make—a major contribution.

To its credit, the Legislature of Ontario has concerned itself with this problem for many years. An impressive array of measures has been implemented to halt pollution of our water, air and soil, to repair past damages and to prevent future pollution. Substantial success has been achieved. As we enter the 1970's, a new and more vigorous attack is being mounted to meet the stresses we are placing upon our environment and to protect it from further damage.

To demonstrate its commitment to this task, the government of Ontario will concentrate all governmental activities related to the abatement and prevention of pollution

and the enforcement of appropriate statutes within The Department of Energy and Resources Management. This department will establish policy objectives and standards in all fields related to the preservation and improvement of our environment and will work closely with other levels of government and industry to achieve our objectives.

The government will carry into this session its continuing commitment to the current review of the constitutional instruments of Canada and looks forward during 1970 to further discussions with the federal and provincial governments. The government is confident and optimistic that the strength and unity of Canada will be enhanced by these discussions. The government believes that you, the elected representatives of the people of Ontario, should become more fully engaged in the examination of the positions taken to date and that you should have an opportunity to contribute fully to the constitutional review. To this end, a standing committee of the Legislature on constitutional matters will be established. Your participation will further ensure that the review will represent the aspirations of all the residents of Ontario.

As we enter the 1970's the pressing requirements of our urban centres will demand more and more of our attention. As our population concentrates in and around our cities, we must find meaningful solutions to the needs of the urban dweller. In recognition of the challenges which are specific to our cities, the government will convene a conference during April which will begin the task of charting a new course for our municipalities. This Legislature will be adjourned so that each of you may attend this conference and participate in these vital discussions.

You will be asked to approve measures which will facilitate collective bargaining, promote harmonious relations between labour and management and uphold and protect the rights and interests of all of the people of Ontario in labour disputes. You will also have placed before you legislation which will provide collective bargaining procedures for crown employees.

You will have placed before you for approval legislation dealing with the incorporation, operation, management and dissolution of Ontario-registered ordinary corporations with share capital. This legislation will be in the form of a revised Business Corporations Act which will reflect your previous consideration, that of the business and financial community and the recommendations of the interim report of the select committee on company law.

This spring and summer, the people of Ontario will emphasize their pride and confidence in their province and Canada by their participation in the 1970 World Exposition in Osaka, Japan. Through the Ontario Pavilion and its staff, we shall strengthen our relationships with the people of Japan and the world, expand our trade with the nations of the Pacific and find new markets for the products of Ontario agriculture. Our bright and eager hostesses, hosts and Ontario Provincial Police officers are now in Japan making final preparations for the opening of Expo 70 on March 15. It is my hope that many of you will have an opportunity to visit this exposition.

Earlier this month, in a federal-provincial conference in Ottawa, much attention was directed to the problems of inflation. It was unanimously agreed that each government would examine all areas of expenditure in a concerted effort to contain spending to help ease the current inflationary pressures on our economy.

The achievement of any meaningful results will require the closest scrutiny of all spending programmes in both the public and private domain and the co-operation of all citizens. Restraint and co-operation by all individuals and business enterprises are called for.

The legislative programmes to be placed before you will reflect this approach. Every effort will be made to ensure that our governmental programmes for people will be continued within the limitations of our undertakings to contain total governmental expenditures.

Within the framework of these restraints the government will respond to the needs of our society and our people as we enter the decade of the 1970's.

May divine providence guide you in your deliberations.

God save the Queen and Canada.

The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to retire from the chamber.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: I beg to inform the House that to prevent mistakes, I have obtained a copy of His Honour's speech, which I will now read.

(Reading dispensed with.)

THE RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE ORDERS ACT

Hon. A. F. Lawrence moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I move that the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor to this House be taken into consideration tomorrow.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 3.25 p.m.

APPENDIX

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

(117 Members)

Third Session — Twenty-Eighth Parliament

Speaker: Hon. Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C. **Clerk of the House: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.**

Member	Party	Constituency	Post Office Address
Allan, James N.	P.C.	Haldimand-Norfolk	411 Maple St., Dunnville
Apps, Syl	P.C.	Kingston and the Islands	241 Alwington Place, Kingston
Auld, Hon. James A. C.	P.C.	Leeds	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Bales, Hon. Dalton	P.C.	York Mills	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Belanger, J. Albert	P.C.	Prescott and Russell	Sarsfield
Ben, George	L.	Humber	1134 Dundas St. W., Toronto 3
Bernier, Leo	P.C.	Kenora	Hudson
Bolton, Ven. Kenneth C.	N.D.	Middlesex South	589 Piccadilly St., London 24
Boyer, Robert J.	P.C.	Muskoka	620 University Ave., Toronto
Braithwaite, Leonard A.	L.	Etobicoke	Suite E., 1500 Royal York Rd., Weston
Breithaupt, J. R.	L.	Kitchener	90 Church St., Kitchener
Brown, John L.	N.D.	Beaches-Woodbine	339 Millard Ave., Newmarket
Brunelle, Hon. René	P.C.	Cochrane North	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Bukator, George	L.	Niagara Falls	Box 280, Chippawa
Bullbrook, James E.	L.	Sarnia	881 Tudor Close, Sarnia
Burr, Fred A.	N.D.	Sandwich-Riverside	4005 Howard Ave., Windsor
Carruthers, Alex	P.C.	Durham	Garden Hill
Carton, Gordon R.	P.C.	Armourdale	217 Sandringham Dr., Downsview
Cass, Hon. Fred McIntosh	P.C.	Grenville-Dundas	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Connell, T. Ray	P.C.	Wentworth North	R.R. #2, Dundas
Davis, Hon. William G.	P.C.	Peel North	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Davison, Norm	N.D.	Hamilton Centre	122 Sanford Ave. S., Hamilton 22
Deacon, D. M.	L.	York Centre	Glenburn Farms, Unionville
Deans, Ian	N.D.	Wentworth	38 Beaconsfield Dr., Hamilton
Demers, Gaston	P.C.	Nickel Belt	Chelmsford
De Monte, Dante M.	L.	Dovercourt	29 South Kingslea Dr., Toronto 18
Downer, Rev. A. W.	P.C.	Dufferin-Simcoe	Box 239, Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Dunlop, Edward	P.C.	York-Forest Hill	45 Charles St. E., Toronto 5
Dymond, Dr. Matthew B.	P.C.	Ontario	Port Perry
Edighoffer, Hugh	L.	Perth	147 Nelson St., Mitchell
Evans, D. Arthur	P.C.	Simcoe Centre	Box 87, Bradford
Farquhar, Stan	L.	Algoma-Manitoulin	Box 421, Elliot Lake
Ferrier, Rev. William	N.D.	Cochrane South	292 Cedar St. N., Timmins

Member	Party	Constituency	Post Office Address
Gaunt, Murray	L.	Huron-Bruce	Wingham
Gilbertson, Bernt	P.C.	Algoma	R.R. #1, Richards Landing
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Good, Edward R.	L.	Waterloo North	175 Tennyson Place, Waterloo
Grossman, Hon. Allan	P.C.	St. Andrew-St. Patrick	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Guindon, Hon. Fernand	P.C.	Stormont	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
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Hamilton, Maurice	P.C.	Renfrew North	R.R. #5, Pembroke
Haskett, Hon. Irwin	P.C.	Ottawa South	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
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Hodgson, R. Glen	P.C.	Victoria-Haliburton	P.O. Box 240, Haliburton
Hodgson, William	P.C.	York North	R.R. #1, Kettleby
Innes, Gordon W.	L.	Oxford	R.R. #1, Woodstock
Jackson, Donald	N.D.	Timiskaming	Box 333, Kirkland Lake
Jessiman, James	P.C.	Thunder Bay	1025 Arthur St. E., Thunder Bay "F"
Johnston, Allister	P.C.	Parry Sound	South River
Johnston, R. M.	P.C.	St. Catharines	10 Canal St., St. Catharines
Johnston, W. Erskine	P.C.	Carleton	Carp
Kennedy, R. Douglas	P.C.	Peel South	2065 Camilla Rd., Cooksville
Kerr, Hon. George A.	P.C.	Halton West	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Knight, Ron H.	Ind.	Port Arthur	Duke's Trailer Court, R.R. #3, Thunder Bay "P"
Lawlor, Patrick D.	N.D.	Lakeshore	154 Lake Promenade, Toronto 14
Lawrence, Hon. A. B. R.	P.C.	Carleton East	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Lawrence, Hon. Allan F.	P.C.	St. George	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Lewis, Stephen	N.D.	Scarborough West	342 Millard Ave., Newmarket
MacDonald, Donald C.	N.D.	Yorth South	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
MacKenzie, Harold	L.	Ottawa Centre	Box 1279, R.R. #2, Ottawa
MacNaughton, Hon. C. S.	P.C.	Huron	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Makarchuk, Mac	N.D.	Brantford	15 Lynnwood Dr., Apt. 601, Brantford
Martel, Elie W.	N.D.	Sudbury East	46 Ferguson St., Capreol
Meen, Arthur K.	P.C.	York East	95 Lord Seaton Rd., Willowdale
Morin, Jules	P.C.	Ottawa East	101 Wurtemburg, Ottawa
Morningstar, Ellis P.	P.C.	Welland	97 Alberta St., Welland
Morrow, Donald H.	P.C.	Ottawa West	2975 Richmond Rd., Ottawa 14
McKeough, Hon. W. Darcy	P.C.	Chatham-Kent	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
McNeil, R. K.	P.C.	Elgin	R.R. #2, Springfield
Newman, Bernard	L.	Windsor-Walkerville	1290 Ypres Blvd., Windsor
Newman, William	P.C.	Ontario South	Balsam P.O.
Nixon, Robert F.	L.	Brant	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto

Member	Party	Constituency	Post Office Address
Paterson, Donald A.	L.	Essex South	1 Georgia Ave., Leamington
Peacock, Hugh	N.D.	Windsor West	Room 322, Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Pilkey, Clifford G.	N.D.	Oshawa	801 Regent Dr., Oshawa
Pitman, W. G.	N.D.	Peterborough	1364 Gordon Ave., Peterborough
Potter, Dr. R. T.	P.C.	Quinte	276 Charles St., Belleville
Price, Henry J.	P.C.	St. David	27 Bloor St. E., Toronto 5
Pritchard, Mrs. Ada	P.C.	Hamilton West	93 Bold St., Suite 904, Hamilton
Randall, Hon. Stanley J.	P.C.	Don Mills	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Reid, T. Patrick	L.-Lab.	Rainy River	P.O. Box 187, Fort Frances
Reid, Tim	L.	Scarborough East	38 Guildcrest Dr., Scarborough
Reilly, Leonard M.	P.C.	Eglinton	639 Yonge St., Toronto 5
Renwick, James	N.D.	Riverdale	Room 322, Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Renwick, Mrs. Margaret	N.D.	Scarborough Centre	Room 322, Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Reuter, Allan E.	P.C.	Waterloo South	45 Main St., Galt
Robarts, Hon. John P.	P.C.	London North	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Rollins, Clarke T.	P.C.	Hastings	R.R. #1, Bancroft
Root, John	P.C.	Wellington-Dufferin	Orton
Rowe, Russell D.	P.C.	Northumberland	546 Lakeshore Rd., Cobourg
Rowntree, H. Leslie	P.C.	York West	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Ruston, Richard F.	L.	Essex-Kent	Box 4, South Woodslee
Sargent, Eddie	L.	Grey-Bruce	868-2nd Ave. E., Owen Sound
Shulman, Dr. Morton	N.D.	High Park	378 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto 3
Simonett, Hon. J. R.	P.C.	Frontenac-Addington	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Singer, Vernon M.	L.	Downsview	111 Richmond St. W., Suite 603, Toronto 1
Smith, Gordon E.	P.C.	Simcoe East	P.O. Box 128, Orillia
Smith, John R.	P.C.	Hamilton Mountain	42 Sunninghill Ave., Hamilton
Smith, Richard S.	L.	Nipissing	676 McIntyre St. W., North Bay
Snow, James W.	P.C.	Halton East	589 Argus Rd., Oakville
Sopha, Elmer W.	L.	Sudbury	Box 1206, Sudbury
Spence, John P.	L.	Kent	Muirkirk
Stewart, Hon. William A.	P.C.	Middlesex North	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Stokes, J. E.	N.D.	Thunder Bay	Box 62, Schreiber
Trotter, James B.	L.	Parkdale	227 Riverside Dr., Toronto 3
Villeneuve, Osie F.	P.C.	Glengarry	Box 27, Maxville
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Wishart, Hon. Arthur A.	P.C.	Sault Ste. Marie	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
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Yakabuski, Paul J.	P.C.	Renfrew South	Box 219, Barry's Bay
Yaremko, Hon. John	P.C.	Bellwoods	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Young, Fred	N.D.	Yorkview	717 Woburn Ave., Toronto 12

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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Hon. Allan Grossman	*Minister of Correctional Services*
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Hon. Irwin Haskett	*Minister of Transport*
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Hon. Allan Frederick Lawrence	*Minister of Mines*
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Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence, Q.C.	*Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs*

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CONTENTS

Wednesday, February 25, 1970

Points of privilege re Vanier Institute, Mr. Shulman, Mr. Grossman 13

Ontario district executive committee of investment dealers' association, statement by Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence 17

Ontario information to tax structure committee, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 17

Fazzari trial, question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 20

Immediate election on white paper proposals, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 20

Programmes to cope with rising unemployment, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 21

Transfer of Indian affairs department, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 21

Proposals for TV coverage during current session of Legislature, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 21

Provision of nursing home coverage, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. MacDonald 22

Reconciling Ontario and federal estimates of increased revenues arising from white paper proposals, question to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. MacDonald 22

Public Relations Services Ltd., question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Sopha 23

Point of privilege re "fiasco" on floor of House, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Sargent 24

Reading and receiving petitions 24

Motion re printing of reports of debates and speeches, Mr. Robarts, agreed to 26

Motion re standing committees of the House, and standing orders and procedures committee, Mr. Carruthers 27

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. B. Newman, agreed to 46

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Robarts, agreed to 46

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1970

The House met at 3 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves, seconded by Mr. Nixon, that, until further order, the times of meeting of the House will be, for tomorrow, Thursday, February 26, 3 o'clock p.m.; for every Friday, commencing Friday, February 27, 10 o'clock a.m.; and for every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, commencing Monday, March 2, 2 o'clock p.m.; and, unless otherwise ordered, evening sittings will adjourn at 10.30 p.m.

Also, that, until further order, the provisional standing orders relating to the routine proceedings at the opening of each sitting, the oral question period, the procedure on bills and the stacking of divisions, ordered by the House on October 22, 1969, shall continue in force.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Today we have a good number of students with us to see this third session get underway and get to business: in the east gallery, students from Scott Park Secondary school in Hamilton, Laurel Vocational School in Waterloo, St. Martin de Porres Separate School in West Hill and General Brock Public School in Windsor; in the west gallery from Watford Public School in Watford and from Grimsby District Secondary School in Grimsby.

Later this afternoon we will have Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School students from Peterborough.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): On a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: Question of privilege.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, one of the privileges and duties of an MPP is to maintain frequent contact with his constituents. This privilege is particularly important in the case of citizens who are prisoners in our jails, as we may be their only contact outside of the prison authorities. Such contact necessarily must largely be by mail and successive Ministers of Reform Institutions have risen in this House to affirm the right of Ontario's prisoners to write their MPPs unhindered. The present minister has affirmed that right.

It was therefore with considerable dismay that the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) and myself discovered that this is no longer true in at least one institution.

Two weeks ago, in the course of a visit to the Vanier Institute, we interviewed a prisoner, Mrs. C. H., who told us a story which we found it hard to believe at first.

She stated between September and November she had—

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that the point of privilege includes the statement by the prisoner; the point of privilege is of mailing privileges and the postal privileges and the hon. member will please delete extraneous matter and stick to his point of privilege.

Mr. Shulman: Yes sir. She stated that between last—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member is out of order if he continues in this manner. If he wishes to complain about the privilege of the mail going to the persons in these institutions he is quite in order, that is a privilege. If he wishes—

Mr. Shulman: Sir, I cannot tell you unless I—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member does not need to tell the House what the person told him. All he needs to do is tell the House how his privilege, or the privilege of the member for Lakeshore, was interfered with.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, I cannot tell you if you will not allow me to proceed. I have to tell you what occurred, sir, so you will know how the privilege was breached.

This prisoner stated, and I will explain how it was proven if you will allow me the opportunity—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member need not tell me the story that the person told him. He needs to tell the House what happened

as far as the mailing privileges, about which he is complaining, are concerned.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, there was a complaint that letters had been attempted to be sent out and this had not been allowed.

Mr. Speaker: Right!

Mr. Shulman: This was proven when we examined the file which was kept at the Vanier Institute on this prisoner. We found one letter in that file which was addressed to me. Written across the envelope which contained it was that this letter is not to be sent out but is to be rewritten by the prisoner in a more accurate way.

The prisoner stated—and this is essential to the point, sir—that she was called in by Mr. Glen Thompson of that institution and told that although the facts in the letter were true it would cause harm to the TAP—the temporary absence programme—if it came out, and therefore she should not send it out.

I asked that that letter be handed to me, since it was there in front of us and it was addressed to me. The lady in charge of the institution said she could not do so, it would have to go through proper channels. That was two weeks ago. I asked her to send it through proper channels; I have not received that letter, sir.

Furthermore, and this is an equally important part of my breach of privilege, that prisoner has been punished in a cruel and unusual way as a result of this incident, sir. She had been working outside of the institution under the new TAP programme; she had been working through an employment agency, who were well aware of where she was coming from and were sending her to various employers.

Two days after the member for Lakeshore and myself attended at the institution I was informed by the head of that employment agency that she was called by a Mr. Thompson, the same Mr. Thompson, and told henceforth in any case that this prisoner was to be sent on—the prospective employer was to be informed—that she was from the Vanier Institute, which was a practice that had not been followed in the past.

I ask your action, sir, to ensure that there is no further hindrance with communication.

One final point, sir, when I questioned the person in charge of the ward as to why this was done, the explanation that was given was that they did not want the MPPs having to do unnecessary work and having to go on wild goose chases on complaints by prisoners.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Let us hear from the proper channels.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Yes, let us hear from the minister.

Mr. Speaker: Well I presume that the hon. member has also taken this matter up with the minister concerned so that he could have, if there were—and there always are—two sides to the story. Has the hon. member done so? Because if not, then I think that is the first thing for Mr. Speaker to do . . .

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Speaker, the head of the institution informed me that she would be contacting the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman) as soon as we left.

Mr. Speaker: The question I asked was not that. The question I asked the hon. member was whether he, or the member for Lakeshore had contacted the minister with respect to the matter.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Of course not!

Mr. Speaker: No. Well then does the hon. minister wish to speak?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I cannot think of any hon. member of this House who has less to complain about either getting correspondence or writing correspondence than the hon. member for High Park.

An hon. member: Deal with the issue.

Mr. Pilkey: It is the citizen's right!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: If members will just be quiet. I listened quietly to the hon. member—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Why do the members not wait and hear what I have to say?

Mr. Speaker, we have had to practically do what the hon. member has done, set up special machinery for handling his correspondence; as a matter of fact at great cost to the taxpayer.

It is obvious, Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet, to say that the hon. member for High Park has set up bureaucratic machinery within his own office—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member for York South has the floor if he has a point of order.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, I have a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

It is obvious the minister is out of order and I cannot understand why he is permitted to proceed since you were so punctilious a moment ago.

Mr. Speaker: Unfortunately, the member for High Park did not give any regard, really, to the Speaker's ruling; because he persisted and got in what the Speaker said was out of order. Therefore, it would appear that unless the House is prepared to give support to the rulings of the Speaker there is very little use of them being made.

I will say to the hon. member for High Park that I will be glad to take the matter up, not only with the Minister concerned but with the leader of the government, the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), and see if I can get a report with respect to the problem which he and the member for Lakeshore have raised today.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

The hon. member obviously got up this early in the House so that he will make the headlines on a completely distorted story. I think I have the right, sir, to give the facts—

Mr. Speaker: What is the point of privilege?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The point of privilege, sir, is that the hon. member got up and complained about some action which he alleges took place and which will give to the press and to the people of this province a distorted version of what actually occurred. Surely—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

An hon. member: Tell us what happened.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is precisely what I am trying to do.

Mr. Speaker, surely—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Now the hon. members over here will recall that a short time ago there was a point of privilege raised and it was somewhat debatable and I did not hear any interruptions from the rest of the House. The hon. member was allowed to continue and I would hope that each side of the House will give the other side that courtesy.

If the Minister has a point of privilege now I wish he would make it and I would ask the members to give him a hearing.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): They are like hound dogs baying at the moon.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, of course it is not only my right as a member of this House, not only my privilege to clear this matter up, but as the Minister in charge of the department it is my duty to clear it up as soon as possible.

Now in my view, sir, the question should not have been allowed because it should have been a question for the order paper; it could have waited a couple of days. The whole purpose of the oral question period is to deal with matters which a minister should be aware of at the time.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

We have not reached the oral question period, this was a question of privilege on which the member rose.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well of course that is why the member rose that way, Mr. Speaker.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I happen to know about this case because when the hon. member for High Park visits any of our institutions he makes sure that he leaves enough debris behind him so that there is a big fuss made after he goes.

Now in respect of the letter the hon. member is referring to, the instructions—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Why do the members not be quiet for a minute?

Hon. Mr. Randall: He takes in his own garbage and he brings it out.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The instructions to our staff are that a letter from a member of this Legislature, or from any member of the House of Commons, is not to be interfered with, not to be censored in any way, shape or form. It is to go directly, and any reply is to go directly to the member who has sent the letter to the inmate.

It only shows, sir, the difficulty which occurs when one tries to do what is right. For years I sat here in this Legislature as a private member, listening to the NDP, at that time the CCF, berate the then Minister of

Reform Institutions and I think the hon. leader of the CCF at the time—

Mr. MacDonald: Order!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, this is right to the point. I am trying to give a background to what happened in this instance.

We were always charged, sir, this government was always charged, with running a custodial institution at Mercer Reformatory; and there was a division between the professional staff and the custodial staff. We now have the Vanier Centre, sir. We have at the Vanier Centre in Brampton what is known as a therapeutic community, and everything that involves the inmate is supposed to involve everyone in the particular cottage in which that inmate is resident; part of that therapeutic community approach is to become involved with all the problems of that particular inmate.

In this particular instance, sir, and it is the only one which has come to my attention, a worker at the cottage apparently felt that it would be in the interests of the inmate to discuss this matter with her, which was against the regulations, against the instructions of our department. When this was brought to my attention, this information was immediately brought to her attention, that it was against the regulations. It is probably the only case that has happened with all of the hundreds of letters that have come through the system and the many which have come for that particular member. That, as a matter of fact—

Mr. MacDonald: So the hon. member for High Park was right.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Oh, I did not say he was not right in this instance. I said the letter was held—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I am giving the hon. members of this House the information they are entitled to, as to why a letter was held up. Why does the member not shut up and listen once in a while?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I am not through with this particular case yet. On some other occasion I will talk about the manner in which the hon. member attempted to intimidate some female workers there.

But the fact remains, sir, that this is against the rules of the department. The therapeutic worker at the institution felt it was in the best interest to discuss wih this particular inmate the contents of the letter she had sent to the hon. member; which was, as I say, against the regulations.

As to the so-called punishment which was extended to her, the hon. member is entirely wrong. The girl was hired through Office Overload and she was hired for that period of time. When her time was up, that is when she was no longer employed there.

And I will say this, sir, that as usual we are trying out a new programme here, which is a very difficult one, the temporary absence programme; and with the help of that hon. member, sir, it will not be successful.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): When does the minister's book come out?

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if I might ask the hon. member for High Park if the explanation the minister has given to him with respect to the original incident is satisfactory, because it would appear to me that no better or other answer could be gotten with respect to the delay in the delivery of the letter. I think it is something he might take up with the minister's office. If it has been dispatched, our mail services are such that it could reasonably take that long for a letter to go, in my personal experience. The hon. member might tell me.

Mr. Shulman: It is neither satisfactory nor true. In fact, it is completely untrue. There was no intimidation.

I have the member for Lakeshore, who fortunately was with me; in addition to which I am sure the staff will corroborate that.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): On a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: A question of privilege. It always takes precedence.

Mr. Lawlor: While I was out of the House my personal integrity was impugned by the minister? I was with the member for High Park at all times and I will assure this House there was no intimidation involved at any time.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member for Lakeshore is being made a patsy by the member for High Park.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry.

The hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has a statement.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the House that pursuant to a regulation recently promulgated under The Securities Act, 1966, the Ontario Securities Commission has recognized the Ontario district executive committee of the Investment Dealers' Association of Canada as the agency empowered to receive, assemble, and publish information collected from registrants, on a daily basis, concerning the prices at which trades in specific securities have been executed in Ontario through negotiation or otherwise in the over-the-counter market. This announcement is being made at this time by the investment dealers' association.

This action flows from the recommendation made by Commissioner D. S. Beatty on September 23, 1968 in his "Report on Matters Relating to the Financing of Mining Exploration and Development Companies" in which it was proposed that a centralized agency be created to collect statistics regarding the market prices, record of transactions and volume, for both unlisted mining and industrial stocks. It will also serve to facilitate the surveillance of the over-the-counter or unlisted market.

The Investment Dealers' Association of Canada undertook the establishment of such an agency. There has been complete co-operation between the IDA and the commission. Their committee have retained the services of the IBM data centre and have established a programme designed to collect and publish over-the-counter trading data on a daily basis. They have now instituted what is essentially a pilot project covering a selected list of industrial stocks known to be relatively actively traded. Based upon this experience it is intended that this list of securities should be gradually expanded to extend to virtually all unlisted trading in Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier.

I wonder if he can tell the House why it was that the information provided by Ontario to the tax structure committee was based on the gross requirements of the individual departments leading up to this coming budget, rather than on the policy decision made by the government that the budgetary requirements would be almost identical with last year's; and the fact that this led to a misunderstanding in the interpretation of the tax structure committee of something close to $350 million?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, certainly I can explain it; and I think a lot of politics is being played with this particular question.

The basis upon which the figures were to be submitted to the tax structure committee were agreed upon before those figures were submitted. There would be little point in this government submitting figures which would reveal the result of government decisions that might be taken through lack of tax. Of what significance would the figures be if we did not submit what the departments in fact were asking for, to carry out what they consider to be proper programmes for the government, if you are to have a forecast of what government expenditure is to be? That is the first point I make.

Secondly, I would make the point that the basis upon which these figures were submitted to that committee was agreed upon by the members of the committee before they were submitted.

Now the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) might be able to give members some detail on this that I am unable to give them, and I might ask him to fill in; but certainly we all knew what these figures were. The federal government knew what they were. I discussed them with Mr. Benson in my own office before he launched this attack upon me personally.

I do not mind if he does this, it does not bother me; I just get the sneaking feeling that he is after the Leader of the Opposition's job, that is all. This is not in my bailiwick, so I do not worry too much about it.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): It is obvi- out it is not in the Premier's bailiwick, he does not know what he is talking about.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I just point to members, too, that if you are going to make forecasts, as the tax structure committee has done on two occasions, for periods five years ahead, perforce the absolute sums and figures used in those forecasts are obviously not going to be accurate when placed against what in fact happens as the years go by.

Mr. Nixon: The Premier's certainly were not accurate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Now just a minute; the member asked a question. As always they do not want the answer, they just want the effect

of the question with no answer. But I will stand here in my place and persevere, which I am used to doing with these rather raucous, rude fellows in the opposition.

An hon. member: Oh John!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well I can take it, but I get the feeling occasionally that as far as Mr. Benson is concerned it is getting a little warm in the kitchen.

Mr. Sargent: Best thing that ever happened to the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: My greatest supporter in the opposition just threw in a remark.

In any event, I suggest to hon. members opposite that if one submits figures, other than those which were the legitimate, honest position as advocated by the departments of government which are responsible for programming, what is the purpose of the exercise?

I point out to members also that in both reports of the tax structure committee covering a period back to, I believe, about 1962, what is significant is not the absolute figures that one uses, but the trends they indicate. This is the red herring that has been pulled across this whole picture. The trend is distasteful to the federal government so they pull this red herring of what the actual figures are across the whole thing. Now forecasts simply must be used to establish trends, otherwise why bother with the exercise?

Mr. MacDonald: The Premier would not know.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will repeat my point. The whole exercise is designed to indicate what the trend is going to be in the five-year period lying ahead. I suggest to members that we look at the trends, which everyone agrees are revealed by the figures, and not be distracted by a big argument over the actual, specific figures involved.

Now with your permission, Mr. Speaker, it may be that the Treasurer will have some specifics, but I am dealing with the broad question of what the tax structure committee was formed to do, why and how it has done it and the result that we can draw from its work.

I point out to the member, in answer to his question, that this is why he is able to go into those figures and find discrepancies. I suppose we could find them in the submissions of every single government, because if you are submitting what you are going to spend five years hence, or three years hence, or two years hence, certainly it is going to be affected by certain events in that period of time. But as long as there is an agreement in the beginning among all the parties concerned as to what figures are to be submitted, I suggest to members that you can draw trends, which no one really has criticized to date, from what the level of expenditure and revenue will be across this country in the next five years.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: would the Premier agree with me that $350 million is considerably more than a discrepancy; and how does he account for the fact that the other provinces were able to submit data more closely associated with their actual planned expenditure for the coming year, rather than a close figure?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It may be that their budgetary process was farther along than ours. If you want any estimates of what government expenditures are liable to be in the future, I think you have to take the estimates as submitted by the departments that are developing programmes.

Mr. Singer: That is what they would like, not what the Premier is going to give.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Now just a moment. It may be that it will be impossible to accomplish everything that everybody wants; but, nonetheless, these are the indications of what the various departments thought the spending in fact should be; and this was known to all parties concerned before these figures were submitted.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary: surely the Premier would agree that since the $350 million in the padded accounts that were submitted by Ontario is a very substantial percentage of the total amount that the tax structure committee found would be needed by the provincial government, that in fact it would be very difficult to come to any meaningful conclusions or recommendations on the basis of the finding of that tax structure committee; that without the figures that are much closer to what reality would indicate, their usefulness is very limited indeed?

Mr. MacDonald: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would just say in answer to that question if you are going to look at the actual, specific figures involved, I think you are going to be misled; but if you take these studies as indicating what the

trends will be, I think the trends are there; and frankly I think they are accepted by all people. I have not heard any objection to the trend revealed by the federal government.

But let me read this to the hon. member, which may put it in perspective. This is from the report of the tax structure committee and it reads as follows:

> It will be obvious from the foregoing that nothing in this report should be construed as providing a budget forecast for any one of the governments. The data were assembled and developed by officials on the basis of trends and official policies as foreseen in mid-1969. They explicitly do not take into account the broad-ranging analyses undertaken by respective governments in their annual fiscal planning, the objectives or priorities which they established, or the decisions on revenue or expenditure policies ultimately adopted in actual budget proposals submitted to the legislatures.

Mr. MacDonald: The Prime Minister is right; the Liberals are building a political case.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Just a moment, until I have finished.

> There is a clear distinction between the process of budget formulation by governments responsible to their respective legislatures and the technical projection of current fiscal trends based only on a common framework of defined economic and policy assumptions. This report is specifically an exercise of the latter kind and is not to be interpreted in any way as a forecast of actual government budgets.

This is in the report that went to the federal government. They subscribed to what I have just read, yet they produce this in an attempt —they must have a reason, but I do not know for what reason—to discredit Ontario. That is the report that they subscribed to. They agreed to what I have just read.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): The chairman of this committee!

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, with your permission. Would it not be true to say, and I direct this to the Premier, that while he was supporting his Treasurer's figures, indicating a $350 million deficit in 1970, at the same time he was stating publicly that there would, in fact, be no deficit, there would be no reduction in programmes and there would be no new taxes? Surely, if this is not misleading to any group of people who are trying to predict the trends in this province and other provinces, then the minister has given the wrong figures.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will bring this to a conclusion. I will just simply say I could not disagree more with the Leader of the Opposition. The men who are doing this work are fairly sophisticated in the field of government financing—

Mr. Singer: But they do not know how to budget!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They subscribe to what I have just read. They know that you cannot take these forecasts and compare them with actual budgetary figures. They know you cannot do it, but in order to completely obfuscate the whole situation—perhaps the hon. member for Sudbury will correct me if I have used that word improperly—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): But the Premier is obfuscating!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Thanks very much.

Mr. Sopha: You are welcome.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: This whole issue has been raised in an obvious attempt to muddy the waters. I just point out to you that the men concerned, who are doing these forecasts and drawing the conclusions, are not politicians like myself, and I rather resent the imputation of bad motive to us, because we went into this exercise in the beginning in 1962 at the request of the then Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Pearson. We embodied it wholeheartedly, and we have seen the results of the committee pretty consistently brushed aside because they do not happen to suit the present policies of the federal government. But no amount of obfuscation can possibly blur the fact that the federal government is going into a period of complete and absolute surplus while the municipalities and provinces across Canada are going into a period of deficit.

Whatever the Leader of the Opposition says, or however he tries to look after his friends in Ottawa, he will never, never, cover up that fact. That is true about Quebec, and it is true about Ontario, and it is true about British Columbia, and it is true about Vancouver and Calgary and Winnipeg and Toronto and Montreal and Fredericton—all the cities in our country are facing this situation and we are not getting much solace from the federal government in the whole thing.

I just make these points very clear because I do not think this issue should be covered up under all this folderol about $350 million. There is a very fundamental problem. I might say that it has been revealed twice. When Mr. Sharp was Minister of Finance, the first tax structure committee brought in a report that revealed precisely the same thing, and the federal government in its wisdom, or lack of wisdom, decided to disregard it completely on that occasion, which it did. They just simply disregarded the trend that appeared.

Now we have established another committee and it has gone through the same exercise. It has come up with the same result and we are faced with the same reaction: "Let us pretend it does not exist because we are not going to pay any attention to it." Then this whole point is raised in order, really, to fog up the issue, and I think—

Mr. Singer: Oh, come on.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —the issue and result is very, very clear for all to see.

Mr. Speaker: I think that there should be no more supplementary questions on this question. If the hon. Leader of the Opposition has further and other questions, according to our previous practice he is entitled to the floor.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Attorney General what the results of his enquiry into the Fazzari trial have been. I understand that he publicly undertook to look into the matter of the fact that not all of the information came out at the hearings.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I am getting the facts. We have done a good deal of work towards getting the facts together. I will be able to give a statement to this House very shortly.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a number of questions for the Prime Minister. My first one: Has the government accepted the proposal of ex-MPP Alan Eagleson for an immediate election on the white paper proposals?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I can assure the members that I reserve the right—which is not actually mine, but the right of my office—to decide when another election might be held. But I think that anybody who uses a little sense might realize that this government is not yet two and a half years old. Why should we be thinking about another election when we sit here with this great majority of able, competent men? Why should we give any consideration to it? The people of Ontario put us here to carry on their affairs and I can assure the members—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If we did, where would they stand?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I know where you would all be, but in any event Mr. Eagleson, who is a close friend of mine and a close associate—

Mr. MacDonald: Really?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Really. Just because it is the other way in the member's group does not mean it is that way in this group. We stand united. Mr. Eagleson is a friend, a colleague, and on this particular occasion he was speaking for himself. This was his opinion as to what might be done. I believe he did preface his remarks by saying he did not think the Prime Minister agreed with him, but I do not think that little item ever appeared in the press.

Mr. MacDonald: I assume then, Mr. Speaker, from what the Prime Minister has said, that all of these kite-flying efforts by various self-appointed spokesmen for the Tory party are not—

Mr. Speaker: Is this a question? This is not worded as a question should be. If the hon. member wishes to place a question, he may do so.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I do not know how much difficulty you want to create for yourself, but when the Leader of the Opposition can get up—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: All right, do I have the floor, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: For the moment may the Speaker have the floor?

I just say this, that the hon. member for York South is one of the most experienced politicians in this House and I normally expect from him even better questions than I do from others. Therefore, I am always disappointed when he attempts to deal with it in the manner of some other member of the

House. He certainly was not any more out of order than perhaps some of the others, but I had not expected him to deal with the question in that manner.

The member for York South has the floor.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I will concede that on this occasion flattery did get you somewhere. I shall proceed.

My second question to the Prime Minister is this: Has the government any policies or programmes to cope with rising unemployment as a result of the federal anti-inflation programme—that is provincial policies and programmes, not federal?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we have a whole range of programmes. Retraining for one; our policies of trade crusades for another—the encouragement of economic development. As a matter of fact, I would suggest to you all our educational policies are directed in the same way.

Most of the thrust of this government really is to make it a meaningful proper place for people to live with industry burgeoning and we have spoken many times about the number of jobs we need each year to keep even with the increase in our labour force. You can look in almost any department and you will see there are programmes designed to create meaningful employment for our people.

Mr. MacDonald: I trust that that answer will be communicated to all the rising unemployed ranks.

My third question to the Prime Minister is by way of brief confirmation, since I think the rumour should be laid at rest or confirmed—is it true that the Indian Affairs branch has been transferred to the Provincial Secretary's department?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, in the speech from the Throne we set out our plans in a broad way—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If members care to read that document I think they will find it—

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): We have read it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That might have been an unfortunate word.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): It was not one of the Premier's best.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In any event, what was the question? There are so many interruptions.

Well, we propose to develop a complete programme for the citizens of this province and the Indians will, of course, be included in that programme. In due course we will reveal to the House just exactly how we propose to proceed.

Mr. MacDonald: That is three non-answers in a row. Let me try further if I might.

Has the Prime Minister reached any decision on proposals for TV coverage during the current session of the Legislature?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, Mr. Speaker, from your experience here yesterday and the degree of discomfort that we all went through—plus a good deal of action which I missed—

Mr. Singer: None in the throne speech.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, the member for Downsview will never get a chance to write one, that is all I know. So perhaps you can take solace in your criticisms, because that is about as close as you will ever get.

Yes, I have given some thought to what we might do in the area of television coverage here in the House. I think it is completely impractical, of course, to think of covering the day-to-day sessions. I think all you need do is look at the situation here yesterday to realize how completely impractical it is.

Last year we did televise the budget address of the Treasurer and the responses of the other two leaders. It has been suggested this might be done again or in regard to the throne debate.

I do not know really whether I would care to deliver my three or four-hour contribution to that debate under the circumstances in which I stood in my place here yesterday, because I can assure you it would be thoroughly, completely and absolutely uncomfortable. On the other hand, as I said before, I feel this is a matter that is really one for the Legislature as a whole rather than just the government to decide. I would be quite happy to discuss it.

When we get to the motions we will be discussing some other routines and procedures we propose to follow and I would be happy to go into the matter of TV coverage and what we might do. But I just say that any thought we would have TV cameras in here all day, continuously, when the House is sitting, is impractical and it is my opinion—

Mr. MacDonald: Part time? Just part time?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I am not going to get into all the questions of who is going to do the clipping and what parts of what anybody says are going to be reported and whether or not, and so on.

Mr. MacDonald: The people in the fourth estate do the clipping in any case.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh, well now, come on, it is a different matter. Television and the written press are two completely different things, of course.

Obviously there are going to be variations of opinion and therefore I think it is something that should be discussed and examined pretty carefully by the House itself and by all parties and all members before any conclusion is reached.

I think televising of the budget was all right last year. The proceedings were broadcast in their entirety. I do not know whether any TV network wants to take on our contributions to the throne debate in their entirety because, among the three of us, I presume it would take a few hours. It might even take a few days.

So there are very practical difficulties in the thing. I think we should look at it as a matter of principle and practice—

Mr. Sargent: And various sponsors!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will leave that to the member for Grey-Bruce. He can go to work on it. They are his friends, not mine.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of clarifying this—

Mr. Sopha: Does he do all the talking?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South has not yet had the floor as long as the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of clarifying the reference of the Prime Minister in the course of his answer to motions that were coming up—would the Prime Minister consider the establishment of a committee of the Legislature, an all-party committee, which would look into the technical and other difficulties involved?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, of course. When we come to motions, Mr. Speaker, there is a motion which will be before the House to convert the select committee that dealt with rule changes into a standing committee with the same personnel. That committee will be reappointed as a standing committee of this House to deal with rules. Then I would hope when it is finished with that it will deal with the whole matter of committees and their functions in this House. It can move on from there into matters of television, and, indeed, anything else that concerns the practices and procedures in this House.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member for York South completed his questions?

Mr. MacDonald: No I have not completed, I am sorry.

A question of the Minister of Health. Can the Minister of Health report on any progress that has been made with regard to the provision of nursing home coverage either through the extension of OHSC or otherwise?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, that is obviously a policy question and anything concerning it would be brought forward in due course.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Treasurer.

Has there been any progress in reconciling the Ontario and federal estimates of increased revenues arising from the white paper proposals?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, the first attempt to effect some reconciliation was made last Friday when federal—

Mr. Lawlor: Does the minister want another 10 days?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We will wait and give them the answer when they are ready to get it, Mr. Speaker, if that is all right with you, sir. They ask a question but they never want to listen to the answer.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The federal officials visited Ontario last Friday, I believe, for the first round in terms of the reconciliation process.

I should point out in answering this question, in reference to the 10-day period, our first request for a meeting for purposes of harmonization was made to the federal authorities last December 10 and nothing was heard about it again until Quebec City when we took down further documentation of our position beyond what we had commented upon in Ottawa in December. It was only then that some discussions took place that started further discussions for reconciliation purposes. So the matter of the 10 days that

were involved was simply because of the fact that when the request came the people in my department were doing other things, such as in preparation for the budget. I do point out to the members that it took from December 10 to early February to get any response from the federal government at all.

Mr. Sopha: Patience always pays off.

Mr. Speaker: If there is no other hon. member from the government benches with a question, the hon. member for Sudbury has the floor.

Mr. Sopha: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the Prime Minister, and have him tell the House, in respect of the American named Hull, who in his public opposition to the white paper on tax reform advocates the use of violence against the government of Canada, just what is Hull's connection with the government of Ontario? Is he the head of a firm called Public Relations Services Limited which provides services to the government of Ontario and to the Conservative Party? What are the extent of the services that he provides? How much is he paid? Does he, in his opposition to the white paper, take his instructions from the government of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I can only say I have not the vaguest idea what the member is talking about. Is it Hall, Hull or Howe?

Mr. Sopha: H u l l.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: H u l l—I never heard of him. I simply have never heard of him.

An hon. member: The Prime Minister has heard of Public Relations Services; he has heard of that?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I could not really tell the member. I do not think they do any business for the—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Just a minute. Once again just pipe down for a minute and I will give the House an answer.

I do not think they do any work for the Conservative Party. I do not know Mr. Hull personally. I do not know what his office is; I have never had any connection with him. He, or his firm, may possibly do work for some department of this government. If he does, I know nothing about it personally, but that is understandable because there are many, many things that go on that I do not know. I do not know anything about his threats of violence against the federal government. If the member wants to document this to me in a written question to go on the order paper, I would be delighted to dig out the answer for him.

Mr. Sopha: I would ask if the Prime Minister will undertake to find out what his connection is.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will not find out anything until I know what the member is asking.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask a supplementary question?

Mr. Speaker: Order! The rules as we now have them provide that if a minister directs a question to go on the order paper, that is the end of that question, so there will be no supplementaries and no further questions on this matter.

Mr. Sopha: You are not directing that my question go on the order paper?

Mr. Speaker: The minister has that right in accordance with the rules, that they be directed to the order paper.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: It is not a proper oral question, anyway.

Mr. Sopha: On a point of order. The Prime Minister gave a sort of reply to my question. It was not a very good reply, and I thought that I was being put upon and kidded. Now I would like to ask him a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: I have ruled. The Prime Minister has said that if that question is to be answered it is to be put in writing and put on the order paper; that is directing it to the order paper. Once that has been done, there is no question before us for an oral question period and therefore there can be no supplementary. The question period of time has now elapsed.

May I say this to the hon. members. Before we closed the last session of the Legislature I suggested to the hon. members—and of course I presume no one has had a chance to do it—that there might be some arrangements whereby, within the party caucuses and the opposition parties, we could have some arrangement whereby the time would not all be taken up by the party leaders, as it was today.

I would be most pleased to implement any such policy if the two party caucuses would make some arrangements and advise me. There is some merit, in my opinion, in that type of approach to the question period, particularly in the short question period. I would leave that with the members of the two opposition parties. If they wish to deal with it, fine; if not, then the procedure which we have been following, that the two party leaders have precedence, will continue to be followed.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I would like to know if the Prime Minister does not believe that the fiasco yesterday was not important enough that he make a report to this House on security and the whole affair?

Mr. Speaker: That is quite properly a question of privilege, because certainly it was in these premises, even though the House was not sitting. I would like to say this—the Prime Minister may reply to the question if he wishes—that it did happen in the precincts of the chamber, and most certainly Mr. Speaker is going to have a look at it. Mr. Speaker will probably be able to give a report, but certainly he has no objections if the Prime Minister has anything to say at this time. At the moment I am not in a position to make any report but there will be one. Does the Prime Minister wish to make any observation with respect to that?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I can only assure the hon. member that such incidents do not pass unremarked and, of course, there was action instigated within minutes of the event itself. I do not know what interest of the public would be served at this stage in making these things public.

I have checked to find out, for instance, what this man is receiving. He is receiving $101 a week from the workmen's compensation board, on which he pays no tax. I do not know the degree of his injury; that is being checked into. Why he would do such a thing, the way he did it, is being checked into, but I think perhaps the member might, at least for the moment, rest assured that the matter is not being overlooked.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, on that point of privilege, might I direct a question to the Premier, or to yourself, sir? Are any steps being taken to do something about the security measures around this chamber? Quite frankly, sir, I am not worried that someone is out to take a shot at me or throw a bomb over this way, but although I do not have a great and deep affection for the Premier I would not like to see him leave politics in that way.

Mr. Speaker: I can give the hon. member assurance that that particular area is pretty well taken care of.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Point of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: Point of privilege? The hon. member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, as a result of the incident yesterday—it was reported in the Toronto *Daily Star* something which I think all opposition members should take offence with, and I quote the section from the Toronto *Daily Star* to make my point:

> After the man was ejected, still shouting complaints about the workmen's compensation board, visitors invited by opposition members broke into applause.

Now, I do not know where the Toronto *Daily Star* reporter got this sort of nonsense that our visitors—and I am not making any allegation as to whose visitors—broke into applause, but I think it is a real smear on every opposition member's guests in the House yesterday that this would appear in the Toronto *Daily Star.*

Mr. MacDonald: And on this House.

An hon. member: Where did it appear?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: It is in the Toronto *Daily Star.*

Mr. Speaker: Petitions.

Clerk of the House: The following petitions were brought up, laid on the table, read and received.

Of Dragica Sukunda and others praying that An Act may pass reviving Detroit Hotel Limited.

Of the city of Peterborough praying that An Act may pass permitting limited tax credits to elderly persons.

Of the diocese of Ontario and the rectors and wardens of St. Thomas' Church, Christ Church and St. Margaret's-on-the-Hill, Belleville, praying that An Act may pass to amend 39 Vic., c. 109, to provide for payment to the rector of St. Thomas' Church (Anglican), Belleville, the sum of $2,500 annually in lieu of $2,000 as provided by the original statute.

Of the corporation of the city of Niagara Falls praying that An Act may pass enabling the corporation by by-law, to grant the sum

of $125,000 toward costs of construction of a family recreation centre to YMCA of greater Niagara.

Of the corporation of the city of Hamilton praying that An Act may pass authorizing the corporation to make grants to the Hamilton Transit Commission to provide reduced fares to recipients of benefits under The Family Benefits Act and to students.

Of the Haldimand-Norfolk Roman Catholic separate school board praying that An Act may pass approving the creation of additional school premises.

Of the county of Peterborough praying that An Act may pass extending the time for taking the assessment for the townships of Burleigh and Anstruther for the year 1969.

Of the city of Orillia praying that An Act may pass to establish the Orillia Parks, Community Centre and Recreation Commission.

Of Lubbert Van Dellen and others praying that An Act may pass to revive the charter of Springdale Christian Reformed Church.

Of the corporation of the township of Ameliasburgh praying that An Act may pass to enable the township to make financial arrangements to pay for fire fighting equipment.

Of the St. Catharines General Hospital praying that An Act may pass to extend powers of investment of the board of governors from 35 per cent to 50 per cent in common shares.

Of Walter H. Prince and others praying that An Act may pass incorporating Camp Shahwundais.

Of the corporation of the city of Owen Sound praying that An Act may pass enabling the corporation to obtain benefits under The Community Centres Act with respect to an auditorium and skating arena.

Of the Incorporated Synod of the diocese of Huron praying that An Act may pass to authorize investments of trust assets up to 20 per cent in companies registered under Part III of The Canadian and British Insurance Companies Act, R.S.C. 1952, c. 31.

Of the Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital praying that An Act may pass to change the corporate name, and to vest property assets and powers in the new corporation.

Of Association des Traducteurs et Interpretes de L'Ontario — The Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario praying that An Act may pass to regulate the standards of the practice of translation and interpretation of the English and French language in Ontario.

Of the Canadian National Exhibition Association praying that An Act may pass to consolidate The Canadian National Exhibition Act, 1948 and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the city of Peterborough praying that An Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass a by-law for prescribing standards for the maintenance and occupancy of residential property.

Of the corporation of the town of Georgetown praying that An Act may pass to empower the corporation to provide for the carrying on by the Georgetown recreation, parks and community centres committee, the recreation programme formerly carried on by the board of park management.

Of the Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company, Limited praying that An Act may pass authorizing the company to sell lands, buildings and other assets pertaining to its freight switching business in the city of Cornwall.

Of the corporation of the town of Oakville praying that An Act may pass to establish The Oakville Parks and Recreation Commission.

Of the corporation of the city of Barrie praying that An Act may pass authorizing the corporation to order the removal or demolition of buildings which are in a ruinous state.

Of Sidney Goldstone, Samuel Redhill and Miriam Redhill praying that An Act may pass reviving the charter of Sidney Goldstone Limited.

Of the board of trustees of the Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital and others praying that An Act may pass to provide for an increase of the membership of the board of trustees and for their mode of election or appointment.

Of the corporation of the city of Ottawa praying that An Act may pass to authorize and treat moneys advanced to owners of properties as municipal taxes and for the licensing of health studios.

Of Frank George Morina, Irma Jean Morina and Alexander Roy McIntyre praying that An Act may pass declaring Morina Electronics Manufacturing Company Limited a subsisting corporation.

Of Cecil James Ferby, Donalda Ferby and Alexander Roy McIntyre praying that An Act may pass declaring Fermack Bowling Limited a subsisting corporation.

Of the corporation of the city of Niagara Falls praying that An Act may pass confirming the agreement between the corporation and Niagara Monorail Limited.

Of the corporation of the city of London praying that An Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass by-laws for compulsory snow removal in respect to certain roads.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Motions.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that Mr. Speaker be authorized to arrange for the printing of the reports of debates and speeches, in the amount of 2,500 copies daily, copies of such printed reports to be supplied to the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, to Mr. Speaker, to the Clerk of the legislative assembly, to the legislative library, to each member of the assembly, to the reference libraries of the province, to the Press Gallery, to the newspapers of the province as approved by Mr. Speaker, and the balance to be distributed by the Clerk of the assembly as directed by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, just a comment about the *Hansard* motion?

During the recess, I had an opportunity to talk to some people in the *Globe and Mail* newspaper about their coverage of the provincial house, as compared with the federal parliament. I felt that there is always a lot of interest in excerpts from the question period that occurred day by day, just opposite the editorial page in the *Globe and Mail.*

I think that any other newspaper might be well advised to pick up that approach. They do not print the whole question period. They, in their judgment, select those parts which are, perhaps, of most interest on a newsworthy basis.

In asking why they did not give similar coverage to this House, the answer was given that the early typescripts of the debates are not available soon enough for them to go into the newspaper.

While the reporters in the press gallery might very well take excerpts from the question period as they do on a news point basis, still the actual *Hansard* copies are not available.

I thought that really, if the newspapers are going to give reasonable coverage in this community and in Ontario, one approach might very well parallel it with the sort of information that we think is interesting and important in the question period in the province.

I think perhaps we might inquire as to what additional cost would be involved in making what, in the federal Parliament, are called the "blues"—I guess that is the colour of the typescript rather than the contents of the answers. What additional cost would be required in order to have this sort of material available so that the press might make better use of the actual *Hansard* transcript?

I put this forward as a suggestion and perhaps we might act on it.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt very much if the Prime Minister is in a position to answer that, but I may tell the hon. members that *Hansard* is in the process of becoming a full-time operation here, because we have found it very difficult to secure proper help. We would anticipate—and I will put no time on it, but I would say in the not too distant future that not only the newspapers, but each member will be receiving something equivalent of the "blues" the hon. leader has spoken of. This will be coming through without correction, perhaps, but the first run-through.

That will not be for a little while, because we are assembling staff and we are doing our best to get it running one way or another to begin with. But that is within the very foreseeable future in this session.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, probably you could answer a question on this: Do I understand that *Hansard* will now be printed by the Queen's Printer and not farmed out as it is at present?

Mr. Speaker: Not at the moment because at the present time we feel—I feel that way and I am acting, I think, on good advice—that the problem of setting up the reporting and the transcription of it is enough to tackle at one time. We will propose still to have it printed by contract, at least for this session.

The staff here will be full-time and will be on call, and I hope will produce what all the members want—particularly what the hon. member for Windsor West (Mr. Peacock) has been talking about for some time—and that is not an instant *Hansard*, but one that is sort of comparable to it.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might just add a word on this. I was very interested in what you said in terms of developing a programme that will acknowledge we are meeting eight or nine months of the year, and therefore *Hansard* is a full-time proposition. If we have proceeded this far from the

rather rudimentary approach of years gone by, it seems to me are close enough now to consider—and I raise this for your consideration—the proposition of printing *Hansard* overnight so that the next day you have the *Hansard* of the day before, the same as in Ottawa.

My assessment of that problem, as I have understood it in Ottawa, is it is possible only if you have a King's or Queen's Printer who has access to a print shop, or at least has priority access to a print shop, so that *Hansard* can be the top priority item in order to be out the next morning. Since the government has moved to appoint a very prestigious Queen's Printer, conceivably it will now be moving towards establishing or giving him the kind of establishment that Queen's Printers have in other jurisdictions, so that *Hansard* could get the kind of top priority that would give much quicker delivery.

Mr. Speaker: Unfortunately, the matter of printing is not our problem and will continue not to be our problem for some little time. However, I am glad to hear the views of the hon. members because they are just echoes of views which many of the members have expressed in the past and which the Speaker has endeavoured to do something about—and in which he has received the full support of the Treasury Board and the government. All I can say is that we will do our best.

Hon. members will recall that when we started committee sittings jointly with the House I was told *Hansard* could not be done for a week or so, but if they will recall, *Hansard* started the first day and the first copy came out on the Wednesday, as I recall it. So we have some pretty good people working for us, and I am sure we will probably get—much sooner than the hon. member for York South thinks—to providing a copy, if not the final revised printed copy, at least a copy of *Hansard* to every member which probably would be the afternoon session in the evening. That appears feasible in the not too distant future. The evening session, of course, would not be available until the next morning.

But may we just have a little more patience until we get our staff working and get things running? I think everyone will be pleasantly surprised.

The hon. members have heard the motion by Mr. Robarts.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. Bernier, that standing committees of this House for the present session be appointed as follows: agriculture and food committee; education and university affairs committee; government commissions committee; health committee; highways and transport committee; labour committee; legal and municipal committee; natural resources and tourism committee; private bills committee; privileges and elections committee; public accounts committee; social, family and correctional services committee; standing orders and procedures committee; and also that the standing orders and procedures committee shall be composed of those members who constituted the select committee on rules and procedures, namely, Mr. Hodgson (Victoria Haliburton), chairman; Mrs. Pritchard, and Messrs. Evans, Farquhar, Kennedy, Lewis, Peacock, Reid (Rainy River), Smith (Hamilton Mountain), Sopha, Villeneuve, Winkler and Yakabuski.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have just one or two points I want to put forward and I will have an amendment to the motion that was put here.

The first one is a procedural point. I do not see the hon. member for Kenora in the House, who seconded that resolution—not that it offends me particularly, but I know that Mr. Speaker is careful about these things.

Mr. Speaker: I missed that. He was there a short time ago.

Mr. Nixon: Right.

The other points that I want to put for the consideration of the House, sir, have to do first with the public accounts committee, which I understand last year had 36 meetings —a very tough regimen of work. They had some problems, I understand, from time to time in maintaining a quorum for a regular series of meetings held over the luncheon hour, but if you examine the report, sir—and I know you will have—it appears to be a very worthwhile effort, chaired by a member of the opposition, to have a running examination, a careful examination, of at least two or three departments each year.

I have had a chance to talk to the chairman of this committee on occasion and it is his feeling—and I believe I have heard the view expressed elsewhere in the House—that if the committee on public accounts chaired by an opposition member is going to fulfil a special watchdog role, and I believe this is accepted on all sides as its main function, then perhaps we should be prepared to provide special staff and these people would be hired on a full-time basis, perhaps by the

Treasurer and the Minister of Economics and seconded to the committee—or even better than that, to enforce their independence, they would be servants of this House and under the direction of Mr. Speaker or perhaps Mr. Speaker's House committee.

The Premier has indicated that the committee on standing orders and procedures is going to deal first with the rules and then it is going to move on to an examination of the committee system, hopefully to bring it into a more meaningful relationship with the work of the province that is conducted by the Legislature. I would strongly suggest that this committee and others—but this one before the others—be granted access to competent staff so that their examination of the public accounts year by year will have some continuity and depth and perhaps be of great value not only to the opposition but to the government benches as well.

The second point is that in the privileges and elections committee, which fortunately in this House does not meet regularly, there is the need for emphasis on, let us say, an impartial approach or at least an approach that is not dictated by the majority party. I would presume that the membership component of that committee would be in relationship to the number of seats represented by the various parties in the House, but here is another committee where perhaps some consideration should be given—and I would earnestly put this for your consideration—that the chairman come from the opposition parties. I think that this is essential if, in a situation sometimes coming up very suddenly, a matter is moved over to the privileges and elections committee—usually of some fairly pressing political moment—so that it would be better for all sides if it were not a supporter of the government party who is looking after the deliberations and directing them.

The third matter is a bit more extensive, and as I indicated to you, sir, will result in an amendment to the motion that is before us. It has already been indicated in the question period, and certainly for many weeks in the exchanges between the government of Ontario and the government of Canada, that we are all very deeply concerned with the control of inflation, and particularly exerting public pressures to maintain prices and wages at a reasonable level.

The federal government appointed, some time ago, a prices and incomes commission which is responsible to the administraiton but rather independent of Parliament. We in this House have not a similar body. Although the Ontario Economic Council from time to time comes forward with certain pronouncements, it has not taken upon itself any particular responsibility, either through the council or through the committee, to have any impact on the inflationary pressures that we have been combating, effectively or ineffectively, in this province for some time.

I am aware of the Premier's concern that perhaps the real battle is not one of inflation, but perhaps of monetary depression and unemployment. This, of course, is a matter of policy that concerns us all. But I have said on many occasions, and I think that there has been, if not general agreement, at least general interest in the proposition, that the committees of this House might very well serve as a sounding board or a public place in which hearings can be conducted when certain changes affecting the cost of living and the economy of our province are forthcoming.

A good example took place last year, just a few months ago, when the committee on commissions decided that it would investigate and look into the decision of Ontario Hydro to raise its rates by what—six or nine per cent, I forget which.

An hon. member: Six per cent.

Mr. Nixon: Six per cent, and these hearings were very interesting—I believe valuable. The recommendations from the committee did not put the government into a particularly embarrassing position and you, sir, made a ruling that minority reports could be received, but they would not be debated.

So, while there might be a fear that these committees used for this purpose would be, perhaps, just a political sounding board—and this, of course, might on occasion occur—still the rules of the House keep the use of the committees in fairly strict control. In my view, too strict a control. But they still have the function of revealing to the light of publicity and public knowledge, information that is not always forthcoming when decisions affecting the economy and cost of living in this province are taken unilaterally by large corporations, marketing boards, certain professional groups. I suppose I could name others, such as labour unions in wage demands.

I would suggest that the appropriate provincial counterpart for the federal prices and incomes commission might very well be the use of either the standing committees as they are constituted in the motion that is before us, or

by the use of a new standing committee with this special responsibility. The list of standing committees in the motion is designed to cover the whole ambit of public responsibility, so that whatever the economic pressures that came to be applied, I am sure that the resources and initiative of the government, or the Legislature as a whole, would find an appropriate place to refer that specific matter.

But, since these standing committees will have other duties, not the least of which will be the review of the estimates, at least in some areas, we, on this side, feel that there is good reason to propose the institution of a new standing committee. This would have as its specific duty the investigation of matters that have an impact on the cost of living and the economy of this province.

This has been discussed, perhaps not too fully, on previous occasions. The leader of the government has often said, "Well, if they go and change the price of bread in the supermarket, surely we would not want to use the heavy machinery of government in the standing committees to review things like that." Well, naturally we are talking about significant changes. We are particularly talking about changes that result from the decisions taken my monopolistic groups within the province.

I do not use that word in a pejorative sense. I am referring perhaps to the medical association of the province that may, now, unilaterally decide that their rates will be changed by a ten per cent figure. The Law Society of Upper Canada has similar rights and privileges. The marketing boards, let us say—as a farmer I am concerned with them. A unilateral decision taken by a marketing board which would affect the price of milk or any other commodity that comes under provincial jurisdiction. Hydro rates I have already referred to.

Another one—as a matter of fact, one that occurred about three years ago—if the car insurance industry were to decide, on a basis of its umbrella associations, that the rates were going to go up by specific percentages in different areas of the province. Then I believe most sincerely, that there should be a form provided by this Legislature, which does not have, in itself, the power to control these rates, but certainly has the power to reveal for public examination, the reasons behind the changes, and the force of the objections that are often expressed by those in the community who are most deeply and directly affected.

The recommendation from that committee would come to this House and the government, the responsible government, would have the responsibility to react. And if that reaction would be to take no action, of course, that would be registered in the, let us say, the democratic reaction of the community. That is what responsible government is all about.

There have been some criticisms, let us say, of the new committee system in Ottawa where an all-party committee comes to certain conclusions and makes recommendations to Parliament which are then not acted upon in precisely the way the recommendation would indicate. There is a feeling that there would be this tension created when a responsible government has to make decisions in opposition to recommendations from a standing committee.

Nevertheless, I do not see that this sort of a tension need destroy the system. It is something that, in fact, would be useful to provide a pressure on the treasury benches that would reflect, perhaps, the views of the members without so much regard to partisan divisions, when these matters and changes in the economy are forthcoming.

I feel that this would be a valuable addition to the list of standing committees that are before us, and I have tried to explain briefly how I feel that this new committee would function. It is my view that Ontario needs such a committee, that it would work effectively, that it would not be in opposition to responsible government as we understand it.

Therefore, I move, seconded by Mr. Singer, that there be an additional standing committee appointed, called the economic affairs committee, empowered and instructed to investigate and hold public hearings related to significant cost changes in products or services affecting the cost of living in Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: An amendment to the motion by Mr. Carruthers and Mr. Bernier. Mr. Nixon moves that there be an additional standing committee appointed, called the economic affairs committee, empowered and instructed to investigate and hold public hearings related to significant cost changes in products or services affecting the cost of living in Ontario. The debate, of course, will proceed on the amendment.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, perhaps the tidiest way to do this would be for me to speak to this amendment, as well as anybody else who wants. One of my colleagues has

another amendment that he wants to introduce, but perhaps if we could keep them separated it might be a much more intelligent kind of debate.

As I listened to the Leader of the Opposition, I must confess I was not exactly clear as to what kind of committee he was going to come up with in the final analysis. But an economic committee "empowered and instructed to investigate and hold public hearings related to significant cost changes in products and services affecting the cost of living in Ontario," by any interpretation is a kind of prices review board.

For more years than I would care to remind the House, the New Democratic Party has been seeking a prices review board. So, to the Liberals: welcome aboard!

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): It is a committee of this House, it is not an independent board.

Mr. MacDonald: I agree, I agree. When we said a prices review "board" we were not being "precious" about whether it was a board or some comparable agency. We wanted somebody that had the power to look into price increases. Now, the reason why I would go along—

Mr. Pilkey: They get around to it eventually.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Martel: They are only stealing another platform.

Mr. MacDonald: If I may rephrase that comment, Mr. Speaker, they said let there be light, and finally it dawned, even with them.

Seriously, Mr. Speaker, since I am supporting the Liberal amendment, perhaps we can lower the flak level and get to the substance of the issue. I think a useful purpose would be served by such a committee.

Last fall, when we had the question of various price increases in the province of Ontario raised in debates in this House, whether it was fertilizers, or steel, or Inco, or gasoline prices, the government's reaction was that that was really none of their business—the government had no right to intervene in the private sector of the economy. I think it is idle to suggest that you are going to cope with flagrant increases in prices and the unnecessary boost they give to inflation if you are not going to investigate in the private sector of the economy.

We took one look at the public sector of the economy, in reference to Hydro's increase, and I think we came up with a fairly conclusive case. Frankly, I think that even the government was persuaded. I suspect that Hydro will never be able to do that again, by changes in the statutes. They may never do it again, even without a change in the statute; they will not without some co-ordination of the implications of their policy with the overall government policy. So I think we achieved our purpose.

We can come down to some sort of examination of prices and it will be a good first step. Down through the years, people have argued that a prices review board is relatively meaningless. I would be the first to concede that if a prices review board has not got the power to go beyond, that you may not be able to achieve too much. I have great confidence that, if the facts are laid before the people, the need for further action in selected areas will become evident. Any government that is doing its job in protecting the public welfare, will take action in the specific instance—going further, in whatever manner they feel is most appropriate.

Now, this is somewhat different and I just want to make this point, Mr. Speaker, this is somewhat different than the kind of thing that is going on in Ottawa. What you have in Ottawa today is a very strange kind of animal—an outside agency without legislative powers, but increasingly taking action which is tantamount to legislative power. It is beginning to raise very interestingly the question as to who is the source of authority. After the wages and prices commission has taken action, have they done it with the approval of the government? Presumably. If it needs to be backed up in one fashion or another then presumably it is going to be backed up by the Minister of Justice or the Minister of Consumer or Corporate Affairs.

If we are going to move in that direction, we have got to have clearer lines as to how we operate. Conceivably a committee which is a standing committee of this Legislature and which comes to the conclusion that some action should be taken, in light of an investigation, would be very close to the source of power. Not just "conceivably", in fact it would be. It would come back to this House and make recommendation that some action should be taken, and the action could be taken by the government, which unquestionably has the authority.

So the relationship might be a bit tidier than the kind of committee, with a some-

what undefined relationship to the House of Commons, which has emerged in Ottawa.

In short, we will support this amendment, I would think that the government, if it really is in support of the anti-inflation programme – and the Prime Minister has repeatedly indicated that it is–has got to do something other than just back Ottawa in its efforts. I think this might be the kind of appropriate action that we could take here to back up the national effort to cope with inflation.

Mr. Singer: In support of the motion moved by my leader, let me draw to the attention of the members of the House some of the many instances when we have to deal with prices, rates, wages, salaries, and so on. There are two categories.

There is the category where we collect public money and then expend it in relation to professional tariffis–the whole series of medical and hospital schemes where we collect money. We have debated this at great length, and I merely mention this as an illustration, that we are concerned at that point about the unilateral determination by the medical profession of its tariff fees.

Insofar as the legal profession is concerned, Mr. Speaker, we are concerned about fixing, as part of our rules of procedures in the law, tariffs or fees that are guides to the taxing officer and which relate to the public moneys we spend insofar as legal aid is concerned. Again, there is a feeling from time to time that perhaps there should be some public concern and public participation in deciding whether or not this kind of tariff is a reasonable one, and the reasons for it, and so on.

There are other areas where we pay passing heed to the fixing of rates. The Department of Transport, through its arm the Ontario Highway Transport Board, requires the filing of freight rates for truck drivers. I was a little surprised to learn the other day, and probably I should have known it, that that is as far as that goes. I have received a number of complaints, and I am going to be giving some details about this at a little later time to the Minister of Transport–about how high these tariffs have gone in recent days and months and how seriously they are affecting certain small businessmen. As I say, Mr. Speaker, I was surprised to find out that all the highway transport board does is to receive them and keep them on file, so that they can–

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): No, no.

Mr. Singer: That is what the letter from the chairman indicated to me, and I will produce it to the Minister of Transport, who shakes his head in apparent disagreement.

It would seem to me, sir, that since there is an arm of this government that has some kind of concern about the tariff rates, there should be some vehicle directed or watched by elected persons who can find out the basis on which these tariff rates are arrived at, and perhaps make a recommendation to the House if they are fair or if they are unfair, and then see what the government is going to do about it, if anything.

One very serious agitation that is going on at the moment–and I was privileged to be at the dinner, along with a number of Toronto members, some of them government members, some of them NDP and some from my own party, convened by the association of firms in the construction industry–arises from their concern about the difficulties that industry is facing in view of the multiplicity of unions in the construction industry and the hardships the contractors are facing in attempting to meet deadlines they have entered into when a particular trade or subtrade goes out on strike in the middle of a huge construction programme. They feel that on occasion they have been forced to accept highly unreasonable demands by a particular union for an increase in wages or, alternatively, to face the very serious burden of penalties included in the particular construction contract.

They came forward with a series of suggestions about industry-wide bargaining and management-wide bargaining with some sort of compulsion asserted in legislation. I think that is the sort of thing that we have got to be very concerned about, Mr. Speaker, because in this day and age if the cost of building new homes, or building new factories, apparently is uncontrollable because of what seems to be more than a bit of a jungle in that industry, then I think some part of this legislative process must be directed to that very question. I think that kind of thing could well be reviewed by the sort of committee that my leader has dealt with in his motion.

Substantially, sir, if we want to play any kind of a meaningful role insofar as controlling or even bringing public attention to the spiralling cost of living and the hardships this has produced, we must create some sort of a vehicle which is a part of this Legislature

to begin to ask questions and to ask them in a public way.

I would think that the suggestion made is a most reasonable and logical one and I do not think, sir, there is anything to be gained in giving more and more instances of when this could or should apply. It applies in the public sector and it applies in the private sector.

I think we have that kind of responsibility, and to give some sort of meaning to the various statements that the Premier has been delivering around the province, aided by his Treasurer and "Big Al", the president of the association, let us see if the government is prepared to allow the participation of all members of the Legislature, or a committee of all members of the Legislature, in this kind of an inquiry. If the government is not prepared to go along with this, Mr. Speaker, then despite all the rest of the speeches that we hear saying, "Is it not too bad that there is inflation," and, "Is it not terrible that those fellows up in Ottawa will not do more about it", I would think that one must come to the conclusion that all of these pious statements are meaningless.

We have here a vehicle that hopefully might work. I think that the government has a duty upon it to accept this eminently reasonable suggestion, and I would bespeak the support of all members to the amendment moved by my leader.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor West.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to hear the motion of the hon. member for Durham include the establishment of a standing orders and procedures committee.

I would like to say in that regard, briefly, that I would urge the Prime Minister and the chief government whip to give every consideration to Mr. Speaker's participation in the work of that committee, as I think that it cannot operate, obviously, in isolation from Mr. Speaker. One of the difficulties encountered by the select committee which sat last summer on the Prime Minister's motion to review the rules, was that we had very little time with Mr. Speaker and consequently often had to speculate about his views on various matters that the committee was considering. I think in this instance, now that the House is in session with a continuing committee to review procedures and rules, that the committee members and Mr. Speaker can get together and achieve some kind of consensus on the necessary reforms that are to be made and introduced by that group.

Mr. Speaker, I want to turn to a recommendation of this group which has been made on many other occasions such as this when the government moves to establish standing committees of this House and that is to include among them a standing housing and urban affairs committee. I would like to move to further amend the motion of the Leader of the Opposition, seconded by Mrs. Renwick, Scarborough Centre, that the motion be further amended by adding thereto "and a standing housing and urban affairs committee."

I have a number of reasons for urging this on the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. First of all, there is a serious deterioration in the quality of management by Ontario Housing Corporation of its family and senior citizens' housing units across the province.

Second, there is an even more critical deterioration in the relationship between Ontario Housing Corporation, its officers, and the minister who reports to this Legislature for that corporation, and their counterparts in Ottawa, the minister responsible for housing in the federal cabinet and the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The result is a growing lag in this province's ability to meet the demands for new housing units for families who cannot obtain housing in the private market.

Third, because of the inability of the provincial agency and its minister to cope with the crisis, there is a steady diversion of attention to other forms of housing development which have led to the blatant example of the land development in Bramalea on two occasions; the first to launch the HOME programme, and the second to launch the Bramalea Consolidated Development Company, with the agreement announced last fall by the Minister of Trade and Development. All of these aspects bear the scrutiny of a standing on-going committee of this House.

The fourth reason, I would like to urge on the Prime Minister, is that he himself pinpointed the crisis that the province faces in housing when he made his statement to the recent federal-provincial conference in Ottawa, picking out that area—housing—as one which was critical to have further government joint action at both the provincial and the federal level.

Let me list for you—briefly going back to the first point I made about this motion, Mr. Speaker—the growing number of incidents of

tenant unrest with their landlord, the Ontario Housing Corporation:

the Humber Boulevard Tenants Association in Metro, speaking of a constant deterioration of Ontario Housing buildings, insufficient playground equipment and space in a project housing 700 children;

Regent Park, at the beginning of February, where one tenant, the president of the Tenants' Association, Mr. Jerome Murray, described communicating with Ontario Housing Corporation like praying to God;

in the Don Mount project, the president and managing director of the Ontario Housing Corporation, on another of his flying visits, to calm a tenant uprising, saying he was not there to answer complaints, and spent the entire evening with that group of tenants doing exactly that;

the St. James Street North project in Hamilton, where tenants are organizing to prevent, in their words, "the community from turning into the slum that everybody said it would be";

in Windsor, the organization of a downtown community citizens' organization trying to straighten out problems with the local housing authority over maintenance and tenant relationships.

Everywhere there is evidence of deep discontent with the kind of tenant-management relationship, the same as in private housing, that appears to be causing so much concern.

The second point, Mr. Speaker, that a standing committee of this House needs to look into is why the growing friction between Queen's Park and Ottawa is being allowed to continue and to grow to the extent that it is completely undermining the public housing effort in this province. There have been numerous newspaper articles recently describing this friction between Queen's Park and Ottawa. This follows a period in which it was hoped that, with the appointment of a new federal Minister of Housing, something could be done to recover from the damage that was done allegedly by both this minister, the Minister of Trade and Development, who reports for OHC to this House, and his federal counterpart, the former Minister of Transport. Situations arose in which the federal minister had to call on the Prime Minister to intervene, and the situation now, Mr. Speaker, which apparently is once again going to call on the Prime Minister to intervene.

We are not going to find out, unless we have some continuing review, why these problems arise. Whether they are problems of personality; whether they are problems of deep differences of policy, or just what.

If they are problems arising out of the difference of policy attitudes on the part of Ontario Housing Corporation and its minister at the federal level, then surely the Legislature should know. So far, however, the minister has refused to say what proposals he has made to Ottawa in respect to sharing in the $200 million that Mr. Andras announced would be available for initiative in the public housing field. He has refused to say what proposals Ontario has made to the federal government for revision of the rent-geared-to-income scale, and he has completely relied on his own pet project of building societies to try to pull the province out of the desperate plight it is in respect to housing.

I think in all of these aspects, Mr. Speaker, a standing committee has got to be active. It has got to hear from the tenants' associations as to why they have problems with their landlords. It has got to hear from this minister as to why the roadblocks in the path of further development. In this year ending March 31 we are going to build less public housing in this province than we did two years ago. Somebody has got to find out why. What is putting obstacles in the path of faster and greater development?

Finally, Mr. Speaker, there is one matter that demands the attention of the standing committee, if not that of a royal commission. That is the agreement signed last year between Ontario Housing Corporation and the Bramalea Development Company.

You may have noted the article in the *Maclean's* magazine, which I would like to refer to in describing the extent to which that arrangement made possible the sudden increase in value of shares of the company with which OHC made the agreement, and also made possible for OHC the further development of its HOME programme.

Let me quote from page 26 of the magazine, the second page of the article, in respect to the insider profits which Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Taylor, both officers of the company, were purported to have made because of the agreement. Both men made much more than that—that is, in respect to the 20,000 shares at $5 whose market value was $14.25, bringing a maximum instant profit of $185,000.

> Between May 1967 and August 1969, through insider trading in stocks and warrants, Taylor cleaned up more than $600,000 and Armstrong more than $550,000.

> Such trading is not illegal, but it is well to remember these enormous profits as a guide to what is really in a developer's mind when he sets out to solve Canada's housing problems.

I think the question that the standing committee on housing and urban affairs would want to ask, Mr. Speaker, is, what was in the mind of the Ontario Housing Corporation when it signed an agreement that can bring such handsome profit to developers in their efforts to solve Ontario's housing crisis?

Speaking of the agreement that was signed last year, the article goes on:

> Until this deal was made, Bramalea Consolidated was required to balance every house brought into the development with industrial assessment. That is the essential purpose of the satellite town: to provide a balanced community, not just a dormitory. For every $57 of residential assessment, Bramalea had to provide $43 worth of industrial assessment, or make up the difference in cash.
>
> In 1968, the last full year for which a figure is available, the company paid $225,000 in penalties under the arrangement (that is with the township) but with the second HOME purchase this provision was scrapped. Bramalea could hardly provide enough industrial assessment to cover 4,602 houses (the number of lots to accommodate those houses was to be provided by Bramalea under the agreement) so the Ontario government struck a bargain with the township to pay it $11 million in cash, for which it was discharged from the responsibility not only for the HOME lots, but also for 1,400 single and semi-detached lots the township released at the same time for the developer's own use.
>
> The sweet aspect of this arrangement for the company was that it could use the Ontario government's $18.4 million to pay off its responsibility, pocket a handsome profit; make a further profit on 1,400 of its own lots (they will sell for more than $10 million) and yet another profit by building and selling all the houses on Bramalea land and half the town houses on OHC land. Bramalea has its own building subsidiary to handle this end. What is more, this huge development will swell the value of more than 4,000 acres of undeveloped land which the company is still holding, for yet a fourth profit.

Well, Mr. Speaker, that examination of the Ontario Housing Corporation's land development policies would keep the committee busy for the entire session alone, if no other issues were referred to it. That is why I said in opening, that the matter is one that is deserving of the attention of members of this House on a continuing basis. In respect to the solving of the urban crisis, we cannot sit back until the Minister of Trade and Development introduces his estimates, whenever that may be in the session. We need the spotlight of attention that only a continuing, on-going standing committee can provide.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, while supporting enthusiastically the remarks of my leader, supported as they were by the member for Downsview, I say that little can be added to the very trenchant argument put forward by him to persuade the House to establish a very necessary committee to review the economic life of this province when it affects, as it does, pervasively, the lives and the habits of our people.

I remind myself, of course, in respect of our friends to the left, that while they were advocating the establishment of a prices review board, that was co-extensive with their opposition to the establishment of an estimates committee. It was as a result of our efforts in this House that reform of the committee system was eventually achieved.

Now we believe in evolution, in progress. If you will permit, sir, I should like to address a few brief remarks to the workings of the committee system as a whole. I believe that we have arrived at a point in the history of our parliamentary life when we are ready to take another step forward.

There are many raucous cries, of course, on the landscape, and these are heard from among our friends at Ottawa more frequently than we hear them in the political life of this province, that the private member of the Legislature, and especially the government backbencher, has not enough to do by way of —the current argot is "meaningful"—by way of meaningful activity in participation in the parliamentary process.

One observed, of course, that in the estimate committee, or rather committees that were established and functioning at the last session, that there was very intense participation by government members; and indeed, sometimes there were frustrations and irritations on the parts of opposition members that various private members from the government side rather monopolized the proceedings of

that committee. I recall one occasion when there was a very bitter struggle as to whether my friend from Humber (Mr. Ben) would be heard against the wishes, the ruling, of the chairman.

But that, as I say, was a salutary development; and if it made government members feel better, made them think that they were playing a greater role in the parliamentary process, then that was all to the good.

Now I seek a further improvement, because I believe in evolution and progress, and that is that having the advantage here of addressing all potential chairmen of the committees who will be seconded from the government benches, with the exception of the public accounts committee perhaps, that they might consider at the outset of the deliberations of committees this year, that we get away from this pseudo schoolhouse atmosphere, characteristic whereby the chairman and the minister and the civil servants and other experts sit at the table at the front and the individual members of the committees are shuffled onto chairs, you might say in very unruly fashion, and sit below the teachers' surveillance.

Now we might at the outset consider the acquisition of some long tables in those rather commodious committee rooms and all members of committees, with the possible exception of the private bills committee which is a very big one, but all other committee members would be ranged behind the table. There is no good reason in the democratic process of course, to come down to a specific example, that we, like school children, should sit on the chairs under the beneficent and philosophic guidance of the chairman of the Ontario Law Reform Commission, whose words are received amid government circles in similar vein to those that were uttered on Mount Sinai.

Really, as elected representatives we are not beholden to senior civil servants in that way. If we are to have the civil service there —ministers' aides, experts—then they can be placed in some subsidiary position at one side of the deliberations and those deliberations, from a geometric point of view, can go forward from the table itself to the audience; that is to say those important people who—the most important people in the room, that is the representatives of the various pluralistic groups or themselves or of worthy opinions—who come there and attempt to persuade us to amend the legislation. I myself have come to the point, and I hope I get sympathy from other members of the House, where frankly I am tired of this business of sitting on those chairs looking at the faces of those who guide the deliberations of the committee. Now the minister is an important adjunct to its deliberations and I appreciate the role of the minister when he is there. He is not always treated with the respect which his high office deserves, and particularly is that so when he has to bear the slings and arrows from his own brethren on that side of the House. But the minister should be seated at a central place beside the chairman. Then he can have one or two assistants beside him and then the rest of us range down the table, which perhaps could be curved inward so that we would be facing the public that come there.

Now my friend, the member for Victoria-Haliburton (Mr. R. G. Hodgson), I singled him out—and many others had the opportunity to go to California to examine the government processes there. In many ways California is a very progressive state, and while there we had the opportunity to see the very elaborate committee rooms which they employ, where they sit on a raised dais—that does not attract me very much—but they sit on a raised dais, arranged around in a semicircle and in the midst, in the centre, there are very comfortable facilities provided for the witnesses who come to testify. Then the public occupies the rest of the room.

Well if we believe in the development of the parliamentary process then I think, sir, we must take this logical step and impress upon the public who come to join with us in our deliberation that this is a serious business, that we give the impression of prestige to it; the impression that after all those of us here who the Clerk of the Legislature, the chief returning officer, certified got more votes than the other candidates, that we are in many ways, in the parliamentary life of Ontario, quite important people. I hope the press will not distort that. But, after all, we are, and there is a deepening concern among members of all parties, all shades of opinion, all corners of the House, that our involvement and participation in the political life of the province must increase, become more trenchant and penetrating.

This is a good place to start in order to enthuse the private member with that role of importance and concern about what is going on on the streets corners of this province. I really hope that my words today will persuade the chairmen, at the outset of the meetings, that we should adopt that change in physical make-up of the committee and get off on the right foot in this year, the

beginning of the 1970s which the Prime Minister discovered for us yesterday. We did not know that the 1970s were dawning.

One other thing that I think we might also consider is the provision of much better staffing and secretarial services, reportorial services, for the committee. In many cases, but not in all, the deliberations of the committees ought to made a matter of record, recorded either electronically or by shorthand. In the realm of staff, the government might consider the supply of expert assistance and advice. Perhaps it could be done in this way—others will have their own opinions—that the government would set up some sort of bureau or pool where these services could be drawn upon for all committees as needed, and would be available at the request of the chairman.

I think that would be the most facile way of dealing with it because all the committees would not need them in their deliberations; they would be required on an *ad hoc* basis and at the request of the chairman when he had ascertained the consensus of the committee. If steps are made in that direction, then I conclude by saying to your honour that it will be a mark of progress in the development of parliamentary government in Ontario, and it will also mark the end of any belief that membership in a committee is merely an unimportant task which you have to put up with as a member. Too frequently it has been that.

But on the other hand, my close to 11 years of experience teaches me that one of the most refreshing things about membership in this great body has been participation in the deliberations of the private bills committee. That perhaps is the greatest democratic institution in Ontario, where a member has a certain flexibility and freedom to express his own beliefs and follow the dictates of his own conscience and is not required to obey the mandates of the party whip. That type of thing, of course, we must preserve.

In the other realm, then, I say to you, let us go forward and make this an adjunct of Parliament; these committees are servants of the House, they are creatures of the House and they must do what the House tells them to do. On the other hand, let us take another step forward and make these bodies effective and important adjuncts of the parliamentary system of government in this province.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer specifically to my leader's motion, that is that the standing committee be appointed, empowered and instructed to investigate and hold public hearings related to significant cost changes in products or services affecting the cost of living in Ontario. I would like to talk about a significant cost change that is eating away a great deal of the income of the people in this province.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member will relate it to the motion before the House, it is quite in order, but if he is merely going to discuss, from an abstract viewpoint, a cost problem then, of course, he is out of order.

Mr. T. Reid: Sir, I would like to refer to what I call property tax inflation and I think that is very much in order. I would like to say this is the type of thing that must be looked into by such a committee immediately, because the property tax inflation that is taking place in this province is hitting those people least able to absorb such a significant cost increase—particularly people on low and fixed incomes. The point is this—and I will speak in specific terms, sir—take a 70-year-old retired couple—

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member might relate this to the motion, as to what the standing committee might do, not what the problem is particularly.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, the sort of thing that might be investigated is the type of inflation that is taking place in the field of taxation. That is a type of inflation that is eating away the fixed incomes of many people. I will put it this way very specifically.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): The member has been here long enough to know that is not in order.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Would the minister stop interrupting, please.

Mr. T. Reid: If the minister does not like some of my remarks across there, he should keep quiet.

Hon. Mr. White: It is not a matter of not liking them.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, my leader's amendment refers to products or services, and I would like to relate my remarks to educational services in this province, the cost of which is increasing very rapidly and which to a large extent must be paid out of property taxes. Therefore, I arrive at my term "property tax inflation," which I believe

to be most significant. I would like to see this committee look into such a problem.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would have to object that the hon. member is out of order—

Mr. T. Reid: Is the Premier rising on a point of order?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, it is a point of order. I do not object to listening to his discourse in the area of taxation but I would point out, sir, that the question of taxation is not included in what would be examined by this committee. Therefore, he simply has to be out of order. He is talking about something that does not even come within the terms of reference his own leader has set out for this committee when it sits.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, speaking to the point of order, if you will permit me. I would just draw to your attention that, while we are prepared to abide by your ruling, the contribution made by the member for Windsor West on his amendment to the amendment, having to do with housing, took us into the ramifications of the development of Bramalea and the profit structure of that particular business.

At the time, I thought that perhaps that was stretching it a bit, but if this is going to develop into sort of a mini throne debate, it is up to you, sir. As I say, we will abide by your ruling, but I just ask you to consider what you have permitted already.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps you might let me have a word. I wish to give the hon. member for Scarborough East every opportunity to relate what he is about to say to the functions of the new committee which it is proposed to have added to this motion. He has struggled well with it and I want to give him every opportunity of doing that.

At the present time, he has not yet, to my satisfaction, related what he wishes to speak about to the terms either of the original motion or of either amendment to it. I am not persuaded that his last effort, with respect to educational services, does that.

Now, if he has anything further that he wishes to say so as to relate what he is endeavouring to talk about to the terms of this amendment, I will be glad to hear him, otherwise, of course, he is out of order.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I will try once again to say it a different way.

One of the services which has had significant cost increases in the past three years is the educational service provided to the people of this province. We have heard a great deal about this type of inflation and it is the type of inflation which must be met through taxation. I would like to see this committee look into the reasons for the increases in the cost of educational services in this province. I would like to address myself, sir, to that specific issue.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member can address himself to that issue, but not to the taxation angle of that issue, because that has nothing whatsoever to do with the motion before us, the matter of services. What he has said up to now has been quite in order, but if he proposes to embark on a discussion of taxation, real property taxes for education, then he is quite out of order.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I will keep my remarks quite brief.

The point is that the cost of educating children in Ontario has increased a great extent. If you put a price index per pupil you will find that the prices of educational services are increasing probably faster than most other products or services. The price increases are significant.

The reason this affects the ability of people in Ontario to pay for increasing costs of goods and services is that these increases in educational services costs must be paid for somehow. I will not go into the case—

Hon. Mr. White: Would the member's leader's committee go into that?

Mr. T. Reid: —the case I was going to discuss earlier, sir. I will not try to wiggle into this discussion. I simply say that these increased costs of educational services must be paid for and, at the present time, the people paying for these are to a great extent property owners and they have had increases in the amount of money they have had to pay in property taxes towards education. This is significant and eats up the amount of money they have, particularly if they are on fixed incomes. Therefore, I would say that that would be a very important area for this committee to look into.

There are a few other remarks I would like to make. The amendment by the New Democratic Party to establish a housing and urban affairs committee is certainly acceptable to the Liberal opposition. We have argued for this for some time, as Mr. Speaker knows.

I would like to point out again that, speaking to the subamendment of the New Democratic Party, one of the real issues involved is

the issue of increasing rents, increasing property taxes. If I could address myself to that issue for a moment, sir, I would like to relate it to the inflation issue as well.

The fact is that many property owners and many people renting shelter have witnessed very large increases in their rents or in their property taxes. I would like to see the housing and urban affairs committee look into some of the reasons for these very significant increases in rents and these very significant increases in property taxes. Now I get my original argument in!

Let us talk in specific terms. Let us talk about the type of thing that a housing and urban affairs committee might look at. Take, for example, Mr. Speaker, a 70-year-old retired couple, perhaps superannuated teachers, living in a house for a number of years. Let us suppose that this couple has a retirement income flow annually of $3,000. If we assume that they bought their home 15 years ago, in 1955, for $12,000, we can say with some certitude that their house, their home, is now worth somewhere in the neighbourhood of $25,000.

Three years ago the property taxes might have been $400, over $200 of which would be for education. Now what I would like to see a housing and urban affairs committee look into is what has happened to the property taxes that these people have had to pay over the last three years.

We would find, if we looked into these cases—

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps that would be what the committee would find. The hon. member is merely urging that the committee be appointed to look into these things; I do not think it is quite in order for the hon. member to speculate what such a committee would find.

Mr. T. Reid: I am trying to say, Mr. Speaker, that the reasons for such a committee looking into this type of problem is that there is a problem. I would like to say simply that property taxes have gone up for many people on fixed incomes, the chief reason of which is the educational property tax.

So I would like to see a housing and urban affairs committee look into that type of issue in conjunction with the economic affairs committee that would look into the inflationary aspects of it.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I think the economic affairs committee proposed by my leader must look into a kind of inflation which can be called "profit inflation" in certain areas of our economy. For example, there has taken place an inflation of profits in the chartered banks area and in the area of nursing homes. The reason—

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member implying that what he is talking about now is a product or a service? Is it a service the hon. member is talking about?

Mr. T. Reid: Yes, banking service.

Mr. Speaker: The use of money?

Mr. T. Reid: When one takes out a loan, when one banks at a bank, one is charged for that—

Mr. Speaker: Quite proper.

Mr. T. Reid: —and the price increases for these services have been among the most blatant of any price increases in the Ontario economy over the past three years.

I am saying that one must look into those price increases to see if they have been achieved through what are called excess oligolopolistic profits, if you like, and passed on to the consumer. I am saying that, perhaps, the profit levels are too high—that if profits were reduced, in these two specific cases, that the price increases, the inflation increases, would not be as significant.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would say that the economic affairs committee must, as my deputy leader has said, not only look into price increases, but the reasons for those increases and particularly, in certain areas, where "wage inflation" has taken place.

Not all wage increases are inflationary. Sometimes they follow excess profits. But, in certain cases, and I think in the construction field, there really must be a hard look at wage increases, which I think are being passed on to the consumer through higher prices.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. member for Oshawa.

Mr. Pilkey: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support both the proposition of having a committee on economic affairs, as well as a committee on housing and urban affairs.

I think that inflation at this point in time is depicted as one of the most pressing problems in this country. As prices continue to increase, they also continue to erode the wage structures of this province. We ought to be vitally concerned with the erosion of the purchasing power of the people of this province.

I want to remind this House that during three periods of inflation in the United States,

while prices were on the increase wages were declining. I want to suggest that as our economies are tied very closely to the American economy, that that same situation is prevalent here in Canada.

We ought to have an economic affairs committee so that they can expose the kind of action that is going on in the economy.

What is really happening in Canada is that, we are seeing a profit-price spiral in this country, because of the abnormal profits that are made by the corporations and big business as opposed to a wage-price spiral. This ought to be one of the things that should be a part of the terms of reference of an economic affairs committee. This is one of the things that they ought to look at. I am sure that the working people and the trades unions in this province would welcome an in-depth scrutiny of the real reasons for increased costs.

This is one of the vehicles that could be used to find out the real culprit in this question of price increases. At this point in time, this is not being truly revealed. I would suggest that economists could appear in front of this committee, and they ought to be telling the people of this country the real reason for inflation.

It appears to me that the working people, as they get increased wages, are really being depicted as the real culprits on this whole question of inflation. There needs to be a whole exposé—

Mr. Speaker: I would ask the hon. member to come back to the matter of the committee and what the committee would do and why this is referred to the committee, which is being debated.

Mr. Pilkey: I think, Mr. Speaker, that this kind of a committee would provide the forum to—

Hon. Mr. White: To pillory business.

Mr. Pilkey: —would provide the forum so that we could find out why costs are increasing and it could very well have a bearing on whether costs would increase abnormally.

I do not think that anyone does not think that we ought to have some cost increases. It is the abnormal cost increases that are really hurting the whole economy—not only of this province but of the whole nation.

I just want to close by also saying in the area of housing that there is a shortage. And you do not really have to be told that, there is a shortage. I even think that the people on the government benches recognize that there is a shortage of housing in the province of Ontario. But nobody has really come to grips with the problem, and it could very well be as the member for Windsor West has advocated, that we have a housing and urban affairs committee, and maybe, as we discuss this problem—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: A committee designed to go after one minister!

Mr. Pilkey: It could very well be, but why can we not have a housing and urban affairs committee so that we can discuss this on a tri-party basis? It is in everybody's interest. Surely the Prime Minister is not saying that we have not got a housing problem. It is one of the most critical problems in this whole country. Obviously inflation has taken the limelight for a moment, and let me say very frankly that if we are ever going to get at the question of poverty in this nation, we have got to get at its very root cause and its root cause is inadequate housing for people in this province. That is the root cause, and until you come to grips with housing you are not going to come to grips with poverty. It is that simple. What we need to do is form a tri-party committee and let it sit down and talk about that. Let us find out if we cannot get the vehicle to rectify the problem.

When the hon. Minister of Trade and Development makes his announcements on housing, what does he say? Well, our problem is that we have not got the finances; that is all he says. If somebody would put up the money, we could build the houses, he says. He is suggesting to me, or to this House, that the finances are not available to provide housing and I do not think it is a question of balancing budgets. If we have to have deficit financing to get at the very root cause of poverty in this country, then I think that is the road that we should travel. We should provide adequate housing for people, and it is absolutely essential if we are going to do the kind of job that is necessary.

I just want to conclude by saying that if we had a housing and urban affairs committee, surely with the three parties sitting down and discussing it on a rational basis, we could find some solution to the housing crisis. It is not going to go away. As a matter of fact, I predict, and I say this to the Prime Minister very candidly, that that crisis is going to increase in the next year. It is going to get worse. Every prediction by the housing industry and everyone else who is tied

to this industry and has interest in this question, is that we are not only going to continue with the crisis, but it is going to get greater. So there just has to be a solution to the problem in the very near future, we are not going to be able to come to grips with the whole question of poverty in this nation.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury East was next.

Mr. Martel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker: Through you to the Prime Minister, I would like to make a couple of comments on the whole committee system as I have seen it in the last two years, and I think the best place to start is how ludicrous it was when we went into committee and discussed estimates outside of the House. It reached the point of childishness, Mr. Speaker, when the Tory backbenchers even voted on smoking in the committee along party lines. If this is the type of committee system that we have got in Ontario we might as well scrap it all.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Well, they cannot think for themselves.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Did they vote for or against?

Mr. Martel: They voted against, and when it was defeated, those people who voted against it on party lines, were the people who picked up a cigar or a pipe and smoked once it was defeated. How ridiculous! When we get down so petty, and so oriented in that fashion, can we have committees that are going to serve a useful function in Ontario?

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): That is not true; now that is not true.

Mr. Martel: That is perfectly true.

Mr. W. Newman: Why does the member not tell the House the truth?

Mr. Martel: Some of us voted against it; my colleague from Yorkview voted against it, so we did not vote on—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: You are a minority trying to be a majority.

Mr. Martel: No, the government just did not have enough members show up on time.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: You get the seats, then you can control the committee.

Mr. Martel: We managed to get it through because enough of the government people did not show up on time. This is how ridiculous—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We control this House; we have a majority.

Mr. Martel: This is how ridiculous the committees can be.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Is the member trying to deny that?

Mr. Martel: There is no real effort to grapple with any of the problems.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The majority on the committees are government supporters.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is the point of the exercise.

Mr. Martel: Even on smoking cigarettes. The second point, Mr. Prime Minister, if we are going to have—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member is speaking to the Speaker, not to me.

Mr. Martel: Well, through the Speaker to you, Mr. Prime Minister. If we are going to have committees, we should have committees that meet occasionally. I have been on the highways and transportation committee for two years and the only time we have met was in the discussion of the estimates last fall. If this is going to be the sum total of the contribution or the meaning of the committees, then I think it is a waste of time to even pretend they have a function. It would seem to me that we should give the committee meaning, provide the staff and deal with the problems of transportation or safety and so on, that we have attempted to get at by asking the various chairmen to call meetings.

My understanding has been that over the last two years when we want to bring someone into committee it becomes extremely difficult to request someone to come before a committee. We can use a nice invitation, and should the party decline to come before the committee, that is the sum total of it. Again, it shows the uselessness of the committee system that exists at the present time.

On the amendment moved by my colleague from Windsor West, we have talked about the deterioration of housing, we have talked about the problems confronting the tenant, but we have not mentioned the new construction, and I would just like to point out an example of what I mean in supporting this amendment.

In the McCormick Court area in Sudbury, completed one year ago, which I visited recently and have contacted OHC about, the national building code approval was given. With that approval, all levels of government approved building utility rooms which were not fireproofed, with bare wood exposed, sitting under the only staircase coming down stairs, with one door, with no lighting—

Hon. Mr. White: The member is out of order, completely out of order.

Mr. Martel: We are not out of order. We are talking about the need for a committee—

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps my comments at this moment may be made in the light of not having been in the chair during the entire debate, but I have observed that the motion before us seems to me to be the establishment of certain committees for certain purposes.

Two amendments have been introduced to establish certain other committees in addition to those originally in the motion. It seems to me that such an amendment is probably in order to establish another committee for a certain purpose, but it has been my feeling that it is out of order to go into the details of what is wrong, for example, with housing, or what is wrong with some other topic. I think an example might be used, but to engage in a full-scale debate about that particular topic, it seems to me, is out of order.

I would suggest to the ensuing speakers in this debate, and I presume there will be some, that it will be all right to talk about why they think a committee should be set up for a certain purpose, but not to debate the subject matter that might be reviewed by that committee; then I think they will be in order.

Mr. Martel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I am simply trying to give reasons why I am supporting this amendment by my colleague. The one point that was not raised by anyone is new construction. The approval that all three levels of government give the new construction has many flaws and I think if such a committee were instigated and it went out and inspected some of these, they would see some of the flaws in the building code, which I am attempting to point out and which must be improved.

Ontario Housing agrees, Mr. Speaker, because as of yesterday I received a letter from Mr. Else of Ontario Housing, telling me that in the 31 units in McCormick Court they are going to fireproof the utility rooms and they are going to improve the lighting in the kitchens, which do not have windows.

Mr. Speaker: Well the hon. member now has indicated, as an example, what work the committee might pursue in investigating the matter of housing; but I do not think he need go into any further detail.

Mr. Martel: I just wanted to clear the point up.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member has made his point.

Mr. Martel: I have made it, thank you.

Well finally, Mr. Speaker, I would urge the Prime Minister to give his nodding consent and that would get the Tory approval for these two amendments.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Parkdale is next.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, I will speak briefly on about three matters that I think are important.

One is regarding the staffing of the public accounts committee. During the first session of this Legislature I had the opportunity to be the chairman of the public accounts committee and from that experience I can frankly tell you, Mr. Speaker, that there should be a type of permanent staff. I do not mean a large staff, but one or two people who could be of assistance to a chairman to really investigate the accounts.

In all frankness, no matter how often you have seen the public accounts of Ontario, it is pretty hard for a layman in economics to ferret out, or perhaps to even grasp, the overall picture of some of the economic problems facing the various departments of government.

The ministers of the Crown should realize the number of experienced people they have assisting them. These ministers should well know that a layman coming in, as I would as a chairman, would have great difficulty in grasping the public accounts—as I should.

Now when that public accounts committee two years ago made its report we did recommend that government should allow money that the chairman be permitted to retain one or two professors on an *honorarium* basis. They had in mind one or two men, probably from the staff of the University of Toronto or the University of York, who could be of assistance if they wished to choose them. It

was not necessarily professors, but it was suggested that the universities nearby could be of assistance.

That recommendation was unanimous. In fact, the present Minister of Revenue was one of those who agreed to that, and such distinguished and revered men as the member for Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan)—I believe I have the constituency correct—a former Treasurer of Ontario, agreed with that.

I would have gone farther. I would have said to have a permanent staff; but when you are a minority chairman and you do not have the necessary votes you cannot go as far as you would like. The hon. Speaker is more fortunate in that when he has been chairman on many occasions he has had more support than I might get on such an occasion as being chairman of public accounts.

There should definitely be a type of staff, albeit maybe a small staff, that is experienced, that is trained and that the chairman who is from an opposition party has the opportunity to choose. I would rather see it a permanent staff, rather than just on a temporary basis as the committee recommended; but I do want to emphasize, Mr. Speaker, through you to the government and particularly to the Prime Minister, that one of our own committees on public accounts did go so far as to recommend even a part-time staff on an *honorarium* basis. It does underline the point that because public accounts have become so involved, because they have become so sophisticated, we really do need that type of help.

I am a bit envious, Mr. Speaker, of the setup in the state of California where you do have the opportunity, both as a minority party and as a majority party, to retain experienced staff. Down there they spend more money on that type of thing than perhaps even we on this side of the House would be prepared to do at this time, but it does show that as government grows, and of necessity it is growing, you do need experienced people and people on the committees, the elected members, who are capable of doing a proper job.

There is no question that the use of the committees is going to expand even further, as they have expanded in the past. As long as we in this Legislature make sure that committees do not get out of hand they can serve a very useful purpose, because you can get at the problems in depth; and when we are sitting around the table in a small group we are not as apt to get political and look at everything on a strictly partisan basis.

I think, Mr. Speaker, you have been around long enough to know there is no complete solution to anything and that there are often two sides to a question—or I should say three sides, the Conservative side, the NDP side and the right side, the Liberal side. If you are around a committee table you may realize that there is just not such an easy answer as that.

There is one warning, Mr. Speaker, and then I will leave this question of the use of the public accounts committee, and it is this, or in fact the use of any committee: we will be expanding the use of committees as they have done in Washington, D.C., and as they have done in California and other states, but we must be awfully careful that we never allow a committee to have the power that, let us say the un-American affairs committee had in the United States under the late Senator McCarthy. This has never happened in Ontario the way we have conducted our committees, and it is a good sign. But this is the one danger, that the Americans, I think, have gone completely haywire, and this is something that we have got to guard against.

I do want to support, Mr. Speaker, the amendment of my leader and recommend an economic affairs committee. The problem of a consumer today is of the utmost importance. The consumers—and that is most of us—feel they are just pawns in the spiralling prices, about which they can do very little or nothing. All of us are in the same boat when we go out to shop.

It is not only the problem of just the consumer, but it is the problem of the small retailers, who are also caught in this vise. Just to give you an example of a specific item that could be highlighted on such a committee as this: for example, Silverwoods will come along and sell a three-quart bottle of milk for 79 cents to the retailer and they recommend to the retailer, "You sell it to the public for 79 cents"; the very same price that Silverwoods sells to the retailer, 79 cents. How does the man ever make a living?

And yet if you buy it off the truck, if the consumer buys it off the truck just a block away, that same three quarts of milk costs 91 cents to the consumer.

This is the type of thing that goes on today; and we in our committee should try and find out why. One of the main ways we can do it, and help control prices and help control inflation, is by the publicity we can give to such instances that are unfair both to the consumer and the small retailer, who has a great deal of difficulty trying to organize.

So I say this, Mr. Speaker, I think in the economic situation today, this economic affairs committee can be of tremendous service and would be of utmost use under present circumstances. Lastly and briefly, in reference to the amendment from the NDP in suggesting we have a housing and urban affairs committee, of course we support this, we in this party have been trying to emphasize time and time again that the urban problems facing our communities and our province are a major concern. This is the real frontier that we are going to face in our day and age, that is, the frontier of the urban society, how are we going to survive? Unless we overcome the problems of urbanization, our society just simply will not survive. By emphasizing and highlighting the problems of housing and urbanization in our community, this committee can be of tremendous service.

I know my friends in the government might say, "Well, if it is housing, you can bring the Ontario Housing Corporation before the committee on government commissions, or perhaps you can discuss their deals with Bramalea before the public accounts committee." But there are so many problems affecting this field of housing and urban affairs that the housing corporation would be taking up all the time of the committee on government commissions.

By emphasizing and by going into depth—and I emphasize going into depth—we can do a great deal in bringing forth the problems of housing and urbanization, especially if we give the public an opportunity to come before the committee. For example, Mr. Speaker, I have over 50 names from one apartment complex in my riding who cannot get their 1968 tax rebates or their 1969 tax rebates or their deposit money—any one of those three things, or in some cases all three. These people need an opportunity to come before a committee to air their grievances in public, so that the public and the government and all members of the House are aware of the tremendous problems that people in our urbanized communities are facing.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the government will consider the suggestions from both the opposition parties, put them into action and give us an opportunity in this coming session to improve the lot of the people of Ontario.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, in addition to supporting the remarks of my colleague from Windsor West, whose sensible approach to this whole matter of housing has impressed the whole of this House over the last two years, I want to say to the government, through you, sir, that last year we did establish in this House a precedent which I am sure will be carried on, in that committees investigating anything were given the right to report back to the House.

You may recall that we had quite a debate in this House and eventually did receive the right for the government commission's committee to report to the House on the matter of its investigation into the Hydro increases. I would say that I hope that that precedent will be continued into all of the committees of this House, and that we will indeed see more of this type of investigation by all of the committees.

During the last two years, I have risen on a number of occasions to place before the government and the other members of the House, the predicament that faces those people in the below-$6,000-a-year income bracket in regard to their inability to meet the rising cost of living. I might at this time even extend it beyond that level, because at this time the citizens of this province, almost without exception, are having difficulty in meeting the ever-increasing rise.

It seems to me as I look at the function of government, that the primary function is to ensure that the necessities of life are available to all of its people writhin its jurisdiction at a price that they can afford. It is very difficult to determine whether or not the prices they are being forced to pay are indeed within the limits of acceptable profitability unless we have a committee capable and empowered to investigate what might appear to be unwarranted price increases.

During the last two years I have documented at length on two occasions the component parts of the budget that every family uses in the province of Ontario, and pointed out that without exception they have had great difficulty in meeting the demands placed upon them.

It is a committee such as the one put forward by the Leader of the Opposition in his amendment, that fits well into the area of investigating price increases. I would suggest, through you, sir, to the Prime Minister, that all of the things that have been said about unwarranted price increases, unjustified price increases, could well be and have been on occasion denied by the government. At least the supposition that perhaps they were not justified or warranted has been put forward by the government, and could well be proved if such a committee were established.

The function of the committee, of course, could be very broad—or it could be established, and I am sure on this side of the House that we would accept that, in a narrower context of being able to investigate only those things which appeared to be blatantly out of line. Even for a start, I think we would go along with that. I suggest to the Prime Minister, if he truly believes that inflation in this province has reached crisis proportions, as most of us do, he could not fail to accept the recommendations put forward in the amendment to the motion by the member for Durham, and in addition to that, because they go hand-in-hand, investigation into the consumer field must include investigations into the housing field, as housing itself—whether it be by rental or by purchase—is one of the major components of the inflation we are now facing.

It has proved itself to be one of the largest single factors in inflation, and I think that the Prime Minister could do no better at this time to prove to the people of Ontario that he is indeed concerned, which I frankly doubt, than to accept the two amendments and to permit these structures to be formed in this House which will permit us to have the kind of insight, and permit the government to have the kind of insight, that will produce the legislation that will combat inflation at all levels.

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt: Mr. Speaker, I rise briefly to add to the comments made by my leader and those of the member for Parkdale with respect to the provision of some modicum of staff for the public accounts committee. Having been a member of this committee for two years, and last year in the second session of this Legislature having had the honour of being chairman of the committee, I am well aware of the difficulties that members face in attempting to deal concisely with the estimates as they are put before the members.

Last year Mr. Patrick was seconded from the Treasury department to serve as our secretary. He was certainly most efficient, most courteous, and most helpful to all the members of the committee. I would certainly hope, by the way, that he might be made available to the committee again. My colleague, the member for Parkdale was the chairman of the public accounts committee in the first session of this Parliament, and was, as hon. members are aware, the first opposition member to have this honour and this responsibility.

I am sure that he will echo my words in saying that as members attend the meetings of the committee, they are most often only able to open the pages of their volumes and ask whatever questions may come to mind. The department members, of course, can give answer in much detail. They are, I am certain, trying to be helpful in their answers. But the truth is, Mr. Speaker, that in the situation that the public accounts committee now has, its members simply do not know where to look for any problems which may, in fact, exist. We would certainly be much more useful to ourselves, to this Legislature, and to the people of the province of Ontario, if we had several effective staff members. The co-operation of the government would, I think, give great results in this area.

There may be some embarrassment on occasion, but I think that it is clear that this committee does not intend to carry on any witch-hunts, or try to carry on any kinds of activities which are by themselves solely predicated upon embarrassment. I believe that the risk the government takes in having any problem areas or any areas of waste or inefficiency disclosed, is a proper risk for a government. I think that several people could be made available to the committee, either through The Treasury and Economics Department, or through the auspices of Mr. Speaker himself. Then the committee could in fact function and do the job which should be done. If the public accounts committee is to have a meaningful and useful life in this session of the Parliament.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I rise to lend support to the amendment by my leader when he suggested that to add to the committees set up in the House, a committee dealing with economic affairs be included.

Now, I can see the merits of the addition of such a committee in the study, not only of the problems of the consumer, the problems of the individual looking for housing, the problems of the individual who has recently found himself on the unemployment rolls. I can see the use of the committee in asking the big wheels in the manufacturing industry to come down and to explain to the committee why they would create such large inventories of automobiles, and, at the same time, use the overtime allotment given to them, providing a lot of overtime to employees. Then, immediately after they have

created this large inventory, being responsible for periodic layoffs.

In my own community, as you fly over the county you will see acres and acres of 1970 automobiles and even some 1969 automobiles that have not been sold, that have been accumulated there by the manufacturers. They have been accumulated, or have been manufactured, as a result of giving excessive amounts of overtime to the worker. Now that this accumulation has been created, they are laying off workers, some of them indefinitely, some of them for a short period of time.

Just to illustrate the seriousness of the problem, Mr. Speaker, may I show you the difference between the 1969 statistics—

Mr. Speaker: But the hon. member is going to relate this to the committee?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, the committee could look into the causes for the tremendous unemployment that has been created by policies of the executives in the manufacturing—and I refer to the automotive manufacturing—industry.

In 1969, the first of that year, there were 7,142 unemployed in the city of Windsor. In the first day of this year, as a result of this type of policy on the part of the manufacturer, you had 17,099 unemployed, an increase of 10,000.

Now this committee could call the leaders of the automotive industry to them and ask them for some type of concrete and good explanation for the policies that they have adopted that have created a situation such as I make mention of here.

I can see this committee looking into the effects of price increases on the consumer. I will use one example only. I had used this example several years ago where I had bought several five pound containers of Fab. One I paid 99 cents for, one I paid $1.59 for and one I paid $1.79, and this was all in the same day.

I look today and find that Home Ade—I think it is called the Home Ade, the grape drink—one of the independents in my city sells it for 29 cents and the Dominion store sells it for 39 cents. Surely there must be some explanation as to why a big chain will charge much more than an independent for the same commodity.

Now those responsible for these types of increases could be called in front of the committee and asked to explain.

I would like, at this time, Mr. Speaker, to make mention to you that I have had the opportunity of submitting a questionnaire to some constitutents in my riding and their prime concern was the controlling of inflation. The constituents asked for price controls, they asked for rent controls and they asked for wage controls.

Now the committee of economic affairs could look into the ramifications of the implementation of controls. They could look into it from the price control angle. They could look into it as to whether the increase in wages is causing the high cost of living and the increase in the prices of the various commodities.

The amendment to my leader's motion presented by the NDP adds to the committee on economic affairs a committee dealing with housing and urban affairs. We know the schemozzle that the housing situation is confronted with in the province of Ontario and the fact that we have not met the housing needs of the thousands of residents that clamour for housing—in fact I understand some economists made mention that we will have to build in the Dominion of Canada accommodations for 20,000 people every 40 days for this coming year, and we are not even close to meeting the needs. In fact, I think The Department of Economics—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is again straying away from the amendment and the purpose of the committee.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I am only trying to point out that the amendment proposed by the NDP would deal with housing and urban affairs. That there is such an acute housing shortage is being pointed out by the fact that even though there is a shortage—at present we cannot meet today's demands—that tomorrow's demand is going to be only that much greater and as a result that much more serious.

My own community has been very fortunate in the fact that they did get a fairly large number of houses, but in spite of all of the government housing that has been provided to the community there are still approximately 2,000 requests for housing accommodations.

Now this committee could be looking into or could be asking individuals to be present or make presentations to them in an attempt to find out whether these housing requests are legitimate or not; whether the economic conditions of a community or the changing economic conditions of a community could mean a change in the needs of housing.

The other point was that urban affairs should be added to this economic affairs committee. There is no need to even mention the plight of the cities throughout the province of Ontario. The difficulty they are having to meet their own needs; for finances to take care of public welfare, to take care of road construction, to take care of ring roads, to take care of the cost of education, to take care of matters dealt with by any one of the 22 different departments of Ontario government, that could have some effect on the tax burden of a given municipality.

I could, Mr. Speaker, make mention of the kind of housing that some people have to live in, and were this individual given an opportunity to come to some type of a committee and point out to them that the standard of their housing is equivalent to pre-Confederation Upper Canada days, this in itself might make the committee a little more concerned and maybe inclined to act. I have more comments I would like to make—

Mr. Speaker: Yes; could I interrupt the member to ask if he has more to say on this? If so, it would appear to me that it would be fruitless for us to carry on the debate this evening and the hon. member who has the floor might adjourn the debate.

Mr. B. Newman moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: The Clerk has instructed me, with the efficiency we expect from his office, that he has had notices out of the striking committee meeting; but of course, those notices will be withdrawn until we have the committee's name.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

House adjourned at 6 o'clock p.m.

No. 3



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CONTENTS

Thursday, February 26, 1970

Provincial-municipal conference in April re problems of municipalities, statement by Mr. Robarts 49

Re points of privilege, Mr. Singer 50

Transfer of authority to licence lotteries to municipalities, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Nixon 52

Use of phosphates and detergents in Ontario, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Burr 52

Provincial-municipal conference in April re problems of municipalities, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Sopha, Mr. Singer 53

Woodstock landlord and residential tax rebate, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. MacDonald 54

Regulations and inspection procedures re gas installations, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Shulman, Mr. Singer 54

Therapeutic community programme at London Psychiatric Hospital, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Good, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Shulman 55

Grant to Ontario Humane Society, questions to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. MacDonald 56

Closing of hospital in Chesley, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Sargent 56

Cadet Cleaners and lie detector tests, question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Trotter 57

Seaway Multi-Corp, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Shulman 57

GO Transit service to north of Toronto, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Deacon 58

Verdict of inquest into Malton gas explosion, question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Singer 58

OTF recommendation re superannuated teachers, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Pitman 58

Select committee to study pollution, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. T. P. Reid 59

Application re Sunday trucking across the provinces, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Gisborn 59

Prosecution of Father McCabe, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Bullbrook 59

OMB reports on regional government, municipal taxation of mining companies, and cancelled press conference, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Sopha 60

Operation of snowmobiles, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Young, Mr. T. P. Reid, Mr. Sopha 60

Central purchasing department, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Worton, Mr. Nixon 61

Abduction of children to other jurisdictions, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Peacock 61

Bridge south of Amherstburg, questions to Mr. Gomme, Mr. Paterson 62

Falconbridge Nickel Company and pollution, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Martel 63

Automobile insurance and accident victims, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Sargent 63

Use of salt on highways, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Gaunt 64

Needed health community services in northwestern Ontario, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. Stokes 64

Use of phosphates in hospitals and institutions, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. B. Newman .. 64

Hamilton-Wentworth-Burlington regional government review, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Deans 64

Minimum housing standards by-law for residential properties, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Good 64

Presenting reports, Mr. Welch 66

Occupational Safety Act, 1970, bill intituled, Mr. Shulman, first reading 66

Motion re standing committees of the House, and standing orders and procedures committee, Mr. Carruthers, agreed to 66

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Robarts, agreed to 76

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1970

The House met today at 3 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Our guests today in the east gallery are from Cambrian College in North Bay; in the west gallery from Bayview Junior High School in Willowdale, from Sheraton College in Brampton and from the Adjuvants Training Course of The Department of Social and Family Services. Later on we will have nurses from the University of Toronto Nursing School with us.

Statements by the ministry?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday of this week, the Lieutenant-Governor announced that during April we would adjourn the Legislature for two days so that all members might attend a conference where the pressing problems facing our municipalities will be examined and discussed. I should like to provide the House with further details related to this conference.

The conference is being convened to explore with our municipal partners the very large and urgent problems they have as we move into the 1970s. Provincial-municipal financing is expected to be a major topic of discussion. The reorganization of the municipal structure in some regions of Ontario will also be discussed.

I should like to emphasize that the conference will be an exchange of information and views. The municipalities will participate fully, as they have in the planning stage, by making presentations to the conference and joining in all discussions. It most emphatically will not be a one-sided discussion. The municipalities and the government of Ontario will join in a dialogue designed to find answers to the problems of the municipalities.

As plans now stand, the provincial-municipal conference will be held at the Ontario Science Centre beginning on Wednesday evening, April 22 and continuing throughout Thursday and Friday, April 23 and 24.

A number of planning meetings with municipal representatives have already been held.

An agenda for the conference and final arrangements will be discussed at a meeting with the representatives of the municipal associations next week. The official invitations will be extended following this meeting.

It is our intention to invite to the conference a broad cross-section of our municipal officials. The proposed invitation list of official delegates would include: the heads of our major municipalities; the wardens of the counties; representatives of the Ontario Municipal Association, the Association of Ontario Mayors and Reeves, the Association of Rural Municipalities, the Association of Counties and Regions of Ontario and of the district associations in northern Ontario; the Ontario cabinet, the Leader of the Opposition and of the New Democratic Party and other appropriate representatives of their parties.

It is proposed that all other members of the Ontario Legislature will participate as observers.

Also to be invited as observers would be representatives of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities, the Ontario Regional Development Council, the Ontario Municipal Electrical Association, the Association of Municipal Utilities, the Ontario Good Roads Association and of the school boards of Ontario. The federal government would also be invited to send observers.

We anticipate that about 350 delegates and observers will take part.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that every member will attend this conference.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, on a matter of urgent public importance—

Mr. Speaker: No. The hon. member has not given me notice of any matter of urgent public importance he wishes to raise, so he is not in order.

Statements by the ministry?

Mr. Sargent: Just a moment. Mr. Speaker, do I have to give you notice or am I supposed to—

Mr. Speaker: Yes, if you wish to raise a matter such as that for debate.

Mr. Sargent: What about a question?

Mr. Speaker: Well if you wish to ask a question you will wait until the oral question period. If you wish to debate a matter of urgent public importance you will advise the Speaker in accordance with the rules of the House.

Oral questions.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege please.

Mr. Speaker: Point of privilege?

Mr. Bolton: Mr. Speaker, the point I raise has reference to a publication which provides information about this House which should be accurate. I refer to the *Canada Almanac,* 123rd edition (1970), published by Copp, Clark Publishing Company.

On page 744 they report:

"Middlesex South, Venerable Kenneth C. Bolton, PC".

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bolton: Mr. Speaker, I delayed reference to this point of privilege until today expecting a member across the House would have raised the question first.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I just have to say I have not read over the *Canadian Almanac.*

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Yesterday the hon. member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) rose on a question of privilege concerning a certain approach made to him and to certain inmates in the provincial institution. I know that the problem he raised was one which concerned him very much and would probably concern most members of the House. The end result of that, sir, was a sort of a debate which ensued between the responsible minister, the hon. member for High Park and numerous others who, somehow, managed to get in.

Now I have been very concerned, sir, with the whole use of raising questions of privilege in this House. I have done a little bit of study about it and there came to hand just last evening in the report of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association a very excellent article written by a British member of Parliament dealing with some of the problems that House has faced insofar as questions of privilege are concerned.

It is my opinion, sir, that member's privileges either are established by custom, and the custom must be fairly well known, or they are written in statutes; they surely cannot depend on the whim, from time to time, of a cabinet minister, where he has suggested a certain policy will prevail and then later, for reasons best known to himself, decides that policy will change.

What comes to mind particularly, and it does not refer to the minister who was involved yesterday, was a decision by the former Minister of Health at one stage that any member of the Legislature could visit any provincial hospital at any time, and then he later came to the conclusion that that privilege, or that right, was not being properly treated. That was his opinion, I am not saying that I agree with him, but he said, no longer will it exist.

The only reason I use that as an example, sir, is that I say the whole question of privilege must be more firmly based than on the day-to-day decision of an individual cabinet minister.

If a privilege to members of this House has been established by custom—and there are many of them, the right not to be subject to the civil power while the House is in session and that sort of thing—that is one thing. If there is a right in a statute; and what comes to mind quickly as an example of that is the right we have in the education statute—I do not know why it is there but it is there—that all members of the Legislature are welcome as visitors at any school and can attend at any time they want; that, again, is a privilege.

But I suggest to you, sir, that it is not a privilege when a member has a grievance against an action of a member of the provincial executive. It may well be that it is a valid grievance, and I think that the grievance expressed yesterday was a point well made; but I say, sir, that if we are going to allow any member of the House, at any time he chooses, to arise on a point of privilege which is not in fact a point of privilege and to allow a debate to ensue, then we turn the House into little more than a circus and the loud ones will usurp all of the time of the House, at the wrong time and completely out of the context of the rules of order.

Now I suggest this, sir. It seems to me that the method by which the United Kingdom Parliament deals with this, is that when a point of privilege is raised, the Speaker first determines whether or not, prima facie, it has been established. If he decides it has not, that is the end of it. If he decides it has, there is, in due course, a reference to the privileges and elections committee to see what is going to happen.

It would seem to me that we have got to bring some order to the proceedings of this House, otherwise every member, every one of 117 of us, can rise at any time we want, on a so-called point of privilege and take up the time of the House completely out of context.

I would suggest this, sir. There are two solutions available. I address my remarks to you, but I do not think the solution really lies with you, Mr. Speaker. There are two ways that we might handle it.

I think the first and most obvious way would be to refer the whole question of privilege to the privileges and elections committee. The House should charge the privileges and elections committee with the responsibility of laying down a list of privileges and establishing what they are so that all members of the Legislature will be familiar with them.

I do not think the second thought I have is really an alternative. Perhaps it may be well, somewhere in our proceedings from week to week, to specifically set aside an hour where, completely out of context, a member who believes he has a grievance can get up and express it.

But it seems to me, sir, that if we allow the procedure that took place yesterday to carry on, it will go on every day that we are here and it will get longer and longer. I for one am not going to wait any more for the right time to say things. If I feel I have something to say—if I do not like what the Attorney General did, I am just going to jump up on a point of privilege and go after him. That is what is going to happen.

So my appeal, sir, is this. It is time we brought this House to order in a reasonable and logical way and I do not think what happened yesterday made any sense at all.

Mr. Speaker: Well, first of all I think we would all agree with what the hon. member for Downsview has said with respect to what happens to the proceedings in this House when we do manage to get involved in such matters.

Secondly, I would say that, in my opinion, the point raised by the hon. member for High Park yesterday was a point of privilege. The free access of his constituents and others to him and his free access to them is, in my opinion, a proper point of privilege.

It was not subject to debate, but I felt at the time it was quite proper, since he did not wish to accept at that moment my view that I would look into it, and to have the minister in charge respond to the matter. And that is where it rested. It did not develop into a debate; it was a dialogue with a very great amount of background music.

I also looked at the article the hon. member quoted, because those magazines come to me first. I would say this—that it had been my hope that our committee on procedures might also have a look at the matter of privileges, because they did a very good job in outlining the matters when a member could be considered out of order, by taking the rulings of former Speakers and the English practice. They gave a pretty comprehensive list of matters in which a member of this House might well be called to order.

It has been my hope that this would be one of the things that this committee would do, but as your Speaker I certainly have no objection if the House should wish to refer it elsewhere.

And then, thirdly, may I say, of course, that the rules of this House, until they are amended, state that a point of privilege is always in order and considered when it is raised. And I agree with the hon. member for Downsview that the Speaker must ascertain if it is a point of privilege. In my opinion I so ascertained yesterday and I stick with that ruling. But I do say that a great deal of time is taken up unnecessarily on matters which could be dealt with directly between the member and the minister in charge, so saving a great deal of time.

I shall be most pleased if the House, one way or another, wishes to deal with the matter further, either through their caucus committees or through the standing committee when it is appointed—the standing committee on orders and procedures—or however it wishes it done. In the meantime we will endeavour to abide by the rules as they are. Mr. Speaker will endeavour to ascertain if it is a point of privilege and that it is quite rightly before you.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would speak to this point of order, if I may, just to say I think there is a good deal of merit in what the hon. member for Downsview has suggested.

I detect an antagonistic approach to the rules here. That is, Mr. Speaker, when you make a rule, if it happens to be against what any member wants to do he immediately tries to find a way around your ruling so he can do what he planned to do in the first place, regardless of what the ruling may be. I think this is one of the basic problems we face here.

If we would all accept your rulings and abide by them as soon as they are made, then I think the business of the House would go along a good deal more smoothly. We will not have this sort of altercation when you have to make a ruling three or four times and then, in the final analysis, some way is found to get around it.

As far as the question of privilege is concerned, there always seems to be some doubt as to what is a point of order and what is a point of privilege. It might very well be a matter to be considered by the committee on privileges and elections. That is what it is for. And, if it wants to make any recommendations to the committee on procedures it would be free to do so.

If this is the wish of the House after we get the committees established, I might say, we could then refer this matter to committee.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): I take it that questions are now in order.

Mr. Speaker: May I just call it so the Clerk can keep track of the proper time.

Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: I would like to address a question to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Does he intend to follow the policy enunciated by his predecessor a few weeks before he was replaced concerning the governance of lotteries and the transferring of the authority to license lotteries to municipalities?

There seems to be some doubt in the minds of members of the House, including myself, as to what the general course of events will be in this matter of some importance.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have not contemplated and I have not suggested to my colleagues any change whatsoever in the policy stated by my predecessor in this regard.

As of yesterday the total situation developed so that at the municipal level, the lottery licensing system is in operation. I would suggest that there will be no consideration of any change until we have seen how it is operating for a while.

Mr. Nixon: As a supplementary question, might I ask the minister then if this licensing procedure takes place by regulation or will it require some change in statute?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I see no statutory aspect of the thing at all.

The statute under which we are operating is the Criminal Code of Canada, which is, of course, outside our jurisdiction. Insofar as the regulation is concerned, the regulations and directives, are now in the hands of the municipalities. Hopefully they are clear enough that this will be the end of it from an administrative point of view.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources.

Can the minister clear up the confusion of statements that have been coming from federal and provincial sources about the use of phosphates and detergents in the province? Can he assure the House that he is going to undertake the banning of detergents, at least the effective banning of detergents, within the next few weeks?

Hon. G. A. Kerr Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, at the recent federal-provincial conference this particular item was discussed between the provincial ministers and Mr. Greene. There seemed to be a pretty unanimous decision that something should be done at least to control phosphate content in detergents with the idea of an eventual ban in the event that the industry did not use a suitable alternative or substitute.

At the present time there is, as the hon. Leader of the Opposition indicates, some confusion, particularly in today's newspaper —and I think that this confusion may result from some difference of opinion within the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources—as to the best method of controlling or banning phosphates. It has been more or less our plan within my department, which is as you know subject to this Legislature, to do something this year to control the amount of phosphates in detergents with the idea of an eventual ban about 1972, which was recommended by the International Joint Commission. However, for obvious reasons we hope that this can be done at the federal level.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, if I may. Would the minister agree there is a comparison here with the action that was taken in banning DDT? Certain licensing provisions permit certain aspects of the agricultural industry to continue using DDT for a period of time.

The question, of course, is, would it not be obvious that a similar ban could be imposed on the use of phosphates by the

province rather than waiting for the government of Canada to declare the use of phosphates a criminal offence?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is true, Mr. Speaker. However, rather than involving the confusion that evolved as a result of the ban of DDT, where the ban or the regulation or prohibition is not exactly the same, we have more or less taken the position that if the federal government indeed intends to do something this year regarding the control of phosphates, we will wait. It is quite possible that the ban will be either under the criminal law or by way of amendment to the proposed Canada Water Act. If it is under criminal law, of course, this would give all the more reason to have it at the federal level. However, if it is an amendment to The Canada Water Act it is my personal opinion at this point that the Ontario government will have to go ahead with legislation—at least some sort of enabling legislation or legislation on our own.

Mr. Nixon: Would it be true to say, then, that the government does not expect to take action this year on the banning of phosphates?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I would not say that, Mr. Speaker. Certainly within the next few weeks this matter will be resolved, it will be clarified, and if the federal government does not intend to go ahead and indicates strongly it intends to go ahead in some way about this matter, we may present legislation to this assembly.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question from the member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Might I ask the hon. minister whether he would consider a roll-back in the percentage of phosphates to the year 1952, when Tide, Breeze, Oxydol, Cheer and many others had approximately 12 per cent? This would not necessitate any new equipment—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member is asking a question and is now making a statement. The minister has the floor to answer.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I think in order to answer the hon. member's question, I should say that during the past three months we have met with representatives of the industry—of the three big companies—and discussed this whole problem of phosphates and detergents, particularly in light of the IJC report. We have also discussed what should be a reasonable content of phosphates in detergents. Of course, the industry's argument and the submissions up till now have been that as of 1969 and 1970 the efficiency resulting from phosphate content in detergents and the improvement over the last decade warrant serious consideration before any government legislation is put into effect. In other words, will the consuming public in some way object to the type of roll-back the hon. member suggests?

But certainly we have discussed this and I think that with some co-operation from the industry and restriction of the amount of phosphate, it will not be necessary for any government to ban phosphates in detergents. I believe that the industry itself will in fact use a suitable alternative.

Mr. Speaker: I consider that there have been sufficient supplementary questions on this matter.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition has further questions?

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to ask the Premier something concerning his statement on the provincial-municipal conference. Is it his intention simply to have an exchange of views or does the government intend to present the municipalities with a programme of reforms, including tax reforms, for their consideration at the time of the conference?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, it would be impossible to present them with a large programme. This is the first meeting; it is an exploratory meeting. I have said already that one of the major points I would like to make is not to raise expectations in meetings of this type. I think the level of expectation at some of our federal-provincial meetings has been so high it has led to a misinterpretation of what goes on and what might be expected.

This is a very large area about which we are entering into discussions with the municipalities. As you can see, there are going to be a great many delegates, and if you are to have proper representations from the municipalities you need that number of people. I think really what we are going to be doing is putting forward some position papers explaining what our position is in regard to certain matters—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): The Premier says there will be positions?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes. In other words, we will be putting forth certain positions, and the municipalities will do the same. I think I have seen some publicity already about what they propose to do.

We are not going to this meeting with any blueprint for tax reform to present to them, and say that this is what we propose to do in the next 18 months or two years. What we will do is go there in an attempt to start delineating some of the real areas of difficulty where action might be required both ways, and it is an educational process. I would think it is the beginning of a series of such meetings. It is not designed to come up with pat answers because I do not think they are that easy, nor do I think we are yet in a position to arrive at those conclusions.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary, will the municipalities be going into this conference blind or will they have possession of the government's position papers in advance? Will they have an agenda? It is going to be a pleasant gathering, but unless there is some direction and somebody knows that the government's position paper on point A is such, and on point B is something else, I would like—

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. member direct the question which is supplementary to the original question asked?

Mr. Singer: I am asking the Premier, Mr. Speaker, if my good friend from Riverdale and his yackkety friend from York South—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is asking a question—

Mr. Singer: I am asking the Premier if the municipalities are going to be given an opportunity to know in advance what the position papers are and know what the agenda is going to be.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I think the hon. member might give us a little credit for having a little intelligence in approaching a thing like this.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): That is dangerous with this government.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I know, I know; that is the member's worry. Just have a little confidence.

Of course, if the member for Downsview would just listen to what I said he would note that we have been discussing the agenda already with the municipal associations. An answer to the majority of his questions is contained right in the statement I made. We have been conferring with them already regarding dates, times, agenda, and what we are to discuss, and certainly we will make available to them any information we can because that is the purpose of the operation.

Mr. Singer: That is fine. I just wanted to see if the government was on the ball.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. What action has the department taken with regard to a landlord in Woodstock who has forced tenants to sign a statement saying that they received a residential tax rebate when, in fact, they had not, and when the tenant refuses to sign it, an eviction notice follows?

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I know nothing about this particular circumstance in Woodstock. I will be glad to look into it.

Mr. MacDonald: Just by way of information, Mr. Speaker, people in Woodstock have been informed that the department is aware—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am sure the minister would be glad to have that information, but one of the problems with these things is that they take up time, and that time belongs to the members for questions.

Mr. MacDonald: What takes up the time, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: The statements which are made apart from the questions and the answers, such as the hon. member was about to make.

Mr. MacDonald: Oh, I am very glad to learn that.

I have a question of the hon. minister of energy. Following the inquest into the death of the person in the Malton gas pipeline explosion, has the government made any changes in regulations and inspection procedures, and does the government contemplate any new legislation to improve safety inspection?

Mr. Sopha: The member could have telephoned that one.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The answer to the hon. member's question—the second question first,

Mr. Speaker—is that as a result of the recommendations of the jury coming out of that hearing, we are drafting amendments to the safety code and also to our regulations—particularly in respect to inspection procedures, installation procedures—and I hope to have those before the House very soon.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has a supplementary.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Is the minister satisfied with the recommendations of the jury in view of the fact that that jury was hand-picked and hand-packed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I might just say, Mr. Speaker, that it is our intention at this time to go further than the jury recommends.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Grey-Bruce has a supplementary question?

Mr. Sargent: No, sir.

Mr. Speaker: Well then, we are still on the supplementary questions. The hon. member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: By way of supplementary, is the minister satisfied that the comments of Mr. Cotnam, the chief coroner, about his disappointment with the jury's verdict, are a proper reaction or not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I would not want to encroach on the territory of the hon. Attorney General—

Mr. Singer: I would not ask it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —but, I do not object to the coroner's remarks.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: A question of the Minister of Health. Does the government intend to accept the collapse of the therapeutic community programme at the London Psychiatric Hospital or has it plans for its restoration and expansion?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): I think, Mr. Speaker, to answer that question I should explain why the therapeutic community is not now operating at the London Psychiatric Hospital and then perhaps go on from there. We are always willing to look at ways of having this programme continue, but just in case there happens to be any misunderstanding that the therapeutic community programme was discontinued because of a reduction of the staff or the funds provided for the London Psychiatric Hospital, I would like to correct this.

This programme was discontinued because the director elected to resign and a suitable replacement was not immediately available. Faced with this situation, Mr. Speaker, the needs of each patient identified in the programme were assessed and alternative arrangements were made for continuing care and treatment as required. The programme was undertaken as a special project in 1966 under the direction of a part-time psychiatrist, and it was carried on in the old building. When the new building in London was built in 1968, additional space became available and the number of beds for the programme was increased to 18. It also included a number of out-patients.

Mr. Speaker, I think it has to be said that last fall the director requested assurance from the superintendent that additional staff would be provided to carry on the programme. This request had to be considered within the context of the staff requirements for all departments and services maintained by this hospital. While it was not possible for the superintendent to give assurance that additional staff would be provided for this programme without consideration for other programmes of the hospital, every effort was made in discussions with the medical advisory staff at the London Psychiatric Hospital and other members of the hospital staff to work out ways and means of continuing the therapeutic community. However, these ways and means were not found and the director of the programme elected to resign and leave the programme without anyone to direct it.

I should point out that this is only one of many excellent programmes carried on in the London Psychiatric Hospital. The superintendent and the medical staff have the overall responsibility for these programmes, and the overall oversight, and we are assuming that they will fulfil the responsibilities that we have given to them. I have personally met with those concerned in this situation. We are still carrying on talks but I cannot tell the hon. member what will be done at this time.

Mr. Sopha: He was prepared for the question. He has a paid spy in the NDP caucus.

Mr. MacDonald: Obfuscations.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South still has the floor.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the provincial Treasurer.

An hon. member: No, no.

Mr. Speaker: Are there supplementaries? The hon. member for Waterloo North.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): I have a supplementary question. Does the minister agree that the principle whereby the superintendent of the hospital has full authority as to the allocation of the grant from the provincial government—that it is, in fact, serving the best interests of a programme such as the one just closed down?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I have confidence in the superintendent of this hospital and the medical advisory staff which works there. The superintendent has to meld together a team that will provide for the psychiatric and mental health needs of the city of London. That is his responsibility in co-ordination with others providing these services and I have confidence that he and his colleagues in the hospital can do this.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): I have a supplementary. Is the minister aware that the basic rationale underlying this decision is an attack by his department and by the superintendent upon a therapeutic model as distinct from a medical model in that hospital, and that that is the basis of the difference which resulted in the destruction of the therapeutic community?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, no, I do not think that that is the basis of the thing at all, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary?

Mr. Shulman: Is the minister aware that while there is a long waiting list for mentally ill in this province, three wards have now been shut down in that particular hospital?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not sure that the hon. member is correct in saying that there is a long waiting list for accommodation for the mentally ill in this province.

Mr. Speaker: In addition to that, that question was not supplementary to the original one.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, if you will permit, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware that Dr. Harold Mountain has been frantically negotiating a method by which to keep the therapeutic community open, that all the patients within the therapeutic community have requested that the method be found, that citizens groups in London have also requested that the method be found, and that no response is forthcoming from the superintendent and his mental health branch?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of course, that is not correct, Mr. Speaker. We are very much aware of all the community reaction. I think it is excellent that the community of London should be interested in the mental health programmes in that community, but it is up to the superintendent and Dr. Mountain, I feel, to work out some arrangements to carry on the programme.

Mr. Lewis: . . . four-year programme.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Wells: This was attempted and Dr. Mountain in his own wisdom has chosen to resign from the programme.

Mr. Speaker: Those are sufficient supplementaries for that problem.

Mr. MacDonald: My final question, Mr. Speaker, is to the provincial Treasurer.

Has the provincial Treasurer's department responded to the requests of the Ontario Humane Society for a meeting to discuss the regular grant to the society and the sharing of greater costs arising from added responsibilities of the society flowing from last session's Bill 74?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, not yet.

Mr. MacDonald: May I ask the provincial Treasurer when they are likely to meet for the grant for the year 1970?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, the matter is under consideration and I cannot set out any precise statement. The meeting will take place.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I do not agree with your changes in the rules here. I think that this government is like a baby; no matter how many times you change it, it is always in a mess.

I want to place my question to the Prime Minister in the form of an appeal, Mr. Speaker, regarding the closing of the hospital in Chesley. It is the only recourse we have as people—

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Question.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Question.

Mr. Sargent: The question is this, Mr. Speaker. Would the Prime Minister go along with the promise made by the Ontario Hospital Services Commission last year that they would not close this wonderful hospital which employs 30 people—the biggest industry in the town—that it would not close it within the foreseeable future?

I am advised, sir, that political pressure is being brought to bear to close it in favour of the hospital at Hanover.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is just asking a question.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Prime Minister, I want you to know that these people have to drive—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked his question and it is now up to the Prime Minister to answer.

Mr. Sargent: Suppose I asked the Prime Minister if he would intervene and give me a fair hearing in this matter?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Do you want it as an industry or a hospital?

Mr. Sargent: Both. You have got to have both.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would say, first, of course I am interested in the area and the people there. If they are being done an injustice, I would assure the hon. member that certainly no political pressure has been brought to bear on me. Now I do not know of anyone else on whom it may have been brought to bear but certainly none has been brought to bear on me in this matter. I would be very happy to check into it and see what the circumstances are.

If the Ontario Hospital Services Commission undertook to do something and is not doing it I would like to know why, just as you would. But I have got to find out first whether, in fact, it did make a commitment and whether, in fact, they are not carrying it out. I will look into the matter.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Wentworth has the floor.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Highways.

Has the Minister yet determined what action will be taken to relieve the hazardous situation at the corner of Highway 20 and King Street in Stoney Creek?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): I am sorry I cannot answer that question, Mr. Speaker, but I will look into it and advise the member.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Parkdale has the floor.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Attorney General.

In view of the fact that a firm here in Toronto, Cadet Cleaners, are forcing its employees to take lie detector tests and that prospective employees must take lie detector tests, would the Attorney General take any action to safeguard employees, or any other member of the public, from being forced to take lie detector tests?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member would submit that matter to me I would be glad to look into it and give him a reply. I do not know of it.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member a supplementary? The member for High Park then.

Mr. Shulman: A question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, Mr. Speaker.

In view of the very serious allegations made by Mr. Benjamin Levy, an ex-director of Seaway Multi-Corp, and in view of the requests made to your department by major shareholders in that company for an investigation, and in view of the fact that Seaway Multi-Corp has contracted to purchase a company at a questionable price with moneys they do not have, will the minister order an immediate investigation to determine what is occurring there?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, I will not make a commitment to order a ministerial investigation at this point.

The particular inquiry and the problem at the moment lies with the Ontario Securities Commission. I will direct my attention to the thing when they have analyzed it and given me the internal findings that they will have reached.

Mr. Shulman: Will the minister inform us?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Indeed.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York Centre.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier.

Have any changes been made in the plans for the extension of GO-Transit service to north of Toronto, which the Premier announced last October?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, Mr. Speaker, they are proceeding in accordance with the announcement I made and if there is any change in that, it will probably be the subject of another announcement here.

Mr. Deacon: A supplementary. Is the timing still the same? A CNR official told me today that the plans for any rail service had been deferred indefinitely.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would have to check as to whether your specific question is so or not.

Let me put it this way. No change has been brought to my attention, but I will check to find out.

Mr. Deacon: Would the Premier advise us if any changes have been made?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Hamilton Centre.

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

I wonder if he could give me the cost of the Steel commission report on the Hamilton-Burlington-Wentworth local government review.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Obviously, Mr. Speaker, I cannot off the top of my head, I think that is the sort of question which should go on the order paper.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General.

Could the Attorney General advise whether —in view of the publicly expressed disappointment at the verdict of the inquest into the gas explosion in Malton—the Attorney General is going to suggest or order any other kind of an inquiry than the one that has already taken place?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would not think so, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could direct a question to the Minister of Education?

I wonder if he has considered the recommendations of the Ontario Teachers' Federation regarding the superannuated teachers of Ontario to give immediate consideration to granting adjustments of two and a half per cent per year to their pensions, tying them in with the cost of living, tying them in with the median salary of existing teachers?

I wonder if any steps have been taken in this direction since the breakdown between the government and the teachers' federation quite lately?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, just very briefly to update the hon. members. Some time last fall a committee was set up with representation from Treasury, the teachers' federation, the superannuation commission, and The Department of Education. Out of these meetings there were three specific suggestions made by the Ontario Teacher's Federation. I think the first suggestion was the increase of the minimum to whatever it was—$2,100. Members will recall that this was accepted and announced in this House some time prior to Christmas, 1969.

The committee met again in January. The government—and I think the Treasurer indicated this also in December—was concerned about various aspects of the public service employees related to pensions, and the representations from the OTF. The representatives on the committee were told, I think at the January meeting, that the Treasury officials and others wished to deal with some of the statistical information and research that was necessary related to the public service employees, prior to further determination or discussions relative to the teachers' superannuation situation.

These will be going on, I understand from the Provincial Treasurer, and this has been communicated to the executive of the Ontario Teachers' Federation—I think a week ago this afternoon, about 3.30 o'clock.

Mr. Pitman: Is the Minister saying that this committee will be reconstituted and will be—

Hon. Mr. Davis: The committee has not been dissolved really. It is a case of certain aspects of the study being related to the public service pension. There is certain information there that has not been finalized yet. When this is ready, I understand that the committee will move ahead with its deliberations.

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if the minister will indicate whether he feels that a two and a half per cent increase per year and tying in with the cost of living and the median teachers' salary is not a reasonable suggestion in terms of the pensions which these people are receiving at the present time?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I really am not competent to indicate whether it is reasonable. I am no expert in this, as I explained to them from time to time.

I am not sure that the suggestion or the thought of an escalation did not really emanate from the commission itself, not necessarily from the teachers' federation. Whether two and a half per cent, or three, whatever it is, is related to the cost of living increase, I am not prepared to comment. As a layman it would appear to make some sense.

Mr. Speaker: Sufficient supplementaries have been asked. The member for Rainy River has the floor.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier. Will the Premier consider setting up a select committee of the Legislature to study all aspects of air and water pollution in the province of Ontario, in view of the critical nature of the problem?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, we are not considering that at the moment.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is a polluted question.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, does the Premier not consider pollution a top priority in the government and that it is at a critical level in our province?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, Mr. Speaker, of course we do. We just finished a federal-provincial conference dealing with the matter. We have a minister who has answered six or eight questions here today about it, so the member's question at best must be rhetorical, because if he just uses his God-given common sense he would know that this government is very interested.

There are many approaches the government can take to any problem that may be affecting the people of this province. We have a very active programme of pollution control and various matters which we are carrying on at the moment and it may be that just at this stage we do not believe a select committee would add a great deal to it.

There may be some time when that particular form of approach to a problem might appear to have some merit, but at the moment we do not think it has.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): My question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Minister of Transport. Is the Minister aware of the application made by the Smith Transport Company of Montreal to the federal transport board to have Sunday trucking across all provinces? If the minister is aware, will be made representation along with the many municipalities who oppose such application?

Mr. Lewis: Tell him you will have no truck with Sundays.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, our department is the designated agent for the province of Ontario in representing it before the transport board of Canada, and in this case before the committee handling highway transport. The application of Smith is under consideration.

Mr. Gisborn: A supplementary question. Is it the Minister's intention to oppose the application?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the matter of the application is under consideration.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sarnia.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Having regard to the very picayune circumstances surrounding the prosecution of Father McCabe for having liquor without a permit, could the minister tell me what interest of justice is served in the comments of the crown attorney when he said, during the course of his withdrawal of the charges, that the police were justified in laying them?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member wishes to know the facts which lay at the foundation of the laying of the charge, I would be glad to make them known to him. If the crown attorney was justifying, quite properly, the actions of the police with the information they had at the time, I think this is not the place for me to attempt at this time to detail the facts, but I will be glad to make them known to the hon. member.

Mr. Bullbrook: By way of a supplementary, does the Minister of Justice agree that as a matter of policy, crown attorneys, in withdrawing charges, should concurrent therewith

say that the police were justified in laying such charges?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I am called upon as a minister to take issue with officials of my department in this forum. If I have occasion to disagree with them or to take steps to change their approach I shall do so in the proper way. But if the hon. member knew the facts, perhaps he would not even ask the question.

Mr. Bullbrook: As a further supplementary, entirely, may I ask, without my digesting the facts entirely, whether the Minister of Justice would advise this House that the reports we read in the Metro press were wrong in connection with the facts? Did he read those reports?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not propose to comment on the reports of the press.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury has the floor.

Mr. Sopha: I should like to address a threefold question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Firstly, would the minister inform the many anxious citizens of Sudbury, through me, just what is the reason for the lengthy delay in providing the reports on regional government by the chairman of the Ontario Municipal Board?

Secondly, in view of the fact that the statutes of Ontario rendered the mining companies liable to municipal taxation as of the first of the year, would the minister allay the anxieties of the school board and others in Sudbury by telling us when the assessment figures will be available?

Finally, would he tell us why the press conference scheduled with such fanfare and publicity for March 4 was cancelled? Pardon me—not March 4, last Wednesday.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I am not aware of a press conference being cancelled last Wednesday. I think perhaps this involved the area directors throughout the province; we have arranged for them to meet with the media to introduce them, but why this particular one was cancelled I am not aware, if that in fact is what it was. Certainly it was not a conference in which I was involved or was going to be present. I think it was the area directors and there must have been some reason for it being cancelled.

Replying to the first part of the question, I realize the anxiety in the Sudbury basin to get on with this job. Of course, the member is aware that it was, I think, really late in December before we were able to complete the assessment of the facilities, due, of course, to the unfortunate labour disputes which took place during which time no assessing went on. The assessing has been completed—

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Tell us why.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The assessing has been completed. I think we have extracted some of the figures from the assessing. I am told the commissioner is in the process of writing his report and I would hope in the next two or three weeks that we would have some indication not only of the figures but of the solution related to them. My colleague, the Treasurer, questions me daily because of the implications for mining revenue payments. We are concerned, naturally, and I can only hope that the good people of Sudbury and the surrounding area can bear with us a little bit longer. It may take up to a month, I suppose. I think they have made—am I not correct?—an interim levy, or are about to, which will tide them over? Certainly I am not happy with holding them up under these circumstances but I am afraid I do not have a better solution.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Transport. Is the minister planning in this session to introduce legislation banning snowmobiles from the highways of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to deal with The Motorized Snow Vehicles Act, 1968, by way of some amendments this session.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask, by way of supplementary, if that would include the age limit for people driving snowmobiles?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the age limit for operating snowmobiles on public roads is dealt with in the Act at present. Whether that will be extended or not, we will see.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask a supplementary?

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary? Yes.

Mr. Sopha: Would the minister consider the immediate implementation of a requirement that people involved in accidents with snowmobiles be required to report those acci-

dents, and particularly when there are personal injuries involved?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the matter of accident reporting in regard to personal injury and property damage is receiving consideration.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Yorkview has a supplementary to his question?

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, is the minister, in the legislation he mentions, also proposing to deal with the proposal to put wheels under present snowmobiles?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I did not get the question. Am I proposing to put wheels—

Mr. Young: There is a proposal that present snowmobiles should have wheels put on them for driving on the highways. Will his legislation deal with this matter and is he satisfied these are safe?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I doubt that a wheeled vehicle would, as such, be a motorized snow vehicle. This is perhaps a modification, and it seems to me doubtful that it would be dealt with under The Motorized Snow Vehicles Act. Such modification might transform it into a road vehicle and that is another matter.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wellington South.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Prime Minister. Due to the fact that two years ago he established a central purchasing department, is it the intention of the government to bring about legislation which will give this department the powers so it can purchase?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I think, Mr. Speaker, they already have that power, at least to some extent. Beyond that, I do not really get the burden of the member's question.

Mr. Worton: My supplementary question is that I asked the question of the Minister of Public Works, the Prime Minister replied to it, and they have a payroll of some $100,000 but they have no powers, they purchase nothing.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They have powers to purchase, but if the member wants me to detail them, he should put a question on the order paper and I will ask that a check be made.

Mr. Nixon: Is the Premier aware of his own answer at the end of the last session in which he detailed the expenses of this department and said the purchase was nil? That, surely, is the basis of the question. Why does the purchasing department not buy something?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not know, I will check into it and find out. Obviously I am not prepared to answer the question this afternoon, so I will check into it and see. I think the hon. member wants a detailed list of what powers this organization has to purchase.

Mr. Nixon: Why is it not working?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is working and I will get the—

Mr. Sopha: It is not working at all.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Simmer down.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Let us try this, Mr. Speaker, one at a time; it might work a little better. If the hon. member will put his question on the order paper, I will find out exactly where this department is making purchases and what these men who are being paid $100,000 are doing.

Mr. Sopha: He did that last year.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will bring it up to date; apparently it is not—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, do you not want him to do it?

Mr. Bullbrook: You are ahead now, sit down.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, no, I make no apologies for my inability to come in here and answer a question about the function of one small area of one department, but I will tell the members that in the proper procedures of this House I will obtain the information and table it for the benefit of all the members.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor West.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Attorney General.

I would like to ask the Attorney General if he will review the policy of his department under which the province will not invoke the extradition treaty between Canada and the United States in cases of the alleged

abduction of children from this province to other jurisdictions.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I would not want to give an abrupt negative answer to this question, but I would point out to the hon. member that we have this type of situation quite frequently—the kidnapping, you might call it kidnapping, by one parent, where the parents are estranged. We have considered this matter very thoroughly, in such a situation where children are taken into another country particularly; sometimes they are taken into another province. The question of extradition arises if children are taken into the United States.

I would like to answer the question to this extent. First of all, it is not proper to proceed by way of criminal proceedings in such a situation and to lay a criminal charge against the parent who has taken his, or her children, the reason being that there is a colour of right, a very definite right, in one parent or the other, or rights in both, so that you cannot proceed on a criminal proceeding. The courts would not entertain the charge of kidnapping of one's own child.

If one were to apply for extradition proceedings to bring the parent back, say, from the United States, where he had taken the children, extradition law is such that that person, being brought back to this country, could only be dealt with on the charge on which he was brought back. That is, not the question of custody of the children, but the question of whatever criminal charge might be laid, and the moment that charge were dealt with, whether it were disposed of or however it would be proceeded with, it would not relate to the custody of the children. So that I do not know the terms in which the hon. member asked this question—should it be a review or a policy.

Our policy is simply limited by the law, which is well clear now. The law upon which we can act, the remedies which we can obtain, are very definite. There are a line of cases. The law is very clear.

I do not know that I could review the policy. It might be helpful to the hon. member to know that in these cases I think, perhaps, the procedure is to undertake a civil proceeding, either in the one country or the other. If the children, for instance, were taken to one of the states of the United States, perhaps proceedings should be commenced before a court there, and the case should be submitted to the law there, especially if the nationality of the children is at stake, and an application made for custody there.

Mr. Peacock: Just a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, if I can raise my voice loud enough. Does he not view the matter of the abduction of children in this province as a matter of public interest and not solely a matter for the civil courts—

Mr. Wishart: I would say I do think that extradition proceedings are used for matters of wide and very definite public concern. In a matter of this kind, such as the Banks case or the Rabbiah extradition, there is a great public interest to be considered and watched over; but here is a matter between individuals.

I do think that this case is not a matter of wide public concern that merits extradition proceedings, especially where the courts have made it clear in a number of cases that criminal proceedings will not be dealt with against one parent by another relating to the abduction, or kidnapping if you like, of their own children. The courts will not treat that as a criminal matter. We have had a very recent case where it went to the grand jury. That is the case that was rebated to this House by a lot of correspondence. I do not think we can take that line, because the law, I think, is clear against us—

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): New question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: A question from the member for Essex South.

Mr. Paterson: A question of the Minister of Highways.

In the past few weeks, has he or have officials of his department entered into negotiations with the federal Department of Transport, Allied Chemicals, or the New York Central Railway in regard to the overpass bridge on Highway 18 south of Amherstburg, and if not, will he initiate such talks in order that this bridge might come within the purview of his operations for this coming year, in order that we can get something done on that?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, we have had constant discussions with the federal department and with the company concerned. I cannot give the member the latest answer, but we will review it again as soon as possible.

Mr. Martel: A question of the minister of energy.

If the government, as outlined the other

day, is so intent on reducing pollution, why has the Falconbridge Nickel Company been granted five years with which to reduce its pollution, and even then, it is only going to reduce it by 55 per cent?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Sorry, Mr. Speaker, I did not hear the question.

Mr. Speaker: The amplifying system is not on.

Mr. Martel: I think he heard the question. If the government is as intent on cleaning up pollution as was announced the other day, why has the Falconbridge Nickel Company been given five more years before it finally cleans up some of its pollution, and even then it will only reduce the amount of sulphur dioxide by 55 per cent?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, the arrangement with the Falconbridge Nickel Company is a staged programme and I believe the final date is about five years from now, requiring certain things to be done on a continuous basis. This is a gigantic programme costing many millions of dollars; I would not want to guess the amount because there is a similar type of programme being drafted for Inco at the present time.

We think that the results of this programme will reduce the sulphur content, as the member indicates, more than the 55 per cent, although this is the minimal requirement under the particular programme.

Mr. Martel: A supplementary? Is the minister aware that the Meramac station of Union Electric Company is removing 85 per cent of the sulphur dioxide being emitted, and 99.3 per cent of the solids?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, right offhand I am not aware of the particular station to which the hon. member refers. If he will send me that information I am sure I can use it.

Mr. Martel: One more supplementary if I might. If it is a case of economics that it is taking five years, is the minister aware that the Falconbridge Nickel Company's profits last year, despite a three-and-a-half month strike, soared by 86.4 per cent, as reported in the *Globe and Mail* on February 10, 1970?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I think by clarifying a point to the hon. member I will not have to answer the second part of the question.

This programme is not a matter of economics, it is a matter of the time required to physically install the equipment they are acquiring. We are not questioning the fact that the company can afford to do what we require them to do, but it takes time.

Mr. Martel: We put a man on the moon in five years.

Mr. Sargent: I have a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Will the minister advise if he will consider the adoption of a new auto insurance system that would allow accident victims to collect from their own companies regardless of fault? In view of the fact that this new system will reduce costs of auto insurance by 56 per cent, and that this new plan has been proposed in New York State this week, will the Minister consider—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: What is wrong with the hon. members down there? They are the ones that are always preaching about saving money.

An hon. member: There is a lot wrong with them, a lot.

Another hon. member: The hon. member is getting through to them.

Mr. Sargent: Why does the hon. member for York South not grow up?

Will the minister consider setting up an immediate commission to investigate this critical area on behalf of the motoring public? This has been proposed this week in New York.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked his question.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, no, I do not think at the moment that I would consider setting up a special commission.

As the hon. member will know, there was a select committee study which reported in 1963. Then there was a study of that study a few years later. I believe there have been enough studies in this jurisdiction and in North America to give all the facts and the arguments pro and con.

But I will say in reply to the member's question that I will certainly, from an internal departmental point of view, take this under early consideration; because obviously this is a matter of very considerable importance that deserves a new look and a new investigation.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Is the department presently conducting any studies into the use of salt on the highways, particularly from the point of view of its effect on the roadside vegetation, the trees and so on, and also from the point of view of its effect on the fresh water lakes?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, we are continuously studying and analysing waste run-off from highways, as well as from fields or roadways.

As far as the effect on vegetation is concerned I think the hon. member will agree that salt on highways and vegetation are not seasonally compatible; but as far as the effect generally on our water is concerned, this is a constant thing that we are analysing and studying all the time. In the area of those streams that may be detrimentally affected or deteriorated because of salt on highways, there is control as far as the use of the salt is concerned.

Mr. Gaunt: May I ask a supplementary? Is the minister aware that in the state of California whole areas of trees have died because of the salt water to which they have been exposed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I was not aware of that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. Stokes: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health.

Could the Minister of Health tell the House what has been the result of the programme to bring much-needed health services to communities in northwestern Ontario as a result of the announcement he made last fall for an incentive programme for doctors and dentists, and a subsidy for the necessary clinical facilities?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I have not got the exact figures here—and I think that this question is an important one.

The programme is moving ahead and I would be happy to get the complete information and give this hon. member and the other hon. members this information to bring them up to date on what is happening; what areas the doctors are going to, how many we have in this programme, and so forth.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Health.

In an attempt at co-operation with the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, and also to curtail the pollution by means of phosphates, I would like to ask the minister if any directives have been issued by him to various hospitals and institutions under his ministry asking that they use either phosphate free or low phosphate content detergents in their laundry operations?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware at this point of any directive having been issued. I will look into the matter. I am not sure whether we use detergents with phosphates in the hospitals or not, but I will find out. This is in our own hospitals, of course, that the member is talking about.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I am referring to hospitals operated by the department.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Has the minister acceded to the city of Hamilton's request for a meeting to discuss the Hamilton-Wentworth-Burlington regional government review committee that was structured?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: This matter is under consideration.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Waterloo North.

Mr. Good: I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mr. Speaker.

Has the minister done anything recently, or is he contemplating anything, which would make it possible for municipalities to enforce and set minimum housing standards especially as they apply to some landlords?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, there is provision in The Planning Act now to pass a minimum standards bylaw for residential properties. I would be glad to make a copy of that available to the member. I think some 14 or 15 municipalities in the province have in fact passed such legislation.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question?

Mr. Speaker: The question period time has now expired.

I would like to draw to the attention of

the members a rule of this House which we have not been following, and which I think in view of the attitude of the members today we should follow, and that rule says that no question is to contain a statement of fact. I would say that that has been circumvented here and three prize examples today were the member for Scarborough West, the member for High Park, and the member for Grey-Bruce.

In the case of Grey-Bruce, all the member had to ask was would the minister set up an investigation into auto insurance matters; the member for High Park, all he had to ask, and he eventually did ask it, was would the minister issue a ministerial order. Now I have just forgotten the member for Scarborough West, but it was a similar question with which he ended a long preamble.

I give notice to the House that beginning on Monday, the next long question period, I will endeavour to see if we cannot, as most members do, stick to the rules of the House with respect to statements of fact in questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, since you have raised it, may I just ask, on a point of order, whether it is just generally accepted that questions should not contain statements of fact.

Mr. Speaker: This procedure is part of the written rules of the House. No question shall contain a statement of fact.

We discussed this about a year ago and the question was quite properly raised, by some of the members to my left, I believe, on how you could ask a question unless you gave the facts on whcih the question was based. There are certain questions that must have a preamble, but there are other questions, such as the ones I mentioned just now, which do not need any preamble. I will do my best to sort it out, although we have not done so yet.

I think to make things go properly there are many well phrased questions—and the member for Huron-Bruce asked an ideal question today; and the member for Thunder Bay also, they both asked their questions without putting any preamble or any facts in them. They said to the ministers, what are you doing about this? I think that is what we should have by way of a question.

I would ask the assistance of the members when we start next week to try and ask their questions that way.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

I am wondering if the government could tell me: the out-of-town members come in at 2 o'clock and are here until 6 o'clock and we have nothing to do all eveinng.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: What are you laughing at? Is there any reason why we could not have night sittings, because it is a waste of time for us to be here from out-of-town not doing anything.

Any reasons why we could not have evening sittings?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, we will go to night sittings when the business of the House warrants it. We have not even completed the debate on the establishment of the committee and perhaps sometime this afternoon, we will get into the throne debate and, as of next week, if we have a long list of throne debaters, we can sit every night next week if that is what you wish.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Could you personally find him something to do?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I could not find anything for him to do.

Mr. Pilkey: Surely you have something to sweep up?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, really I could not, but I do find him of great assistance to me in this House.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on the question that has been raised about night sessions, I wonder if the Prime Minister wants to deal with it now or hand it to the whips?

If our adjournment for the Easter recess is coming on March 19 or 20, it means that the throne debate is going to be for two weeks following the leaders' lead-offs. It is almost certain that for the fullest possible opportunity for others to participate, it will require night sessions.

Therefore, I would like to raise now, so that everybody will know where he stands—and particularly the hon. member for Grey-Bruce—the prospect that, as of a week tonight, Thursday of next week, when the debate gets underway, beyond the three leaders, there be night sittings for the normal night session period. Otherwise you are going to have a very limited debate and I know we will get into a jam about the 15th of the month.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I did meet with your lieutenant on your left and the leader of the Opposition, and, frankly, as soon as the whips can furnish us with the list of the speakers on all sides of the House that wish to participate in that debate, we will know what time is necessary.

I would say this—that we will sit on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as we have in the past. We will try to leave Wednesdays clear for as long as we can, because I know that the members like one night of the week, at least, to do something other than to sit in this House and listen to the pearls of wisdom that flow from all sides.

When necessary, we will sit Tuesdays and Thursdays first, then Mondays and probably, when we get into estimates, we will finally sit on Wednesdays, if it is necessary to complete the business.

While we are on this subject, I might suggest that all members notify their whips if they are going to speak on the throne debate and, if possible, the length of time that they propose to speak. We can then proceed in an orderly manner and will make available whatever time is necessary.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has a point of order?

Mr. Shulman: I rise on a point of order, sir. My point of order is that the Minister of Correctional Services misinformed the House yesterday.

Yesterday I raised the matter of certain problems that occurred at Vanier Institute. I mentioned a person who had informed the member for Lakeshore and myself of these matters being punished by having a phone call from Mr. Thompson, of the institute, to Office Overload, instructing them that in future any prospective employers were to be notified of the place from which she came. The Minister replied as follows and I quote:

> As to the so-called punishment which was extended to her, the hon. member is entirely wrong. The girl was hired through Office Overload and she hired for that period of time, sir. When her time was up, that was when she was no longer employed there.

Before entering the House today, sir, I phoned the head of Office Overload in Brampton, Mrs. Craig, and I read this quotation to her and I am sorry to inform you that it is untrue.

Mr. Speaker: I am sure it will be brought to the attention of the Minister and the matter can be dealt with further at that time.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present to the House the following reports:

The Provincial Auditor's Report for the year ending March 31, 1969.

The Public Accounts of the Province of Ontario for the year ending March 31, 1969.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY ACT, 1970

Mr. Shulman moves first reading of bill intituled: The Occupational Safety Act, 1970.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Speaker, this is an omnibus bill covering all aspects of occupational safety in this province. It was prepared by the Labour Safety Council of Ontario for the benefit of the Minister of Labour, but as he gave no indication of introducing it, I thought I would do him the service.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The third order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion to authorize the standing committees of the House for the session.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, at 6 o'clock last night I was attempting to place forward the need for the government to adopt the amendment of my leader that an economic affairs committee be also added to the list of standing committees in this Legislature.

I had attempted to point out some of the duties and obligations that could be assigned to this committee, some of the areas that they could study and on which they could have representation made by the public in an attempt to find either answers or to find reasons for the behaviour of various segments of our community. I made mention that the committee could look into the miscellaneous problems involving the economic well being of the people of Ontario. It could be an ombudsman type of committee.

I made mention of the seriousness of unemployment and especially the over-supply of

automobiles, partially created as a result of excessive overtime on the part of the manufacturers, resulting in mass lay-offs. Though some of the lay-offs were only temporary, even temporary lay-off does have a very, very harmful effect on the individual who has no seniority.

I made mention that this type of layoff is extremely serious to an individual whose whole pay cheque today is practically all allocated to housing, to food and to clothing. To him the layoff is a very, very serious economic blow.

I likewise made mention that the sudden increases in the cost of consumer items could be looked into. I specifically brought to the attention of the House a small, independently owned supermarket by the name of N & D that sold a commodity called Home Ade, a grape drink, for 29 cents and a Dominion store, a big chain, charged 39 cents for the same article—a 33 per cent increase. An unconscionable increase, as far as the one commodity is concerned.

Now, if this takes place in one commodity, think how this same type of increase would take place in other food stuffs. Think of the effect this does have, especially on the senior citizen who is living on a very meagre and limited income.

I would also like to bring up another item that they probably could look into. That is the ways and means that the various food chains attempt to come along and hoodwink the public. I happen to have an advertisement from yesterday's newspaper that made mention of bathroom tissue, four rolls in a package for 55 cents, regular price 75 cents. I have never seen it sold for 75 cents, so you can see they are attempting to present to the public that they are selling the article at a bargain.

The need for such a standing committee, Mr. Speaker, is self-evident. It could be a forum for many segments of our community and society, to bring to the attention of those of us who are responsible for legislating many unusual practices employed in business, in commerce, in labour, in government, and I could keep on mentioning various other types of trades and skills. This committee could have a very important relationship in when we talk about the quality of life and when we talk about the quality of life; we sort of have an umbrella type of approach there.

Mr. Speaker, think of the plight of many of the retirees and senior citizens trying to eke out a bare-bones type of existence on extremely limited—yes, I could probably even say meagre, below poverty level pensions. Trying to make ends meet with the cost of accommodations taking up 100 per cent of their pensions, then having to live, not on what they receive, but on either borrowings or selling some of their own possessions.

I would like to see a committee like an economics-welfare committee bring down a writer of the Windsor paper by the name of Bill Twaddles, who went into a very in-depth study of housing. Mind you, he went into it in my community and I imagine what exists there could be multiplied by the number of large communities that we have throughout the length and breadth of the province of Ontario.

In his six-article story on housing he brings forth illustrations of the type of housing that individuals are required to live in and the circumstances under which they have to rent these housings that are practically unbelievable. The fact is that we have consumers' groups today, we have tenants' groups, we have the superannuated teachers even participating as a group, they are all extremely concerned. I think their concerns could be expressed to this type of a committee.

This would be participatory democracy. We would bring government back to the people. They would have a forum in which they could come along and express their concern when it comes to the economic welfare of the community or of the province.

I certainly hope, Mr. Speaker, that the government looks very favourably at the suggestion of my leader and that, added to the list of standing committees in the Legislature, there would be one that would be called the economic affairs committee, and it would include urban affairs and housing.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, I too rise in support of my leader's motion, that an economic affairs—

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. As I understand the motion we are considering, it is simply a procedural motion to establish certain standing committees.

It would appear to me—and I would like your guidance on this—that matters which are being covered on this procedural motion are simply matters of substance which could be well dealt with, and more properly dealt with, under either the throne debate or at some particular appropriate time in the meetings of those committees. I would—

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): This was discussed yesterday.

Mr. J. Renwick: Now, the point of order is, is it possible, Mr. Speaker, that you could make some ruling to curtail the length of this debate, so we can get on with the throne debate which is the major substance of the work of the House for the next two or three weeks?

Mr. Bullbrook: If I might speak to the point of order, sir. What possible right does an individual member of this House have to attempt to direct your admonition or otherwise towards the pursuit of this debate, towards the throne debate?

In point of fact, I agree entirely with the member for Riverdale. We discussed this yesterday; 80 per cent of the debate that has taken place is substantive and has nothing to do with the procedural impact of this particular amendment and motion.

I entirely agree with him, but I think it is presumptuous in the extreme to direct the chair.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The member likes to have it both ways, does he not?

Mr. Bullbrook: I just had it both ways.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Eat your heart out!

Mr. Speaker: I must point out to the hon. member for Riverdale that, during the brief period yesterday when I was in the chair, I did draw to the attention of the hon. members the type of debate that was taking place, particularly in connection with one member, I believe the hon. member for Sudbury East, who at that point went on to great lengths to tell us what goes on with housing in the province of Ontario.

I suggested to the hon. members this was not the proper type of debate to take place at that time. I suggested that the reasons why any member felt that additional committees should be appointed would, in my opinion, be in order and to make some brief reference by way of a brief example, but that should be sufficient, without going into the entire complexities of any of the problems for which purpose the committee suggested might be so appointed.

I think that covers pretty well what the hon. member for Riverdale has raised, the point raised as a point of order.

Now, it seems to me that any hon. member has every right to continue to debate the motion and the amendments now before us, as long as he keeps within the rules of the House. It is not my intention to restrict anyone from so doing.

Mr. Paterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated, I rise to support this particular motion and also to support the amendment that has come from the third party suggesting we add to it a housing and urban affairs section.

Certainly we in our party would support this, because we took the initiative and were the first political party in Ontario to set up, under the member for Parkdale, an urban committee to do this very thing, to show our interest in urban problems.

Mr. MacDonald: The first in Ontario?

Mr. Paterson: To set up a committee; that is correct.

Mr. MacDonald: Who is the member kidding?

Mr. Paterson: Now, our motion is to set up an economic affairs committee related to the significant cost changes in products and services that affect the cost of living. I think in supporting this particular motion we have to determine in our own mind what are significant cost changes and if these items are essential to a good standard of living.

Second, one must determine if these are sudden major changes, price increases, or a gradual increment in the price due to the inflationary trends in our economy. If such a committee were instituted—and I hope that it will be instituted—it would have public hearings and could investigate the situations on the interpretation of the motion.

I was very pleased to see that the third party supported our position in the motion, especially in regard to the significant cost changes in services, for I interpret services as basically being in wages. Such demands in this sector certainly should fall within the interpretation of this particular committee, should it be formed. As we pick up the papers day by day, we see significant wage increases demanded and I feel that they should be part of the broad interpretation of this particular motion as presented by my leader.

So, all in all, I think that this concept is good, that we have to look at the total picture, not one small aspect and that if this

committee gets going I, for one, will be very pleased to sit on it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Scarborough Centre.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Speaker, in supporting both amendments I would like to say to the Prime Minister, through you, sir, that when the Prime Minister chose not to establish this committee a year ago, it was in quite different need at that time than it is this year.

At the time that the motion was first presented to this House to add a housing and urban affairs committee, Mr. Speaker, the members were dealing for some of the residents who are tenants of this government, with problems which are not but seem much smaller in retrospect to what is happening in the field of housing in Ontario in 1970.

We originally spoke asking for a committee to deal with problems like telephone answering and placement and tenant relations, and so on, but in 1969, Mr. Speaker, if The Department of Trade and Development has not given to the Prime Minister and the cabinet the message of the need of a committee, then it is simply because in that department they do not want this committee, and they must have the committee because they have now opted out of managing housing in Ontario themselves. They must now bring management back into the realm of the government of Ontario by making a committee.

The property management and rental management in many units has been farmed out to Montreal Trust; the management at local levels is held through housing authorities; the only action that is coming on housing from The Department of Trade and Development at this time is because of the pressure of various members. The member for Riverdale managed to hold on to the green belt for the student residence on Charles Street; the member for Sudbury East managed to speak about the fire problems; I speak about the repairs that are needed and the poor service that the tenants are receiving, and this is all dealing only, Mr. Speaker, with the units that we have now.

This problem can be tripled, because this government is faced with the problems of the units that it has now, plus the units that are under development and the future units. Could the Prime Minister not stop to say that Malvern is coming, 1,500 units in Flemingdon Park are coming? We are spending all our time on public relations and trying to sort out the accidents as they happen.

The housing commission, Mr. Speaker, was before members of this Legislature on at least four to six occasions, and the last time it was requested, it did not even come. The questions to that commission were pages long. The need of a committee is very clear to any of us who are trying on this side of the House to deal with the problems which rightfully should be being handled at this time by the government.

I would like to speak briefly on the support, also, for the Liberal amendment. The Toronto Real Estate Board has said that the cost per square foot of residence is $14.75 on a simple one-floor bungalow standard residence, in this year of 1970, where it was only $11.20 in 1966. The shelter component in the consumer price index has increased 5.1 per cent from December 1968 to December 1969, for the shelter only. The fact remains, Mr. Speaker, that in Ontario, 32 per cent of the family income is going to housing. More and more people are going to be pressuring this government. The committee must be established now, not after some disaster has hit The Department of Trade and Development in the field of housing.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kent.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support my leader's motion to set up another committee of economic affairs and the NDP's amendment to the committee on housing and urban affairs. I do not know that I can add anything more to that which has already been said by the different hon. members in this Legislature, but I would like to draw to the attention of the Premier and the government, that I think the standing committees of this Legislature could do a better job and be more effective if more power was granted to them.

As I understand it, the standing committees of this House can only deal in general with matters that are referred to the committee from this honourable assembly, and I often think that if these standing committees were delegated more authority with regard to inflation, which is of great concern to the people of the province of Ontario, they could help to solve or help to curb inflation to some degree.

I think we hear, or we know, of prices skyrocketing and if these standing committees could call before them manufacturing concerns, or different groups, maybe we could iron out some of these problems that are a

problem to inflation. I would like to see the Premier delegate more authority to the standing committees, and I think they could do a better job and maybe deal with inflation a lot better. It would clear up a lot of points or a lot of discussion among different groups across the province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sarnia.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Speaker, I want to direct myself to the words in the amendment proposed by my leader, and concurrently to the words in the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Windsor West, and that is, "to investigate and hold public hearings."

I suggest to you that if I mention, sir, cost changes in products or services or housing and urban affairs, you will rule me out of order. I do not want to talk about those things; it is absolutely manifest that those things are crying for attention by all levels of government at the present time. I want to direct myself to the intention put forward by the Leader of the Opposition in connection with this particular committee, and that is the need for us to be put to work. It is the responsibility—and I regard it as the prime responsibility—of government to govern. The hon. leader of the government makes decisions of policy, but the problem with the standing committees—and the kernel was hit by my colleague from Kent—is that they are nothing but a responsive chord to the organ played by government.

I direct the members' attention to the legal and municipal bills committee. There is a committee, established, of fairly intelligent individuals representative of the breadth geographically, socially and economically, of this province, and do you know what we deal with? We deal with bills that come before us, and the tragedy of that particular committee is that the liaison now contemplated by the Prime Minister of this province, in his announcement relative to a municipal-provincial conference, could have been a continuing thing. We could have had mayors of municipalities before us year after year. The necessary bridge or the gap that they feel exists between this level of government and themselves could well have been, sir, bridged by the legal and municipal bills committee, if they had sufficient investigatory powers, if they had sufficient powers of subpoena.

My colleague from Parkdale worried yesterday about the American system and the un-American activities committee, and he spoke about Senator McCarthy. I think we are well aware that any legislative assembly can have people who wish to self-aggrandize themselves as did Senator McCarthy. As I see the problem, the problem in that instance was not with the setup of the committee, but with the individual concerned, and we all want to be zealous, including ourselves in this House, that we do not let any demigod descend upon us, in effect to rob and rape this assembly of its true purpose, because that is what is happening to us. We are spending more time here in catcalling back and forth than we are in deliberating on these very matters that are brought to our attention.

Sir, I invite your consideration of this. Last year I spoke at some length—and I hope, Mr. Speaker, with some vigour—in connection with the Consumer-Union liaison and merger. I invited this House to consider at that time the establishment of a select committee to investigate this. I said that I felt it was incumbent upon this House to digest what was in the public interest. The fact of the matter is that the government of Ontario saw fit to establish an independent tribunal and board to make this decision. The fact of the matter is what happened first. The very first thing that happened was that the supreme court of Ontario issued an injunction restraining that tribunal from sitting—an injunction, sir, that I am happy to say could not be issued against the standing or select committee of this Legislature, because that is the essence of this motion.

The essence of this amendment is is that we are the supreme legislative power in this province, and we have the right and we have the concurrent responsibility to digest these matters. I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, that until we make these standing committees an instrument with true tripartisan content to serve the best interests of all the people of Ontario, then none of us are doing our job, none of us.

The hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) said yesterday that the most attractive committee to sit on is the private bills committee. I concur with him 100 per cent. When my whip came to me and said: "What would you like to sit on?" I said: "Number one, private bills."

Number one private bills, because at least there you have the people of Ontario, the elected and appointed officials of Ontario, coming before you and telling you their individual community and personal problems and we attack those on a relatively nonpartisan basis.

I have been the victim myself, with one of my private bills, of a different type of enter-

prise; but by and large we do look at them and try to look at them from a relatively objective point of view. It is so attractive to a member of this House, Mr. Speaker.

And this is all my leader wants. He sees the problem. There cannot be one of us among the 117 members who does not see the problem.

We do not have to talk about housing problems, or spiraling wage problems and costs and services. We do not have to talk about them. They exist. But we have got to do something about them; and if we recognize the prerogative of government to initiate legislation, we also jealously guard our right to say to government, "You must do this." And what better way to be able to assist government; because this is all we want to do, is assist and put forward recommendations.

This committee would have no legislative function *per se*, but I think we would learn. I submit to you that one of the tragic circumstances that I find in my representation, and there are many, one is that we do not have the opportunity of saying to people who know: "Come before us and tell us." You know it is shocking that in this sophisticated society, and I hate to use that word because it was used yesterday relative to the Treasurer, in this sophisticated society that we have to have, concurrent with this very speech that I am making now, a pollution probe going on in city hall in Toronto.

Imagine! These are people who are not elected.

We have abrogated our responsibility so much, Mr. Speaker, that people who are not even elected but are concerned are concurrently carrying on an investigation at city hall in Toronto.

Well the time has come when we had better accept our responsibility.

I have always, publicly and privately, although it is of no great consequence, regarded the Prime Minister of Ontario as a man tremendously concerned with the legislative process and concerned with the appropriate functioning of this chamber and the duties and responsibilities of its members. I believe this most sincerely, and I think that if he would respond to this amendment without fear that we all could do a better job, Mr. Speaker.

It had been my intention to go on at greater length in this connection, to say some of the things that might be done, but I think I have made the point that I wanted to make adequately. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: I would like the hon. government leader to allow me to make sure that there is no one else who wishes to speak to this before the government leader closes the debate. The hon. Prime Minister.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would like first to make a few remarks concerning the committee system generally.

That was a very impassionate speech from the last speaker concerning democracy and so on, and I really do not personally see the connection between a pollution probe at city hall and what this chamber might be doing. I think it indicates interest on the part of citizens. There is a pollution probe going on at the University of Toronto, there is a pollution probe going on at the University of Western Ontario, there is one going on at the University of Waterloo; all of which I welcome. For anyone to attempt, at this stage, to say that this government is not interested in pollution is only an indication of their ignorance because—

Mr. Bullbrook: I did not say that!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —I know the member did not say that, but I am just saying that if anybody does try to take the attitude just because all of a sudden pollution is on everybody's list, that this government, or in fact that this Legislature—I do not say the government I say this Legislature—we have, I recall, dealt with matters of pollution when they were not quite so acceptable to the public as they are today. We were criticized and had a great deal of difficulty in putting through some of our policies in regard to pollution in those days.

However, that is aside from the point. I do address myself to the questions that have been raised about the committee system generally. We seem to have really lost sight of the beginning of this motion, as some of the rather emotional fields about old people, prices and so on, were raised with all of which, of course, I agree, as does everybody in this House.

But the motion, really, is for the establishment of committees and deals particularly with procedures in the House. We have debated the functions of committees here for at least a couple of hours at the beginning of every session for the last number of sessions that I have attended, and we do seem to have some difficulty. We tried about every means possible to make the committees more effective, and I hear a good deal of rhetoric on

the second day of the session about what the committees could do; and I see very poor attendance, not perhaps on all sides, when they are functioning.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. J. White (Minister of Revenue): No, it is the Liberals that do not go to the meetings.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I am being magnanimous this afternoon and I am including everybody. I do not point it out as a criticism, but it is just that the committees have power to do a whole variety of things. I do not think the government has ever denied a committee the right to do anything it asks to do; and then also we direct certain things from this Legislature to the committees. Perhaps we should direct more things to the committees; but I do not think that we are going to ruin democracy if we do not, because I look upon the committees as being nothing other than committees of this House, which in fact they are.

My fight here has been to get some meaningful debate into this House where we all participate and everybody hears it; and the committees have a very definite function.

Now part of the motion that we are presently debating is to set up a standing orders and procedures committee. I made some comments yesterday saying that committee would immediately deal with rules changes, which I think can be dealt with within a week or 10 days at the most, because the research and the homework and so on has already gone into that particular study and it is a matter of solving some relatively minor points and then I think we can get agreement.

I said the committee then would continue to examine the whole function of committees in this House and if, in the view of that three-party committee, there are changes to be made in the functions of the committees, let us hear from them.

But let us not just have these great flights of rhetoric each year. We can all be in favour of brotherhood and love, and things of this nature, and democracy; but let us get down to how, exactly, we are in fact going to accomplish these things, if indeed they need to be accomplished.

The member for Parkdale asked for specific assistance for the public accounts committee. If you will recall, when this committee was originally set up it was set up with some trepidation, because it can be misused. I would say the history of that committee is that it has not been in any way misused, it has functioned very well; and this having been established we have gone on step by step. It was after it had functioned for some time that we then decided to appoint an opposition member as chairman. It may be that in order for it to function properly it needs more assistance than it is presently receiving. I do not think the government would have any objection if this recommendation comes forward—I believe we have provided it with some additional help, but maybe it needs more. If it does, we will be prepared to make arrangements for the committee to have that assistance, because I think it serves a very good purpose.

I think it has been a good committee, and frankly, I have been impressed with the quality of the leadership given by the chairman, who might be tempted upon occasion to use his position as chairman of that committee in a partisan way. This has not been the case, and, of course, this is the secret of the success of the committee.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, would the Prime Minister permit a question?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Certainly.

Mr. Sargent: I am sorry to interrupt, Mr. Prime Minister. Would you advise if you would consider the setting up of a renegotiation commission?

In the United States they have, in all these different administrations, renegotiating committees that renegotiate contracts let by the government. The concern of us in the opposition is that we have no way of knowing of the inside deals, of contracts let by the government. If you would consider the setting up of a renegotiating committee that would check into contracts let by the government, this would answer our need for the fact you will not allow a public audit.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I have never heard of a renegotiation committee and I do not think it is necessary. No one has pointed out to me the need for such a committee here and, never having heard of it before and not really thinking that it is required, the chances are that I am really not going to give that suggestion a lot of consideration. On the other hand, I am always happy to have your suggestions. Some of them, of course, are very good.

In any event, the intent of this select committee on rules and procedures, established in this form is to go into the functioning of the committee. I hope the recommendations

it makes will be what I call meaningful, that they will be something that will work. Because, believe me, we have been trying to meet all these objections as to how the committees function, but we have accepted every idea that has been put forward to date, I think, and we have not really got very far.

In regard to the two amendments that are before us, I am going to have to oppose both of them and I will tell you why. When I look at the amendment put forward by the Leader of the Opposition, it has several grave errors as far as I am concerned.

In the first place it would become the 14th committee. I have grave doubts myself whether the number of committees we already have are not too many. The complaint that I get from the private member is that he has too many committees to sit on. He simply cannot do the work because there are too many committees. Well, here is a proposal that we add two more, so that instead of 13, we would have 15.

Then, if I look at the actual wording of the first amendment, its vagueness is only illustrated by the remarks that have been made here in the House. I really rather doubt the statement of the member for Essex South that his leader intended to include a review of wages and salaries by this committee, although an attempt was made by him to say, "well, under the word services would come wages and salaries." I am inclined to doubt that it would. We are back to the old question: what are we going to look at if we are examining the things that create price increases?

Then, of course, such terms as "significant cost changes." What is a significant cost change? One cent in the price of a quart of milk? Fifteen cents per pound on sirloin steak? I do not know.

I mean the thing is just so vague. Well, you would just be discussing in very general terms price increases in products covering the whole range of everything that is sold and trying to relate it to inflation and the cost of living here in the province. I just think it would be a completely futile exercise.

Also, of course, it will be completely futile unless you do include what the hon. member for Scarborough East attempted to talk about yesterday—I think he was quite wrong—and that is taxes. He wanted a full discussion of taxes by this committee as affecting the cost of living.

Of course, taxes affect the cost of living, but I do not think they are included in the wording of this amendment. The amendment simply is vague. It is a wonderful piece of window dressing. It permits one to be on the side of the angels, but it certainly is much too vague to have any practical meaning at all.

Another point—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): But are you not interested in being on the side of the angels for once?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am just going to tell you in a few minutes where I am on the side of the angels, but I say secondly, no teeth. I notice that the men who supported this amendment say that it would be just a question of taking representation. But the hon. Leader of the Opposition has suggested that this committee then would make recommendations to the government as to what it should do.

Mr. Nixon: To this House. To this House.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: To this House. Well, of course, that is to the government; of course, it would be. To whom else?

Mr. Nixon: I am a member of the House, but not a member of the government.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is quite certain, I know, but the committee would be making recommendations for courses of action to be followed by this government. Until this government has a policy of instituting controls on prices, on wages, salaries, taxes, interest rates, all the components going into making up the cost of living, and such recommendations are going to be meaningless.

The result of this committee would undoubtedly involve the government in requests for enforcement in pursuance of policies which we do not have, because I have stood here many times and said that we do not think a system of compulsory wage and price controls is the answer to the problems we are facing today.

Mr. Nixon: Not involved in this?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would say that this does not mean that we are not interested in the subject matter that has been introduced, I think improperly, into this debate. That is, the effect of the increased cost of living on old people, pensioners, people on fixed salaries, people who cannot keep up with other people in the inflationary spiral, and so on.

The concern of this government in the whole problem of inflation is, I think, indicated by our participation with the federal

government—our acceptance of their propositions for voluntary restraints. Thus we have a programme of attempted control, of price increases in which we are co-operating wholeheartedly with the federal government. I certainly think we must allow that programme to function in the way in which it has been laid down by the federal government before we start considering other methods.

If it does not work as we are planning it, then, of course, other methods will have to be found. My suggestion to you is that they perhaps will have to be found on a wider basis than just in the province of Ontario.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I would oppose that this additional standing committee be appointed.

Now we get into the amendment proposed by the member for Windsor West. He just simply asks that a standing housing and urban affairs committee be appointed.

I note in his remarks in support of the establishment of this committee, the whole burden of his comment was that he has got to get at the housing corporation. This was admitted by the hon. member for Oshawa in a sort of half-hearted fashion.

I detect in all the comments here just an attempt to get a forum whereby you are going to attack everything the housing commission does. If you want to do that, we do have a standing committee on government commissions and you can ask the housing committee to appear before it.

We have many committees where we can deal with matters of urban problems. I announced this afternoon the plans the government has for what I think are a proper attack on urban problems. Not just asking people to come in and address their opinion before a committee, but where we will sit down with those people whose responsibility it is to look after our urban centres. So we have courses of action as a government proceeding in that way.

I might say that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has covered this province—up, down and sideways—and in due course he will relate to the members, if he chooses, the number of meetings he has held, not at Queen's Park but all over the province. He has met with all kinds of groups. He told me the other day, in connection with one area of the province, that he had something like 19 meetings, I think. You cannot say this is not consultation with those who are affected, and it is being done in a way that is meaningful and proper. It is being done by the Minister who has the responsibility; he is listening to the people who are going to be affected and he is taking their ideas and suggestions. In my opinion, this is the approach we should take with these problems; not the setting up of another committee.

I was a little shocked when I realized that really the whole burden of the thing was, "Let us get a lot of public reaction to everything the housing corporation is doing." If the members want to do that, they have the minister in his seat, and he will have to pass his estimates through this House. They should make their complaints in front of all of us and it will be done with somebody in the chair with some control, and we will get after it. If they want to berate the housing commission—which incidentally has the best record of any public housing corporation in North America, and they cannot deny that—if they want to get at the commission, ask them to come before the committee on government commissions. The machinery is there for the members to do it, but they should not ask this House to establish a single committee to accomplish one of their political objectives because we are not going to agree to it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Therefore, Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, as briefly put as I can—

Mr. Sargent: Is this the Prime Minister's throne speech?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh no, I will have a throne speech. I will have lots to say in the throne debate.

Once again, a great deal of the discussion we went through yesterday and this afternoon could well have been relegated to the throne debate. But we are patient; we will listen to all of it all over again, when we get to that particular part of the procedures of this House.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we will oppose these amendments to the motion.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Carruthers moves, seconded by Mr. Bernier, that standing committees of this House for the present session be appointed as follows: 1. Agriculture and food. 2. Education and university affairs. 3. Government commissions. 4. Health. 5. Highways and transport. 6. Labour. 7. Legal and municipal. 8. Natural resources and tourism. 9. Private bills. 10. Privileges and elections. 11. Public accounts. 12. Social, family and correctional services. 13. Standing orders and procedures.

Also that the standing orders and procedures committee shall be composed of those members who constituted the select committee on rules and procedures, namely: Mr. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton) chairman; Mrs. Pritchard; and Messrs. Evans, Farquhar, Kennedy, Lewis, Peacock, Reid (Rainy River), Smith (Hamilton Mountain), Sopha, Villeneuve, Winkler, Yakabuski.

Mr. Nixon moves an amendment, seconded by Mr. Singer, that there be an additional standing committee appointed called the economic affairs committee, empowered and instructed to investigate and hold public hearings related to significant cost changes in products or services affecting the cost of living in Ontario.

Mr. Peacock then moves, seconded by Mrs. Renwick (Scarborough Centre) that the amendment be amended by adding the following words: "and a standing housing and urban affairs committee."

We will, of course, vote first on the last amendment proposed by Mr. Peacock. All those who are in favour of the amendment proposed by Mr. Peacock will please say "aye."

Those opposed will please say "nay."

In my opinion the "nays" have it. I declare the amendment lost.

We will now vote on the amendment proposed by Mr. Nixon. As many as are in favour of this amendment will please say "aye."

As many as are opposed, will please say "nay."

In my opinion, the "nays" have it.

Call in the members.

The amendment was negatived on the following division:

Ayes	Nays
Ben	Allan
Bolton	Apps
Braithwaite	Bales
Breithaupt	Belanger
Bukator	Bernier
Bullbrook	Boyer
Burr	Brunelle
Davison	Carruthers
Deacon	Connell
Deans	Davis
Edighoffer	Demers
Farquhar	Downer
Ferrier	Dunlop
Gaunt	Dymond
Good	Evans
Innes	Gilbertson
Jackson	Gomme
Lawlor	Grossman
Lewis	Guindon
MacDonald	Haskett
MacKenzie	Henderson
Makarchuk	Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton)
Martel	Hodgson (York North)
Newman (Windsor-Walkerville)	Jessiman
Nixon	Johnston (Parry Sound)
Paterson	Johnston (Carleton)
Peacock	Kennedy
Pilkey	Kerr
Pitman	Lawrence (Carleton East)
Reid (Rainy River)	Lawrence (St. George)
Reid (Scarborough East)	MacNaughton
Renwick (Riverdale)	Meen
Renwick (Mrs.) (Scarborough Centre)	Morningstar
Ruston	McKeough
Sargent	McNeil
Singer	Newman (Ontario South)
Sopha	Price
Spence	Pritchard (Mrs.)
Stokes	Randall
Trotter	Reuter
Worton	Robarts
Young—42.	Rollins
	Root
	Rowe
	Smith (Simcoe East)
	Stewart
	Villeneuve
	Welch
	Wells
	White
	Whitney
	Winkler
	Wishart
	Yakabuski—54.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 42, the "nays" 54.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the amendment lost.

The vote will now be on the main motion. Shall the main motion by Mr. Carruthers carry?

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: May I ask the permission of the House to revert to motions and then the chief government whip will introduce a motion?

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Mr. Carruthers moves, seconded by Mr. Bernier, that a select committee of 15 members be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient despatch a list of members to compose the standing committees ordered by the House, such committee to be composed as follows: Mrs. Pritchard, chairman; Messrs. Apps, Farquhar, Gilbertson, Henderson, Kennedy, Newman (Ontario South), Price, Reilly, Rollins, Smith (Nipissing), Stokes, Winkler, Yakabuski and Young.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House the motion carry?

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In order that the mover and the seconder might have a proper approach to the launching of the throne debate, I move the adjournment of the House.

I might say, before you put that motion, Mr. Speaker, on Monday the Leader of the Opposition will make his contribution to the debate, followed by the leader of the New Democratic Party, followed by myself; and may I suggest, in the light of our discussion earlier this afternoon, if you would notify the whips we will decide whether night sessions will be necessary next week.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Could I ask the Prime Minister a question? When he uses that delightful phraseology—"followed by, followed, by"—is he anticipating that Monday is for the Leader of the Opposition, Tuesday the leader of the New Democratic Party and Wednesday himself? Or are we to follow without a break during sitting hours?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would suggest that in view of that fact that we are sitting at 2 o'clock on Monday, the member and I will take our chances; but the Leader of the Opposition will get first crack at it as soon as the question period is over, and then we will just follow on as the time allows itself until 6 o'clock in the evening.

Mr. Speaker: Before I put the motion to adjourn, may I also advise the members, so that they can adjust their appointment books, that Mr. Speaker's annual dinner this year will be on Wednesday, March 18. You might perhaps make a note of that.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to.

House adjourned at 5.40 o'clock, p.m.

No. 4



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Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Friday, February 27, 1970

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Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Friday, February 27, 1970

Certain problems at Vanier Institute, statement by Mr. Grossman 79

Ontario intervention in Smith application re Sunday transport operations, statement by Mr. Haskett 87

OHC leases and Landlord and Tenant Act, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. Nixon 88

OHC and security deposits, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Trotter 88

Cost of farm machinery in Ontario, question to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Gaunt, Mr. MacDonald 89

Harbour city development and wildlife protection, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. MacDonald 90

Mr. John Neveu and workmen's compensation headquarters, question to Mr. Bales, Mr. MacDonald 91

Miss Kahn-Timeta Horn, question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. MacDonald 91

Aid for small businessmen, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Sargent 91

OHC and Landlord and Tenant Act, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. Lawlor 92

Etobicoke Richview Collegiate Institute programme re drug abuses, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid, Mr. Sargent 93

Mr. Larry Kilpatrick's escape from Penetang Hospital, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Shulman 93

Two men on snowmobile chasing wolf, question to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. T. P. Reid 94

Meeting with Metro Toronto boroughs and city re health grants, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Ferrier, Mr. Deacon 94

Layoffs in automobile industry, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. B. Newman 95

Mining Act, bill to amend, Mr. A. F. Lawrence, first reading 95

Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, first reading 95

Proceedings Against the Crown Act, 1962-1963, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, first reading 96

Public Trustee Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, first reading 96

Law Society Act, bill to consolidate and revise, bill intituled, Mr. Wishart, first reading 96

Solicitors Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, first reading 96

Barristers Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, first reading 96

Notaries Act, 1962-1963, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, first reading 96

Judicature Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, first reading 97

Motorized Snow Vehicles Act, 1968, bill to amend, Mr. Shulman, first reading 97

Schools Administration Act (1), bill to amend, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 97

Schools Administration Act (2), bill to amend, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 97

Throne Speech debate, Mr. G. E. Smith, Mr. W. Newman 97

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. W. Newman, agreed to 113

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Grossman, agreed to 113

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1970

The House met at 10 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Our guests this morning, in the east gallery, are students from Blind River District High School in Blind River and the School of Nursing in Brantford; and in the west gallery, from Beverley Heights Junior High School in Downsview and teachers from the South Preparatory School in Forest Hill Village.

Later this morning there will be students from the Bracebridge and Muskoka Lakes Secondary School, Bracebridge; the R. H. King Collegiate Institute in Scarborough; and St. Mark's Separate School in Stouffville.

Statements by the ministry?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, you will recall that on Wednesday the hon. member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) raised a question about letter writing privileges, and so on, in respect of a particular case. I attempted to answer from memory of one particular case which I happen to know something about.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if I might interrupt the minister for a minute. Is he about to make a statement of the policy of his department, or is this a point of privilege or order? If it is a statement as to the policy in his department this is a proper place. If it is a statement of privilege or order he might please so indicate.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, it combines both an explanation of the policy of the department, and I thought I might as well deal with the whole business at one time.

Mr. Speaker: If it is a policy of the department it is quite in order.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Unfortunately, the question was raised as soon as this House went into session and I have not had an opportunity to explain to the members of this House the details of our temporary absence programme, which I think would have been preferable before this thing was thrown on to the floor of the House. I am sure many of the members were confused as to what this discussion was all about in any case, except for the matter of the situation in which the hon. member had failed to receive a letter at the time when it was addressed to him.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): A breach of the the rules!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: If the hon. member will just give me an opportunity, I admit it; I admitted yesterday it was a breach of the rules.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, I will leave that to the Speaker. If I may Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I left when I thought the question period had come to an end; I had to meet staff members and a visitor. I understand the hon. member got up shortly after that and again raised the question: I will not suggest that he deliberately waited for me to leave, I do not know that—

Mr. MacDonald: Innuendo!

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): He just threw that in for good measure.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that in referring to the hon. member for High Park anyone should accuse anyone else of innuendoes.

He stated:

> I rise on a point of order, sir, and my point of order is that the Minister of Correctional Services misinformed the House yesterday.

And I am sure the hon. members here have heard that word "misinformed" so often in the last two years—

Mr. MacDonald: Why does the Minister not give his statement instead of making a speech?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I will make a speech so long as the Speaker thinks it is in order.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: To continue, and I am still quoting the hon. member for High Park:

> Yesterday I raised the matter of certain problems that occurred at Vanier Institute and I mentioned a

person who had informed the member for Lakeshore and myself of those matters, being punished by having a phone call from Mr. Thompson of the institute to Office Overload, instructing them that in future any prospective employers were to be notified of the place from which she came. The Minister replied as follows, and I quote:

"Now you will note, Mr. Speaker, that the statement is that Office Overload is to advise any prospective employer of the place from which she came. Now, one could infer from that, that we were doing it deliberately, for this particular person, rather than telling Office Overload that when they sent out a secretary-stenographer who came from Vanier Centre that that employer was to be advised."

I think in order to clear this up once and for all so the hon. members will know, I should first perhaps advise the hon. members that the temporary absence programme is a very sensitive one at the moment and it concerns our department very much that nothing be done to interfere with it until we see how it is working out.

We are very happy so far. The last report I got was after the first four months. In practice, I think the figures were that out of 224 who had been allowed out on this programme there had been only four who had not been successful; and of the 224 there were about 20 or 25—I hope somebody does not get up on Monday and say I am wrong, that it was 219 or something—there were about 20 or 25 who had been working on the live-in, work-out programme; and as a matter of fact were also paying their way in the institutions, because when they are out on the live-in, work-out programme they pay $20 a week for their keep in addition to other advantages.

In respect of an employer taking on one of our charges, we of course advise the employer that this person is from the Vanier Centre or from any other institution. The employer has a right to know this. We take him into our confidence, as in fact we did before the temporary absence programme went into effect. When a person is on parole and our after-care officers are attempting to help to get that person integrated into the community and get him a job, our after-care officer, with the parolee, will advise the employer so the employer will know the circumstances, so that when he finds out, there will not be any difficulty.

We feel the employer is entitled to know this if we have asked him to take someone on. We tell him what the problem is, and in many instances we have found sympathetic employers who are prepared to go along with it, and we have been very happy with the co-operation we have received.

We had a situation here where someone was sent to Office Overload; and Office Overload, of course, sends these young ladies out to do work in the community when someone needs a secretary or stenographer or someone like that. When this case came to our attention after the visit of the hon. member for High Park to the institution, it was also noticed by one of our staff that Office Overload had not advised the employer—the ultimate employer.

This is not the policy of our department, because obviously this is not fair to the ultimate employer; just because there happens to be an agency in between does not mean our policy should be breached. The ultimate employer, who is employing someone on a temporary absence programme—some person who is legally still serving a sentence and is only out temporarily—that employer should know this person is an inmate of the Vanier Centre.

We have never had this situation occur before. It had not occurred before with Office Overload. This was a first time. So the hon. member gives the impression that when this was found out and Office Overload was advised that it must advise the ultimate employer of the circumstances, or we will go along and do it, that this was done as a punishment for this particular person; which is ridiculous. The whole temporary absence programme is to help us get these people employed. Obviously we would not be doing something which would make it more difficult to get them employed.

So in using the circumstances, the member has used them in such a way as to make it appear that we have been attempting to punish this person. Then yesterday he seized upon the fact that because he found out that the woman was in fact, happily, still employed; and I had said, from memory, because this was a recollection I had about a discussion, that it was short-term employment, as most Office Overload terms are—and my recollection was that she is not now employed there—the member found out that she was still employed there, which means I misinformed the House, which is rather ridiculous!

To me, Mr. Speaker, that is like the crown attorney charging the defence lawyer for not bringing in facts which could have helped his case. Obviously I would have been happy to tell the House that this woman is, happily, still employed—and she still is. So I do not think there is any punishment involved. I do not know why anyone would even use the word "punishment", particularly in respect of the Vanier Centre, which has as its

superintendent, Miss Donna Clark, a master of social work, a professional social worker whose character and integrity are impeccable. She has one of the best reputations in this field, sir, in Canada, and she is running what is known as a therapeutic community.

I tried to explain the other day, in spite of all the noise in the House, that they believe that everything that an inmate does is of importance to the rehabilitation of that particular person—for instance, any letters they write—as we do in fact in the training schools, where they read the youngsters' letters and they know what he is thinking about and it helps in the rehabilitation of the youngster.

This woman has been on temporary absence under this programme since January 25 and has not in fact missed one day, and we are very happy about it. She has not changed employment. Since prior to this particular visit to the centre she has been with the same employer—working for the same employer. Now we cannot guarantee how long that will go on, we hope it goes on for a long time until she has completely served her sentence.

First I will point out, sir, that the regulations of the department, which have just recently been printed, state quite precisely, and I am concerned about the other members of the House knowing this—under section 28, subsection 3—and I might state parenthetically that this was never in the regulations previously—up until two or three years ago when we had a discussion about this in the House, all letters were censored and all letters are censored in 95 per cent of the institutions and jurisdictions in the world. But in spite of that, as a result of a discussion we had in this House we changed the policy of the department and put it right into the regulations which were published a couple of months ago.

As a result of the new regulations coming into force this states:

> An inmate shall be permitted at any time to send or receive letters from his solicitor, the minister, the deputy minister, members of the Ontario legislative assembly or members of the Parliament of Canada, and such letters shall be forwarded without delay and without the deletion of any part thereof.

Mr. Speaker, if you will permit me, I asked for a report and I find I got a report late yesterday from the superintendent. With your permission I think I can clear this whole thing up by giving all of the facts as they are reported by Miss Donna Clark.

The first point that the hon. member made the other day was that he had not received a letter from the inmate, as I had mentioned earlier. He did, however, receive a subsequent letter from this inmate, I think he will agree. And I explained to this House at that time the regulations, as I pointed out, state that this is the policy.

It seems to me that if a member did not receive a letter, I would expect most members of this House, knowing that it is the policy of the department that it should be received and if it was held up, that they would pick up the telephone and ask me: "Look, I understand a letter has been delayed. How come?" Because they must know, and this hon. member knows—he has received hundreds of letters, literally hundreds of letters, and why he would pick on one particular instance to bring this up on the floor of the House—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister will confine himself please to this statement and not to the hon. member for High Park's statement.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: This is a memorandum, sir, from the superintendent of the Vanier—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): That is the game, it gets—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I know, but I have my staff morale to worry about, and they are concerned about this, very worried.

I am going to read this, if I may, Mr. Speaker, and I am quoting from the report: "As one of a series of happenings in which this woman was distorting her situation . . ."

Parenthetically, that is why this is not a good thing to do in the House, because if we discuss these individual situations these people are going to know who we are talking about. They are disturbed people in many instances, and here is a woman who is getting along very well in her job and this goes out, it gets to the press, and correspondence goes back and forth from the hon. member to the inmate; and what is going to happen to our programmes in a situation like that? It is not too difficult for reasonable members to understand.

I go back to the quotation from the report.

> As one of a series of happenings in which this woman was distorting her situation, we—

meaning the staff at Vanier:

> —have been making a concentrated effort to contain her and to deal with matters at

hand without her usual rash of distorted complaints and exaggerations. I was not aware at the time that we could not take issue with regard to a letter to a member of parliament.

Therefore, I assessed this issue primarily on therapeutic grounds. I had no intention of interfering with a communication between this resident and Dr. Shulman, but rather I did wish to confront her with the exaggeration contained in her letter and suggest she correct it. She agreed at the time that she had exaggerated her situation and indicated her intention of rewriting the letter. Had she insisted the letter go as it was, it would have been sent. I acted solely on the basis of what seemed to be therapeutically advisable to do at that time.

The hon. member also referred to a file. He stated that the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) examined the file of the inmate in question during their visit to one of the residences of the Vanier Centre. What the hon. member refers to as a file is in fact the progress report kept at each individual residence at the centre. This report is similar to an ongoing medical chart in a hospital and contains progress notes, current correspondence, evaluation reports and so on. I am informed that this progress report was not examined by either hon. member. They saw it at the table when they came in. The hon. member informed us at that time, on Wednesday, and I quote him:

> When I asked that the letter be handed to me, since it was there in front of us and it was addressed to me, the lady in charge of the institution said that she could not do so; it would have to go through proper channels.

That is the end of the quote of the hon. member for High Park.

The hon. member failed to point out to this House, however, that the letter in question was passed to him and he read it. I suggest this House has been given the impression that the hon. member has never seen the contents of this letter. He also stated that the inmate had stated that:

> She was called in by Mr. Glen Thompson, the administrator of female institutions and until just recently superintendent of the Vanier Centre, and she was told that although the facts in the letter were true it would cause harm to the temporary absence programme.

That is the end of the quote of the hon. member. In fact, Mr. Thompson on no occasion saw this woman with regard to this letter.

And I refer to the fact that he said she was punished in a cruel and unusual way. We just cannot understand what he means by this —that is, that she was punished. This is a woman, as a matter of fact, who is a borderline case. Perhaps if any other member of this House had to make a decision as to whether this person should have been allowed out on the temporary absence programme he might have decided otherwise, because it was a very troublesome case. But the people at Vanier Centre thought otherwise; so far they have been very successful in this particular instance. But she was a very difficult case to handle and how anyone could possibly say that she was being punished is beyond me.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister will please keep to his statement of policy and the explanation of this incident.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The department's position in regard to the application of the temporary absence programme is that in all cases the employers, as I have mentioned, are made aware from the outset that the worker is an inmate of a correctional institution. And as I also mentioned, this case was no exception. The employer, Office Overload, was aware from the beginning of this woman's circumstances.

In this respect, sir, when this was found out, when the circumstances were found out, that is that they had not advised the ultimate employer of this, this letter went out. It is dated February 19; it was sent to the branch manager, Mrs. C. Craig, branch manager of Office Overload at Brampton:

> Dear Mrs. Craig:
>
> You have requested that I send a letter to further outline our temporary absence programme in The Department of Correctional Services, especially as it may pertain to residents from the Vanier Centre for women and employment through your firm.
>
> As I mentioned to you, we have been very carefully observing the progress of the one resident from the Vanier Centre who has been employed through your firm in the Brampton area. As you will have originally understood from Mrs. D. Simpson, after-care officer, we were somewhat concerned that the actual employer of any of our residents would not be fully aware of their status as an individual serving a sentence.
>
> I understand that our resident has been fulfilling your work commitment quite satisfactorily, both in the opinion of her actual employer and from your own evaluation. Our resident, because of her moderately lengthy period in her current position, and

no doubt because of her satisfactory adjustment there, has made social acquaintances with her fellow employees and has found it difficult to avoid requests to participate in social situations outside the work day. As the staff of this Vanier Centre have observed the situation and talked with the resident, it appears that residents, fellow employees and employer are almost certainly going to become aware of her circumstances in the near future.

However, appraisal of the situation currently is that the resident and the staff of the Vanier Centre may appear to be party to a form of deception of the employer should he happen to learn of her circumstances indirectly. Should this occur, then both the resident's relationship with her employer and the Vanier Centre's relationship with the community could well be jeopardized, therefore we consider it to be necessary that her employer be made aware of the fact that she is under sentence.

I say, parenthetically again Mr. Speaker, this is the policy in all cases of our temporary absence programme. I return to the letter:

Naturally, we are very pleased when a resident reaches the point in her rehabilitation programme where outside work can be considered and we are most grateful for the co-operation you are affording us in finding placement opportunities. We hope that you will understand why we feel that the prospective employer should be fully informed of the circumstances.

I look forward to having your comments on this procedure and hope that we can look forward to your continued understanding of and assistance to our work.

Yours sincerely,

Glen R. Thompson, MSW,

Administrator, Adult Female Institution

A further quote, sir, from the report of the superintendent of the institution.

An accusation was made by Dr. Shulman that our staff had telephoned this inmate's cottage to have the letter in question removed from the file. And Dr. Shulman's further questions why her file was out at the time he arrived.

No call was made by our staff to make such a request. Her file was out (that is, on the desk) because cottage staff were working on her evaluation for the past week.

Here it should be emphasized that the file being referred to was the cottage file, not the main institution file. The cottage file is similar to an ongoing, medical chart in a hospital. As mentioned earlier, it contains progress notes, correspondence, evaluation reports, and so on.

In relation to this matter about the letter, Dr. Shulman was extremely rude and condescending to our senior staff member implying that she was a liar and deliberately covering up the information he was seeking.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): That is the Morty we know.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: To continue:

He managed to intimidate and anger her by his very obnoxious and unfair attitude, which was nothing less than extremely disrespectful and degrading. He conveyed an impression that he thought all the residents were far more trustworthy than our staff.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): We had the pleasantest of conversations.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Continuing again:

I have stated very clearly that my staff should not have to be subjected to such treatment.

I am still quoting from the letter, the report, from the superintendent of the institution, Miss Donna Clark:

I have stated very clearly that my staff should not have to be subjected to such treatment. They are performing a very difficult job in our centre and most of them do it with great sincerity and with a real investment of themselves, which is very personally draining at times. For them to be maligned both personally, and publicly in a sense that residents were aware, is really inexcusable.

Mr. Lawlor: The minister has an almost feminine—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well I have a very sensitive staff, particularly at Vanier. The kind of staff, Mr. Speaker, that we—

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): That is true.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: We were thrashed for years I remember, as I mentioned the other day, for not having them; we were criticized that we did not have sensitive staff, a professional staff.

I go back to the report, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Clearly, Mr. Speaker, this is not a ministerial statement, this is a debate being engaged in by the minister. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, if ministerial statements are going to be used as a guise for debate in this fashion we are getting into deeper and deeper trouble. I draw it to your attention, sir.

Mr. Speaker: I agree, to a large extent, with the member for York South, and I have been endeavouring to get the minister to go back to his statement of policy. About two-thirds of the minister's statement, so far, has been proper. The other third has been parenthetically inserted and I think that that is quite improper. . . .

Mr. Nixon: And provocative.

Mr. Speaker: Well, we have unnecessarily provocative statements from all sides of the House; and it is to be expected in this House. I would again ask the minister—

Mr. Nixon: Not in this order. This is supposed to be a ministerial statement.

Mr. Sargent: He is taking advantage—

Mr. Speaker: I would ask the minister if he would continue to make his statement of policy, and the explanation, which I think is quite proper; the House agreed in this particular instance, with respect to that policy. Then, at a proper time later it can be debated, either by way of question in the question period or by way of throne debate or in the estimates. But I would think that the minister is really just imposing on the House, and on Mr. Speaker, a bit too much, more than we can allow.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, do I take it from you that I may continue to read the report from the institution?

Mr. Speaker: As far as I am concerned, you may explain the policies of the department with respect to the matter which was raised, and I think it was agreed that that being so you could produce the report with respect to this matter so it would be cleared up at once. But I would ask that there be no more parenthetical references and interpolations, that we have the report and that is the end of it; the minister then waits until the proper time to debate it.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I agree to that. The interpolations and interjections came as a result of interpolations from hon. members opposite.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I am sure the minister can contain himself from now on.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I go back to the report from the superintendent—

Mr. Martel: He censored the letter!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I go back to the report, sir:

> For them to be intimidated by threats is beyond what any staff member should have to endure. Dr. Shulman made a superficial gesture of apology when his accusations were not substantiated, but then immediately stated that there had better be no repercussions for this inmate's temporary absence programme, and he would be back to check.
>
> This has placed staff in an intimidated position as they have incidents to investigate which may well implicate this inmate in getting mail out of the centre illegally, and making unauthorized telephone calls and writing or receiving unauthorized letters from her employment placement.
>
> In addition, a parcel has arrived through improper channels and she has two temporary absence applications which it may not be appropriate to approve. I am sure it is unnecessary for me to state what effect this intimidation can have on our efforts to deal with residents in a consistent, honest, firm and therapeutic manner.

Mr. Speaker, that is the end of the quote from the superintendent of the institution and I think it speaks for itself.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, on a question of privilege: obviously under the rules of the House I cannot comment on the statement. But there are numerous personal references to me in that, sir, and—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will have an opportunity to comment on the statement at an appropriate time, so his statement is—

Mr. Shulman: I do not wish to, sir.

Mr. Speaker: The member's statement is correct. At this time he has not the opportunity to comment.

Mr. Shulman: I beg your pardon, sir, on a question of privilege: the comments which have been made about me personally I certainly do have an opportunity to comment on, and I am going to right now.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has the opportunity to rise on a point of personal privilege. He has not the opportunity to develop a debate from the ministerial statement; that comes at a proper time. Now if he will state his point of personal privilege we will hear it.

Mr. Shulman: My point of personal privilege, sir, is that the hon. minister has made numerous statements which are incorrect about myself, and fortunately I have a witness here to this matter.

Now first of all there is a series of unbelievable distortions—

Mr. Speaker: The member has made his point of personal privilege.

Mr. Shulman: I have not made my point.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, the member has made his point that there have been statements—

Mr. Shulman: You cannot allow him to give this in great detail and not allow me to make my point.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member should not have brought it up.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member for York South would wait a minute until I finish.

Let us get this straight. The hon. minister, I agree, went beyond what is proper in a statement; I endeavoured to check him, and eventually he did stick to his point. The hon. member for High Park at this time has the right to state his point of personal privilege. He has stated it.

Mr. Shulman: I have not stated it.

Mr. Speaker: Yes; the member has stated it, that he has been misrepresented. The Speaker must then decide whether that is personal privilege or not; and if so then the member can proceed. If it is not, then he does not proceed. Now perhaps the hon. member would remain quiet until the Speaker allows him to go on.

We must decide these things first, and I propose to do so from now on. I agree that the hon. member has a point of personal privilege and I will be glad to allow him to speak on it, but not to do the things which both the Speaker and the House objected to when the hon. minister did. Just because one member is wrong and eventually we get him on the track is no reason why we should all be wrong.

So now the hon. member for High Park has the floor.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—and this is precisely the point of order—we are getting in deeper and deeper trouble because you have two sets of rules. You have conceded that the minister was violating it, you have conceded you tried to get him to get back into order—

Mr. Speaker: And did!

Mr. MacDonald: And did after one half hour. But if somebody on this side of the House gets off for 30 seconds you chop him down, sir. You are making the situation intolerable; and I think, sir, you should face the fact.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for High Park has the floor now in respect of his point of personal privilege.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, point one: the hon. minister has stated here, two or three times today and the day before yesterday, that there was intimidation of the staff. Let me state categorically, sir, there was no intimidation.

The hon. minister has stated the intimidation took place in the form—I believe he said —of threatening that there be—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I did not say that.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The letter from the staff stated that.

Mr. Shulman: In the letter which he has read here from a Mrs. Donna Clark, who we saw at no time at that institution, there was the suggestion—I do not recall her exact words—that we threatened the staff in regard to any punishment that would be given to this woman.

Now let me state quite clearly, sir, that as we were leaving I spoke to Mrs. Fleck—and this is the woman we dealt with there and she was most courteous; there was no intimidation, there were no hard words on either side. In fact I know this woman and I know her to be a very fine person and she was

unaware of what was going on in the institution. As we left I asked her: "Will there be any punishment given to Miss C.H. as a result of having informed us of this?" She assured us there would not be any, and that was the sum total of the intimidation which the minister has just—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I can just imagine the hon. member doing it that way.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Shulman: Point two: the minister has referred to the file. Let me give you the circumstances of the file, sir. We were brought into a small office. We sat down at that desk and I personally went through each and every item in that file. I obviously did not have time to read it all, it was a very thick file.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member had no right to.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Shulman: I looked at it with the permission of Mrs. Fleck who was in charge of the institution after I—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member had her scared out of her wits.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Speaker, I did not interrupt the minister once through his speech; I cannot understand these bad manners.

Mr. Martel: Because he is definitely trying to cover up.

Mr. Shulman: When we came to the letter in the file it was in an envelope. Across the envelope was written in red ink: "not to be sent out".

I took this out of the file and showed it to Mrs. Fleck. I then opened it up. It was a lengthy letter and I did not have time to read it. I glanced at it, put it back in the envelope, handed it to her and said: "Since this is addressed to me, may I have it?" She said: "It will have to go through channels".

That was two weeks ago last Sunday, I still do not have that letter.

Point three—

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): English Channel!

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Nixon: The hon. minister should have stayed home.

Mr. Shulman: Two days after, the punishment of the prisoner, two days after—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What punishment?

Mr. Shulman: I would like to tell you, Mr. Speaker.

Two days after we were on our visit the prisoner returned to her room after her work through Office Overload and she was informed that her room had been specially searched to see if there was any correspondence that the staff was not aware of. They found two letters from a doctor to whom she is engaged, or hopes to become engaged.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I object to this, he is giving out information.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is now going into matters of hearsay; there is not any question about that, because he obviously was not there. The hon. member is speaking to the point of privilege that the hon. minister has not given the correct facts. Up until he came to this point I thought it was quite in order and quite proper—but he is certainly straying from it now. So will he confine himself to the particular matters that we have before us?

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, surely on both sides, both on the government side and the side of the NDP, the debate in this House is deteriorating to the point where we are not accomplishing anything.

May I suggest to you, sir, that we are not sitting as a court to determine precisely what happened when the hon. member went to the Vanier Centre, nor what happened when the minister received word about this visit. I would suggest to you, sir, that you take the point of privilege under advisement and if, in your wisdom, it should be referred to a committee so that there can be extensive hearings with all of the professional staff called in, then I would suggest that this is the course of action you should take.

Mr. Speaker: I would agree that the Leader of the Opposition has made a very sound suggestion, but I think that one basis of the Speaker making such a ruling or such a suggestion to the House would be that he would have some of the facts, and unfortunately the member for High Park is now telling the House and the Speaker exactly what he told us the other day; therefore he is adding nothing new to the point of personal privilege.

Now if the member has something further with respect to it then that is quite in order.

Otherwise he is now getting out of order, because as the Leader of the Opposition has pointed out to me, and as I said in the first place, I have to determine if there is a point of privilege, and then I must hear what the member has to say with respect to that point. Not the evidence, but why the member feels that his privilege has been interfered with. Not the evidence upon which he bases it, that can come later.

So will the hon. member for High Park continue, pointing out to the House and to Mr. Speaker where his privileges have been interfered with, further than he has already told me, but not giving me or the House the arguments upon which it is based.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, what I was attempting to do was to correct the misinformation which has been supplied here this morning. Surely if the minister gets up and says that I have not told the truth, that this prisoner was not punished, I should be allowed to present the evidence that she was punished.

Mr. Speaker: No, this is not the forum for that. I have ruled that the member can draw to my attention where his privileges have been interfered with, and that is all that comes to the point of privilege.

Mr. Shulman: All right, then may I make a request, sir? There has been a statement made here by the minister in response to a simple request that was made in this House that letters be allowed to proceed without hindrance. The minister has made a lengthy statement in which he has made numerous personal references to me; he has stated numerous outright falsehoods. I ask that this matter be referred to the committee on privileges and elections to find out where the truth lies.

Mr. Nixon: That is great, we will support that.

Mr. Speaker: I certainly will be glad to take that matter under consideration with the proper authorities who have the right to so refer it.

Mr. Sargent: On a point of order—

Mr. Lawlor: On a point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: A point of personal privilege supersedes a point of order; the hon. member for Lakeshore has the floor.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Speaker, I shall be very short. My personal privilege, of course, arises out of the ministerial statement. Also may I just say to the minister in his teeth that I am not the "patsy of Shulman," I am more like his guardian angel. As far as I am concerned—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Speaker, there have been misstatements of fact on a fairly atrocious scale from the minister this morning as to the interrelationship between the parties up there. There was no anger, there was no intimidation. We conducted ourselves in the most gentle, at the same time forthright, fashion—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member that as I recall it, those statements were statements read by the minister from the report which he brought in in support of his statement as to the policy. And I agree that parenthetically he occasionally inserted things which he should not have done.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, it is a tissue of falsehoods.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): That is not very angelic of the member.

Mr. Sargent: May I say very respectfully that this House has deteriorated in the fact—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: —that we adapt ourselves to the schedule as set by the member for High Park. When he deems it fit to be in this House then the House adapts itself to the material he brings up. I think it is high time that you got things back in line.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is making one of the speeches. We are accustomed to them and we welcome them, but they are usually not in order.

Ministerial statements.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, yesterday afternoon on a question by the hon. member for Hamilton East (Mr. Gisborn) respecting an application by Smith Transport Company to the transport board for permission to carry on trucking operations on Sundays, I replied that the Smith application was under consideration.

More precisely, Smith Transport Limited has made application to the Canadian Transport Commission under the new National Transportation Act to exempt its operations from The Lord's Day Act.

I wish now to inform the House, sir, that on behalf of the province of Ontario an intervention has gone forward in the Smith application.

Mr. Speaker: I must say that is an exceedingly good example of a ministerial statement.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He does not have to deal with Morty.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Who cares about Morty?

Mr. MacDonald: The voters.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Nonsense. We will wait and see.

Mr. Speaker: Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. Nixon: Oral questions?

Mr. Speaker: Oh, I am sorry. I thought we were in the question period. Sorry.

Oral questions; and this morning the members will remember is a half hour period.

Mr. Nixon: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will take your admonition.

I want to ask the minister in charge of housing if he is aware that the leases in the hands of the tenants of the Ontario Housing Corporation do not conform to the requirements of The Landlord-Tenant Act which went into effect the first of this year. Is he aware of that?

Hon. Mr. Randall: No, I am not aware of it. I will have it checked through and get the information.

Mr. Nixon: At the same time I wonder if the minister would examine as to whether security deposits are being held by the housing corporation against the requirements of the landlord-tenants law.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Yes, we have gone into the matter of security deposits.

We will not be taking security deposits any more and we are looking at a way in which we can return the security deposits on deposit back to the people who had made the deposit to us in the first place.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Under the statute, would it not be required that those deposits would be returned forthwith and with interest?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Not necessarily so. We never use the money on the same basis as anybody else. The interest earned off the deposits was given back to tenants in the form of recreational equipment and we are trying to decide which is the best way to get the money back to the people who made the deposits.

I would assume that perhaps legally they should have had them back a month or so ago, but on the other hand we have something like several hundred thousand dollars which have to be disbursed back to these people. Some is held by the housing authorities across the province, and we are looking at the best means of getting it back to them, either in a rent reduction or sending a cheque. It is just a matter of bookkeeping.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question, why would you not just give them back the cash? Why does the department decide whether you are going to give it back in recreation equipment or anything else? Is it not their money? Should they not get it back?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Well, we are not holding it because we have any ulterior motive. The money they deposited was invested in bonds; some in municipal bonds at four and five per cent. Now, if you went out and cashed those it would not be a very good business transaction. However, if we reduce their rent for the same amount, I think we could achieve the same thing.

So it is a matter of unloading a portfolio of these deposits at perhaps the wrong time and creating some chaos in certain areas. We are far better off to make sure that we do it in an orderly fashion, and that is what we are looking at at the present time with the Treasury Department.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, if the minister will permit.

Surely the tenants of Ontario Housing cannot be expected to carry the load of the mismanagement, or the unfortunate management, of their financial affairs by Ontario Housing. You should pay the money back.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I think that is a gross misstatement, and the hon. member knows it.

Mr. Nixon: The minister said he could not give it back to them.

Hon. Mr. Randall: A gross misstatement and the hon. member knows it. Security deposits were a part of the lease agreement and we have said as soon as this was changed

we would get the deposits back, either as a rent reduction or in cash. When that deposit is tied up in securities, it is a matter of unloading the securities or giving them a rent reduction. We have nearly 27,000 tenants, so you can see the job is not an easy one that you can do overnight.

Mr. Nixon: Well, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. How can the minister say that this is a gross misrepresentation when the law does not permit the holding of these security deposits? The government is large enough and surely resilient enough to make these payments now.

Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Do not get angry.

Mr. Nixon: What action is he going to take with regard to the findings of the Barber commission at Ottawa having to do with the cost of farm machinery that applies to farmers in this province probably more than any other province in Canada?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has raised a question that concerns all of us in the field of agriculture. I think he should—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, this is quite true, I agree with the statement he has made, it is of concern. Mr. Barber did make certain suggestions concerning the high price or cost of machinery. There is no question about that at all, it is costing far more in this country—that is, tractors and combines to which he referred specifically in his report—than in other areas where they are being sold. They can be brought in here and are being brought in here by farm organizations themselves.

But I would suggest to him that the federal government is entering into discussions with the farm machinery corporations, the multinational corporations, to discuss what can be done.

As Mr. Barber points out, it is very difficult to do really anything in this particular regard in a positive way. We support the Ontario Federation of Agriculture in what they are doing. We support the Ontario rural farm equipment dealers' association in what they are faced with as those who supply the service to the Ontario farmers, recognizing that there is a very strong organization in this province bringing in equipment and selling it in this province, but where they do not have as yet a service type of organization.

Frankly, there may be places where the dealers' organization and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture could jointly provide the service that would be beneficial to the farmers of Ontario. How one can definitely say to a company that does not have to sell its equipment in this province, "you will have to sell your equipment for this particular price" is very difficult to determine.

We are interested in discussions that are going on with tractor manufacturers who are not already selling in Ontario in any sizeable quantity, in fact I do not think they have sold any. But we are interested in those negotiations which are going on and I hope they will be fruitful and that these tractors will be introduced into Ontario—tractors that are not priced so far out of line as far as those from other countries are concerned.

That is the status of the matter to date. We have had discussions with the federal minister along this line and he assures me that he is working in this direction as well.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. Would the minister be in a position to support the hearings that could be held by the standing committee on agriculture in which he, as the responsible minister, might appear, as well as those others who have been principals in this matter in the province of Ontario, such as the president of Massey Ferguson, Mr. Barber himself, and those people from the economic council who should be knowledgeable in these matters?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, this is a matter that can be given further consideration, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister ruled out the setting up of a crown corporation or is he prepared to consider his initial decision in that regard?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, I do not think I ever made any decision in that regard that I recall.

Mr. Gaunt: I thought you had.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, I have not made any decision in that regard at all. It was a recommendation of the farm income committee, but judging by the lack of success of some crown corporations that I can think of I do not think it is anything that merits a great deal of

favour or enthusiastic support among the farm community of Ontario.

Frankly, I think that the equipment dealers in the province of Ontario have done an excellent job in providing service to the farmers of Ontario under very difficult circumstances. They are faced with the continuing pressure from the people with whom they are franchised to sell equipment, to increase their sales. They are also faced with the pressure of farmers, such as myself, who want to buy as cheaply as we can, and who want to deal off machinery whenever we can, and here they are caught in the middle. The establishment of a Crown corporation, in my humble opinion, will not correct that problem. It just simply is not the answer as far as I am concerned.

Mr. MacDonald: The Leader of the Opposition agrees with you.

Mr. Nixon: That is right.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South has a supplementary.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Is the minister indicating that the government has dismissed completely all the recommendations of the farm income committee, which stated that it was the dealership system which was the mechanism that maintained the excessive prices? Has the minister dismissed totally the recommendations of the farm income committee to cope with things which lies within his jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Let me say this, Mr. Speaker, as far as the farm income committee report is concerned, and what my hon. friend has said, that I believe it was not quite the dealer relationship, but it was the franchise relationship between the large multi-national corporations and the dealers that was the real problem. That was it; it was not the dealers who were causing the problem.

Mr. MacDonald: The system.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: If we are agreed on that point—that it was the system—I think that setting up a crown corporation will not cure that problem. It just will not, because all the multi-national corporation has to do is to say, "We are not interested in selling our equipment in this province," and move out.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Oh, come on.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, come off it if you like.

Mr. J. Renwick: They do not scare so easily.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That is typical socialist philosophy.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. Renwick: Start making them yourself under your own patent.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Let me tell the hon. member this. When the front benches of the socialist party start telling the farmers of Ontario what they have to do, it will be a peculiar day in Ontario when the farmers start listening to them.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Let me suggest this, that we have not dismissed anything in any of the reports.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister has done nothing, that is the point.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: But let me say this, that we believe that there are ways and means that these things can be done on a mutual understanding, and I think that is far better than drafting legislation by bringing the heavy hammer down, perhaps causing problems that we have not even thought of.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister will negotiate.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member a supplementary question?

An hon. member: No.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. Leader of the Opposition completed? Has the hon. member for York South any questions?

Mr. MacDonald: My first question is of the Minister of Trade and Development.

With regard to the proposed harbour city development, when will the report that is being prepared by the minister's department be made available, and secondly, will the proposal involve protection of the west-end bird sanctuary on the site?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I can answer the second question first. The answer is yes, we will protect the bird sanctuary. There are going to be 100 acres more parkland out there if we proceed with the development. That has already been planned. As far as releasing any further reports, we will not be releasing the

reports until we have completed our discussions with Metro, the harbour commission and the city of Toronto, and we have had discussions with those people in the last two weeks. We are now arranging to draw up an agreement which we believe will be in the interests of all parties concerned, and I would presume in the next month or so we will be able to issue a complete report and have a presentation of the conceptual plan that we think harbour city would like to have. It is not necessarily the final plan but at least the people involved will have an option to look at it and make a decision whether it is the right one or if anything else can be done to improve it.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of supplementary question. Has a committee been established to involve all of the people who are interested in this development, or is this department making the decisions after consultation but coming to its own conclusions?

Hon. Mr. Randall: This department is not making any decisions. We were asked by the Prime Minister some time ago to work out a programme we thought would help and benefit the city of Toronto, which we have done. We have talked with, and had numerous meetings with, the officials in these three bodies, and we are now in the process of deciding how a corporate body will run harbour city, consisting of all these members. As soon as we have a completed programme to put before them, they will have representation on the body and the corporation will be set up on a basis which I am sure will be satisfactory to all concerned.

Mr. MacDonald: My next question, Mr. Speaker, is of the Minister of Labour.

On whose authority from workmen's compensation headquarters was John Neveu yesterday ejected during visiting hours, from the Downsview Rehabilitation Centre, and what were the reasons for that ejection?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that Mr. Neveu was ejected from the Workmen's Compensation Rehabilitation Hospital.

Mr. MacDonald: The police were called and he was ejected.

Hon. Mr. Bales: I will find out about it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South still has the floor.

Mr. MacDonald: A final question for the Attorney General.

Is the Attorney General in a position to reply to the question I asked him before Christmas with regard to Miss Kahn-Timeta Horn and her allegations of mistreatment before the courts in the province of Ontario?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I made some inquiries at the time. I do not have the file with me. I will check the file and have that answer shortly.

Mr. Speaker: Because we get into trouble when ministers come in with answers, may I suggest that it be arranged that the hon. member ask his question, otherwise we have a problem. The hon. member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, with your permission, before this question, I would like to make a couple of statements of fact.

Mr. Speaker: They are all right today.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is to the Minister of Trade and Development.

In view of the fact that across Ontario there are hundreds of thousands of small businessmen trying to meet a payroll—and I say this in view of the fact that no-one on the Treasury Board has ever tried to meet a payroll; being in the executive group they do not know what I am talking about—

Mr. Speaker: Ask the question; the hon. member is asking a question.

Mr. Sargent: Would the minister advise, in view of the fact that large industries are given forgiveness loans of millions of dollars—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Go down to Ottawa and tell some of those boys about that payroll.

Mr. Martel: Why do you not go back to sleep?

Mr. Sargent: The Prime Minister wonders why we are angry.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member will ask his question please.

Mr. Sargent: Because of inflation, then, big business can continue to get credit and get money. Will the minister advise—because of the fact that thousands of small businessmen will be going out of business shortly in Ontario because they cannot get bank credit to operate or continue to operate—if he cares enough to protect them to make available some sort of moneys available to small businessmen *per se* across Ontario as he is making available to big American-controlled

concerns in foregiveness loans. Would he go into a crash programme as of today—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked his question.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I think that in the Ontario Development Corporation we are doing what we are allowed to do within the limits—

Mr. Sargent: A big goose egg, that is what the corporation doing right now.

Hon. Mr. Randall: We are doing what we are allowed to do within the limits of the legislation, whether it is large or small business that comes in. I think the hon. member must recognize that the Ontario Development Corporation cannot replace the five banks in this province which have turned off credit. Certainly we cannot replace IDB; we are not in competition with the Industrial Development Bank. We try to suggest to people who come to us to go to IDB and we say if they go to IDB, they should go to two other sources as well, and if they cannot get funds, they should come on back and we will see if we can help them in any way we can.

Mr. Sargent: And what happens? Nothing happens.

Hon. Mr. Randall: But there are thousands of small businessmen today—I appreciate this —there are thousands of small businessmen who are badly squeezed by credit limitations at the bank, and nobody has been more vociferous than myself in talking about the heat that has been put on these businessmen by Ottawa, not by this government, and I am not trying to—

Mr. Sargent: What is the minister going to do about it?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I am not trying to pass the responsibility on to anybody else; I am just simply saying to my friend that as far as this government is concerned, we have stretched, and are stretching, our financial resources to the limit to help anybody who comes in. But we cannot take on the thousands of small businessmen who cannot get an overdraft arranged at the bank, otherwise we would be defeating the very things that the member came back and accused us of last week. If we are not going to help out in this battle over inflation, if we are going to avoid the responsibilities that we have and try to help Mr. Trudeau fight inflation, we certainly cannot get great sums of money and give it to small businessmen as much as we would like to.

We feel just as badly as the member does about the small businessmen who go down the drain. I just simply say to him that the small businessman today can go down and try to borrow $5,000 from the bank to run his business and he says no, but he can go down with a Chargex card and take a trip around the world and get the money. Now there is something wrong with the financial institution when that happens, but I think you should take it up with your friend up in Ottawa.

Mr. Sargent: In a supplementary way, Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate you have a—

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary question.

Mr. Sargent: My question is this: how do you equate that you have X hundreds of millions of dollars available to big business for loans, but the small businessman cannot get a five cent piece? How do you equate that? That is under your control.

Hon. Mr. Randall: There is no difficulty equating it. We have a programme to encourage new industry into this province to create jobs.

Mr. Trotter: Just an American subsidiary.

Mr. Sargent: They do not need the money.

Hon. Mr. Randall: And as fast as we are creating the jobs, Mr. Trudeau is throwing them out of work. You went up there like lions and you turned around and came back like lambs, and put the heat on us.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question to the hon. minister—if you will simmer down—the Minister of Trade and Development.

When is the Ontario Housing Corporation going to begin to observe the laws of the province of Ontario touching the regulations under The Landlord and Tenant Act about posting in a conspicuous place the information required by the Act that went into effect the beginning of this year?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I will take the question under advisement, Mr. Speaker. I do not know what the hon. member is referring to. We constantly get complaints. We find most of them come from the ND Party, who are very anxious to create difficulties for the Ontario Housing Corporation in all areas.

If you will tell me what your problems are, what notices you are talking about, I will be very glad to look into it.

Mr. Lawlor: Speak to the Attorney General and find out.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): I have a question for the Minister of Education.

Does the minister intend to follow the lead of the principal and students of the Etobicoke Richview Collegiate Institute in which 11 students were trained by the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation to take facts on drugs back to their fellow students?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, I do not quite understand the question as to what the minister intends to do.

I read this and knew something of the experiment and this is perhaps one way to acquaint students with the problem of drugs that is being done internally. It may be a very worthwhile method of approach; we do not know yet.

Mr. T. Reid: May I ask a supplementary to that? Does the minister intend, Mr. Speaker, to help fund directly a programme in which senior high school students are trained by the drug addiction centre on the abuses of drug addiction and drug taking so that they can go back to their peers, to the students who will listen to them, and at least have the students in our high schools much more knowledgeable on this issue?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, as I say, there may be some merit in this. I really do not think there is a great problem of funding. I think it is a case really of how many students the foundation can handle. I do not think the question of funding really would be too great.

Mr. T. Reid: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Surely the resources of the drug addiction research centre are limited? The minister could use his good offices to increase the amount of money available to them for this specific programme, because there is a crisis in drugs in our high schools in this province.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I did not relate it to the availability of funds. I think it is a question of personnel, and how many students they could move through this type of programme so that they can acquaint their fellow students.

As I say, I do not think it is a question of funding; it may be a question of the availability of personnel to do this.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce has a supplementary?

Mr. Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This report in the *Globe and Mail* this morning on Richview Collegiate states that of the 1,000 students, 50 per cent of them are on drugs. If you had an epidemic of smallpox—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: —would you close the school?

Mr. Speaker: This question is not supplementary—

Mr. Sargent: It is regarding drugs—

Mr. Speaker: No, this question had not to do with drugs. It had to do with the training of students for a certain programme. So, if the hon. member is—

Mr. Sargent: I will rephrase the question.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member can come in under that he can ask a supplementary; otherwise he is out of order.

Mr. Sargent: A supplementary—with regard to the 11 trainees that are in Richview Collegiate, to deal with the fact that there are 500 students on drugs in that school. Would the minister close this school if there was an epidemic of smallpox or typhoid—would he close the school?

Hon. Mr. Davis: I do not know that the minister would, but I am sure the local MOH would close the school if there was an epidemic of smallpox and so on. I do not think there is any question of that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: That is sufficient supplementaries. I believe the member for High Park has a question.

Mr. Shulman: A question to the Minister of Health, Mr. Speaker, in two parts:

1. Has the minister an answer ready for me on the question I asked him last year concerning the prisoner-patient who escaped from the Penetang Hospital without the police being informed?

2. Has the Minister investigated the statement of that prisoner-patient given from the Barrie jail, a Mr. Larry Kilpatrick, in which

he said that he was hidden after his escape in the apartment of one of your staff members at 373 Dominion Street in Midland?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, I am in the same position as the Attorney General was earlier. I had the answer to this question; however, I have not got the papers with me on it now, but I will reply later.

I would like to say that the statement that the police were not informed is entirely incorrect. The police were informed.

Mr. Shulman: A supplementary question, or as my second question, was the prisoner telling the truth when he stated he was hidden by one of your staff members?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I will have to get the papers, Mr. Speaker, but I would like to point out again that the hon. member came in here and said the police were not informed. They were informed immediately.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Lands and Forests.

What action does the minister intend taking concerning the two men who chased a wolf down on a snowmobile and killed it as reported in yesterday's edition of the Toronto *Daily Star*?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to have the matter looked into and advise the member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Cochrane South.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I have a question for the Minister of Health.

Has the minister set a date for the meeting he promised to hold with the Metro Toronto area boroughs and city regarding their request for an increase in the health grants of 75 per cent?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, Mr. Speaker, we have not set a date yet.

Mr. Ferrier: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker? If the minister considers 2,000 population as an optimum size for a health district, does he not think that at least some of the Toronto boroughs and Toronto city should qualify for the 75 per cent grant?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, in order to understand this you have to appreciate the background. The background of this matter is that a task force was set up by The Department of Health to work out new arrangements for public health units and the results of this task force were the formation of district health units in this province.

The task force recommended in Metropolitan Toronto that the district health unit be the five boroughs and the city of Toronto combined together. This was the report of these people that, regardless of the number of people, they felt that the geographic area warranted one health unit for Metropolitan Toronto.

Consistent with what has been done in the rest of the province, the arrangement that was offered to Metropolitan Toronto was that if the five boroughs and the city of Toronto would come together and form a health unit, they would be eligible for the 75 per cent grant. This offer has been available to them, of course, for, I guess, a couple of years now. They have chosen in their wisdom not to take up this offer.

My position is that I have said we will sit down and talk about it again. There have been elections in the Metropolitan Toronto area, and I am willing to sit down and listen to them and hear what their arguments are. But I did want to make it very clear that the recommendation of the expert task force was that they felt Metropolitan Toronto's two million people were not too many for one health unit and there were many reasons why they suggested this.

The carrot, I guess, was that if they would all come together in one health unit they would receive a 75 per cent of approved cost grant. The situation, as I have said now, is that I am waiting and going to have this meeting in the very near future with them to talk about this again, but no one has changed any positions on this at this time.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Has the minister any evidence to show that the taxpayers are getting better value for the tax dollars that compose the 75 per cent grants and are being poured into these districts than they are getting from the existing health units in the municipalities of Metropolitan Toronto, in the boroughs of Metropolitan Toronto? Is there any evidence the minister's task force has to show that we are getting better value?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Have you any evidence the other way?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, does the member mean by that any evidence to show that putting them into one unit would actually prove more effective and prove more beneficial? I do not know whether we could do that, until, perhaps, it has actually been done. Certainly it is felt that in this area co-ordination is certainly necessary in Metropolitan Toronto health services.

But I do not want to prejudge what we might talk about at a meeting with the people here. I have told the mayor of the boroughs and the city and the chairmen of the boards of health that we will talk about this. Maybe we will try and work out such studies as suggested.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Here again—

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour.

Has his department undertaken any investigation into the over-inventories produced by the automotive manufacturers which have necessitated mass layoffs throughout the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the layoffs in the auto industry have been caused by a lag in sales, and for that reason various plants are closed down for temporary periods. In those cases the employees are covered in almost all instances by supplementary unemployment benefits.

Mr. Sargent: Not all—

Hon. Mr. Bales: I said in most cases they were covered. Those benefits have been available to them. We are concerned about the layoffs but it is a matter of a weakening in markets.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask of the minister a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker?

Has the minister's department studied the effects of the use of overtime in the creation of the large inventories of automobiles, because the excessive overtime could have an effect as to why we have such large inventories.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, there have been some studies in that field but the overtime has occurred particularly in certain branches of the plant, rather than in the plant as a whole. It occurred particularly in the truck assembly and some of the other final areas of assembly in the plant. Those areas are ones where overtime cannot be anticipated as much as it could in other areas.

Mr. Speaker: The question period has now expired.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE MINING ACT

Hon. A. F. Lawrence moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Mining Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, this is a complete revision of a new safety code for The Mining Act. It is the result of a two-year effort by departmental people. This was the Act that was introduced last year in June but not proceeded with, and I think I owe the House an explanation as to why it was not proceeded with. It was simply because we received very vigorous representations by certain people in the labour movement at that time who had all of their attention focused on certain negotiations then taking place in northern Ontario.

That aspect of their attention is now completed and we would very much like to get ahead with this very monumental revision of the complete safety regulations in The Mining Act and get it off to the committee where everybody can discuss it and have a crack at it. It is a very complex, complicated and detailed bill, sir. There are over 235 pages in the printed form and we would like to get moving on it as soon as possible and get it to the necessary committee of this House so that everyone can discuss it in a detailed manner.

THE BILLS OF SALE AND CHATTEL MORTGAGES ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the primary purpose of the bill is to provide that when instruments are registered under this

Act they be accompanied by certain information which can be assimilated in the computer system we are setting up under The Personal Property Security Act which was introduced in 1967. Now that this information must be in a readable form for such a system, we require that information to be added on registration, and there are certain other transitional provisions. This will have the effect of enabling one to search anywhere in the province as to personal property encumbrances under The Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Is the minister against that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We are not against that, I am sure.

THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE CROWN ACT, 1962-1963

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Proceedings Against The Crown Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, this bill provides that actions may be brought against the Crown under The Master and Servant Act, which was not in our extension of actions against the Crown heretofore, and also that actions may be brought into the division court against the Crown.

THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, this bill enlarges the type of securities in which the public trustee may invest money which is held by the public trustee. At present the public trustee is confined to invest in the securities which are guaranteed—issued by the province of Ontario or the Dominion of Canada or guaranteed by those governments. The bill would extend the opportunity to invest in those securities in which the Treasurer of Ontario may invest the funds and at a broader base of investment.

Mr. Shulman: Is the minister going to raise the interest?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The interest rate I believe is now 6.5 per cent; we raised that some time ago.

Mr. Speaker: I think we had better get the introduction of bills properly dealt with, and that is, that the minister makes his statement and there is no debate on it. I would ask the members not to ask the minister questions and if they are asked that they be not answered.

THE LAW SOCIETY ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to consolidate and revise The Law Society Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, this bill is just what the title says it is, an Act to revise and completely review The Law Society Act, I might just say along the same lines as The Professional Engineers Act of last year, The Surveyors Act, following generally the recommendations of the Hon. Mr. McRuer.

THE SOLICITORS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Solicitors Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, in revising The Law Society Act, certain changes were necessary, certain sections were taken from The Solicitors Act so that the Act is therefore amended in that way.

THE BARRISTERS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading bill intituled, An Act to amend The Barristers Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, in light of the revision of The Law Society Act, The Barristers Act was also amended by the taking from it of certain sections. Therefore, the Act requires amendment.

THE NOTARIES ACT, 1962-1963

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Notaries Act, 1962-1963.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the same reason to amend this Act as for The Barristers Act and The Solicitors Act. They are affected by the revision of The Law Society Act.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question: is the minister going to give an explanation?

Mr. Speaker: We have decided that there would be no questions at this time. The minister makes his statement and that is the end, otherwise it develops into a debate. The hon. minister will proceed.

THE JUDICATURE ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the amendment would increase the number of high court judges from 26 to 29. Also there is a portion of the bill which enlarges the securities in which the accountant of the supreme court may invest money paid into the court. At present, his investments are confined to securities issued or guaranteed by the government of Ontario or Canada, and as in the case of the amendment to The Trustee Act that will be enlarged to enable investments to be made in the same securities in which the Treasurer of Ontario may invest money.

THE MOTORIZED SNOW VEHICLES ACT, 1968

Mr. Shulman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Motorized Snow Vehicles Act, 1968.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, the purpose of this Act is to correct the new abuse which has developed in northern Ontario which involves the harassment and killing of numerous deer and bear from motorized snow vehicles.

THE SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION ACT (1)

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Schools Administration Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, this bill requires each school board in Ontario to establish for at least one high school in its district a high school governing council consisting of teachers, students and members of the community. Such high school councils shall determine the policies of the school that would otherwise be within the jurisdiction of the principal.

THE SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION ACT (2)

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Schools Administration Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, the bill permits school boards to pay the full amount of the cost of providing hospital care, health services group insurance and the like to its employees. It is similar to the amendment to The Municipal Act passed in 1968-69 in that regard.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, consideration of the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. G. E. Smith (Simcoe East): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to move, seconded by the member for Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman) that a humble address be presented to the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor as follows:

To the Honourable W. Ross Macdonald, PC, CD, QC, LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Ontario.

May it please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the legislative assembly of the province of Ontario now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honour for me, and this historic constituency which I represent in this Legislature, to be called upon to move this address by His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor. I am confident that all members of this House join me in thanking His Honour for his words of confidence and inspiration, that will surely guide us in our

deliberations throughout the initial years of a new decade. And the challenges of this new decade, sir, promise to be the greatest we have ever had to face.

I might add, sir, that I was most pleased to hear in the Speech from the Throne that The Department of Mines has been expanded to include a new section under the title of northern affairs. This new branch will act as a communications channel between the north and Queen's Park and will co-ordinate programmes implemented by other departments, including roads and development grants. It is still another indication, sir, of this government's interest in the development of our great north.

Mr. Speaker, I have already commented on the large scope of the responsibility given to the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence). I would also like to congratulate the hon. member for Carleton East (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) on being appointed to the portfolio of Financial and Commercial Affairs. I know he will make a valuable contribution to this important office.

I would also, Mr. Speaker, like to make mention of two additional portfolios whose responsibilities have been broadened as announced in the Speech from the Throne—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): They are just patching the holes.

Mr. G. E. Smith: —the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr), with the great emphasis placed on pollution control, and to the hon. Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship (Mr. Welch), who will be responsible for a total comprehensive programme of citizenship for this province.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the members of this House, to express our sincere sympathy to the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) on the loss of his father. I know that all members will join with me in extending condolences to him on this loss.

I would like to congratulate the hon. member for Durham (Mr. Carruthers) on his appointment as chief government whip and to the hon. members for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) and Peel South (Mr. Kennedy) on their appointments as the deputy government whips.

Mr. Sargent: They will not last very long.

Mr. G. E. Smith: I know that they will make a real contribution to the continued effectiveness and the continued wellbeing of our caucus this term.

I would also like to take a minute, Mr. Speaker, to compliment the Prime Minister of our province (Mr. Robarts) for the part that he played and the leadership that he gave during the recent federal-provincial conference. Mr. Speaker, I am sure that his voice was heard loud and clear when he expressed his personal views and those of this government concerning the proposed white paper, and I know that these expressions echoed the concern of the majority of the citizens of this great province of Ontario.

You know, Mr. Speaker, it is interesting to note that the citizens of this province contribute more than 41 per cent of the federal tax dollars and consequently this voice—not a voice crying from the wilderness but from the greatest most fertile monetary reservoir that helps fill the federal treasury pot—should not go unheeded.

I know that I express the thoughts of the government benches and the citizens of the province of Ontario when I say, Mr. Speaker, through you to the hon. Prime Minister, that we support your stand on the white paper as a statement of fact important to the well-being of every citizen of this province. And contrary to Mr. Benson's assertion and other opposition members of this Legislature as well, this is not election propaganda. We must on all sides of this House let Mr. Trudeau and his colleagues know where we stand here in Ontario as far as the white paper is concerned.

I am proud to belong to a party that encourages its members to be creative and to bring forth new ideas, because nothing is really ever finished.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Been cutting out paper dolls?

Mr. G. E. Smith: The Prime Minister himself has indicated this. Consequently my contribution is not in criticism, but rather where we as a government should be moving forward into new areas of opportunity consistent with the spirit expressed in the throne speech itself, which talks about the exciting 1970s.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): That is all it says.

Mr. G. E. Smith: You know, the past decade has been one of tremendous progress and development, not only for this province, but for the entire country. We made a great

many advances which have been greatly responsible for a high standard of living—a standard that has to be equalled yet by any other.

Not only have we enjoyed the advantages of these desirable qualities because of our foresight, our persistence and perseverance, but we are also a magnet for immigrants from other provinces and other countries throughout the world. Our thriving economy has the confidence of large investors both domestic and foreign. This, sir, is the province that I know—a progressive young land that has continued to grow and to develop.

However, this prosperity, this growth, this development—all of which was spilling out of this province and to all others from coast to coast for the benefit of all Canadians, has suddenly reached a delicate point in progress.

Recent economic indicators in Canada show that the process of real growth in our economy has been arrested and that we may even may be in a non-growth situation.

Mr. Sargent: You can say that again.

Mr. G. E. Smith: Real output declined in the second and third quarters of 1969 and it is expected that the fourth quarter will show only a nominal increase owing to the catch-up from the effects of large numbers of labour disputes earlier this year.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, the matter is of a most serious nature. Economists believe that Canadian growth may fall as low as 2.8 per cent. This, of course, will be accompanied by large increases in unemployment across the entire nation—and that means increases over and above—

Mr. Sargent: What is the government doing about it?

Mr. G. E. Smith: —what is already a difficult unemployment situation.

Mr. Sargent: What do you recommend?

Mr. G. E. Smith: Just listen and I will tell you. And this difficulty across the nation has a definite impact on Ontario itself.

Private and public investment, one of the few relatively strong sectors of our economy, is said to be turning soft and forecasted increases have already fallen to about 12.6 per cent from 17 per cent.

In 1967 and 1968 business investment was squeezed by the twin screws of economic uncertainties and the pressure of mounting public sector spending. In 1969, the business sector was faced with both extremely tight credit conditions and labour unrest and many investment decisions were deferred.

As a result of slower economic growth, corporate profits are under severe pressure and may have declined by as much as 15 per cent during the last quarter of 1969. All in all, with industrial production and productivity falling and unemployment rising, our economic outlook is not very rosy.

From a 1969 growth rate of 9.4 per cent, Canada's economic horizon for 1970 is said to appear to have spiralled to 6.8 percent. This slow-down is definitely expected to hit Ontario hard.

It is clearly visible, Mr. Speaker, that in order to maintain and enjoy the growth and development we have had over the past ten years, we must be prepared to combat inflation. We must do it now and even if we react immediately, it will be some time before we can realize any great success. Prices are still rising and will continue to rise throughout the course of this year.

What we now require is a long-run strategy which will both deflate balance in the economy. Growth in the private sector must be restored by deliberately restraining growth in the public sector, and by emphasizing production and savings, rather than consumption.

As I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, there is no question in my mind and the minds of our people today as to the devastating effect Mr. Trudeau's federal government white paper on tax reform will have on this nation if it is implemented in its present form. It will definitely have a disincentive effect on the Canadian economy and will definitely undermine Canadian control of successful Canadian enterprises in the future.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. G. E. Smith: Extremely critical is the effect the white paper will have on certain capital gains. For example, let us say a group of Canadians, on discovering a new mine, listed the shares on the stock market, found success with the mine and saw the shares increase substantially in value. They would undoubtedly have to sell part of those shares in order to pay the valuation tax after five years.

Interjections my hon. members.

Mr. G. E. Smith: I would like to quote from yesterday's *Telegram* on another effect perhaps that this white paper would have on the mining stocks and the mining industry.

Mr. John Kostuik, who is president of the Mining Association of Canada, warned

> that disturbing the present tax incentive system in Canadian mining would lead to a serious competitive disadvantage with U.S. companies.

He then goes on to explain why.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. G. E. Smith: Extremely critical effects, Mr. Speaker, will develop not only in the mining industry but in other private companies owned by the small businessman in the province of Ontario. For me, Mr. Speaker, it is most difficult to accept this sort of thing as a way of reform.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. G. E. Smith: Here is what the Carter report recommended with respect to capital gains, and I hope the hon. members will listen to this very carefully:

> That they be taxed on full income tax rates during the taxpayer's lifetime; that they be fully taxed on ordinary income on death and emigration whether liquidated or not; that the gains on homes be excluded up to a lifetime maximum of $25,000; that tax not be retroactive to gains that have accrued before the tax was introduced.

This is what they recommend. In brief, the white paper recommends that capital gains be taxed at full rates, that an evaluation date be set, that gains under $500 on personal property be excluded—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. G. E. Smith: —and with a house profit of $1,000 per year. The present exemption of capital gains has resulted in an unfair distribution—

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): We are in favour of tax reform.

Mr. G. E. Smith: —unfair distribution of the tax burden. This has undermined the progressive nature of the income tax incentive system, because the well-to-do have more capital than those who are less well-off, so they naturally have more capital gains. The exemption for capital gains has also encouraged taxpayers to make determined and persistent efforts to receive their income in that form since it would not then bear tax.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. G. E. Smith: This move, if made law, will have an inflationary effect on the entire nation, and what is more important, will occur at the very time that the federal government is attempting to curb inflation. There is no question that the taxation proposals will diminish savings and will put almost a compulsion on spending and immediate consumption, let us say, to "beat the rap." Then, too persons of modest wealth can and will decide to spend their retirement elsewhere than in Canada because of the capital gains and estate taxes.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Like E. P. Taylor.

Mr. G. E. Smith: This means not only an increase in emigration of some of the people who gave their lives towards the building of this country, but also the emigration of their funds.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): How much are you going to remove?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): My problem is that I do not have anything to move.

Mr. G. E. Smith: There is one other area concerning capital gains taxation which I feel is quite absurd and this is the idea of capital gains on the individual's primary residence. I realize that the proposal is such that there will not be any tax if the value of a home does not increase by more than $1,000 a year. An added feature is an allowance of $150 for repairs, unless you want to keep your own records, which could become rather complicated and almost a bookkeeper's nightmare.

Let us take a look at what all this means, Mr. Speaker. The $1,000 per annum exclusion is equal to five per cent of the cost of a $20,000 home, or 2.5 per cent on a $40,000 home. Given present rates of inflation, even this allowance is unlikely to prevent taxation of some part of the inflationary gain.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): What part?

Mr. G. E. Smith: We all know that on the average, prices of homes in most of this province have been going up, in many instances, by as much as up to $5,000 within a year.

Mr. Sargent: That is going to be changed.

Mr. G. E. Smith: We had better have a little better action from Ottawa because they are still going up.

The $150 for repairs is indeed an insult to the homeowner as a minimum. At the present rates for plumbers, carpenters and general contractors, it is highly unlikely that the $150 would pay for the service calls for the estimates, let alone the repairs.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Simcoe East has the floor.

Mr. G. E. Smith: I, therefore, urge this government, and I hope the hon. members will get this point, to insist that the people of this province, indeed this country, are allowed to maintain a private residence free of any capital gains tax. This primary residence is already taxed heavily enough. If the hon. members will listen, I will finally make my point.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: May I ask a question?

Mr. Speaker: Will the member accept a question?

Mr. G. E. Smith: Mr. Speaker, may I finish? Then if the hon. member wishes to ask a question, he may.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, for the record, it should be noted that this is a very controversial speech and there are only 12 members of the government to hear the speech. That should be on the record.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. G. E. Smith: With respect to taxation, Mr. Speaker, of the various other capital gains, I firmly believe, as does the hon. provincial Treasurer, that death taxes should be reexamined with a view to gradually eliminating them as capital gains taxation becomes fully mature. Our hon. Prime Minister stated that we shall adopt a policy of "pay-as-you-go"—this is our policy—and not wait until the end of the road to make large killings on death taxes and succession duties.

I heartily support any move which would deter or stall the proposal to tax unrealized capital gains. It is blunt and potentially damaging. The suggestion that a provision be introduced to permit postponement up to 10 years, at prevailing interest rates, on all capital gains tax payments, appears most sensible and logical.

Mr. Sargent: Is that government policy?

Mr. G. E. Smith: This is my own personal opinion.

Such accumulation of tax liabilities would lose no revenue in the long run, yet would provide valuable planning time for Canadian companies and individuals who face large tax payments. With this kind of cushioning it would be feasible to consider introducing deemed realization every 15 years on all gains, except gains in widely held Canadian shares. This would reduce undesirable locking-in effects for closely held companies, and for shares in foreign companies, and would reduce the revenue leakage implied in the white paper plan.

There is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that the white paper proposals would be disastrous for smaller businesses, because under the proposals, the government intends to abolish the lower rate of taxation on the first $35,000 of income and subject every dollar of income to the 50 per cent tax.

The purpose of the lower rate was to encourage the establishment of small businesses and help overcome the problems smaller businesses encounter in raising capital.

These very important basic purposes were completely ignored, or perhaps overlooked. The end result can be devastating, with irreparable damage to thousands of smaller businesses in Ontario and a definite deterrent effect on others being started.

Mr. Speaker, I would sincerely trust that we, as a government, will be able to do something to encourage the small businessman in the province of Ontario, who is the backbone of our economic situation, and also give the necessary encouragement to the smaller secondary industries.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to comment briefly on some items which should interest the hon. member for Dry Gulch, and I am referring to items which would involve the liquor policy of the province of Ontario. This government has recognized the need to effect changes in this area consistent with our changing social attitudes.

The majority of our people would agree that the government must, without abandoning its responsibilities with respect to public health and public safety, keep up to date so that laws and regulations with respect to the availability and consumption of alcohol are respected because of their common sense and realistic approach. We know that these matters are under review by the government by way of a continuing study, and I want to commend the government on the changes announced to date for they are tangible evidence that a real effort is being made to progress in this field.

Many of our regulations governing the licensing and usage of liquor in this province were designed by conscientious people who were concerned with the drinking problems of society. And may I state here, Mr. Speaker, that I too share that concern and am certainly not advocating any change which might increase the intemperate use of alcoholic beverages; but I am advocating some changes in existing regulations.

Due to the changes in methods of transportation in the last 50 or 60 years, with the development of the automobile and easier and faster methods of transportation, portions of The Liquor Control Act are no longer serving the purpose for which they were originally designed. They are not acting as deterrent factors in reducing the consumption of alcohol. Perhaps the most effective deterrent factor to prevent excess drinking as far as the motoring public is concerned has been the introduction of the breathalyzer, and I am sure the hon. members know the effect that it had on the motoring public and I need not take any time to comment on it.

Many sections of the province—and this is of interest to the hon. member for Dry Gulch if he will just listen for a moment—where the tourist industry is so essential to the economy, are hampered in their expansion and development by our present policy. Guests using these facilities, in many instances are denied what they are used to having at home because of the local option rules.

I am certain the government will seriously reconsider this policy. After all, it would seem logical to provide some procedure to exempt *bona fide* tourist establishments from local option restrictions in much the same way as the province of Nova Scotia has done in its legislation. We have hundreds of splendid eating establishments, Mr. Speaker, throughout the province. The liquor licence board is to be commended for the high standards demanded to be met before a liquor licence is issued to these facilities.

However, I find it difficult to understand or appreciate a licensing board policy which presently exists. Under this policy it is necessary in most cases that such establishment be in business for at least six months before applications for licences will be considered. I agree that the board should establish high physical standards, but I feel that a provincial licence should be issued once these standards are met and that the board should decide within six months, or eight months, whatever time they decide, if such licences would be granted on a more permanent basis.

Frankly, sir, it is my contention that there should be uniformity in the basic requirements and regulations governing the licensing and sale of liquor across the province of Ontario. All applicants should be treated alike so that the small businessman has the same opportunity as the larger operator, or the corporate body.

There are many other matters which could be mentioned under this general policy heading such as outside drinking areas, and the regulations dealing with special occasion permits. However, it will be sufficient at this point, I think, to encourage the government to continue, and indeed to step up, its review on these matters.

While on the subject of tourism, Mr. Speaker, and the tourist industry, which is extremely important to the economy of my area, I would like to make reference to the fact that pollution is indeed beginning to create a great deal of concern for my people. It is no secret that Lake Simcoe has become extremely polluted and that areas such as the Kawarthas, Honey Harbour and Muskoka are experiencing a great deal of difficulty with respect to pollution.

Pollution, Mr. Speaker, is indeed a most pressing problem. Hardly a day passes without some reference being made to it by the news media. I cannot pick up a magazine or a newspaper without being drawn automatically to articles on pollution in all its forms. It is interesting and frightening at times to ponder the opinions of scientists and professors who freely predict that if we continue on our present course we shall choke in our own waste in 20 or 30 years. Their statements are made, of course, to emphasize a point.

What they say may well be true and we should never forget it. I feel confident, however, that the slide into the abyss has been slowed substantially by the tremendous amount of public concern generated in the western world. A mounting tide of public pressure has forced politicians at all levels to rate the preservation of our environment as the top priority of the '70s, if not the remaining years of the 20th century.

Again may I comment that I was pleased to note in the Speech from the Throne that we are stepping up the responsibilities of The Department of Energy and Resources Management. Fantastic amounts of money and technological know-how are being conscripted for the struggle for survival. No one seemed

in the least surprised, Mr. Speaker, when President Nixon announced recently that the American government would spend $10 billion on new sewage treatment facilities. On a more modest Canadian scale it seems hard to believe that an exepnditure of close to $100 million has been committed in the last three months to clean up the environment in one area alone in the province of Ontario, and I refer to Hamilton, which is suffering the hardships of extreme air and water pollution.

I am pleased to say that The Department of Energy and Resources Management has slated my area and other resort and vacation spots throughout the province, surrounding my area, as one of the main priorities for 1970. It is the intention of the department to implement an intensive programme of education, among other things, on an all-out effort to bring pollution under control, and for this I congratulate it.

Beginning early this year, Mr. Speaker, the department shall start working with cottage owners' associations in developing programmes to suit the individual areas. As you know, conditions vary from one area to another and each one must be handled on an individual basis. Lake Simcoe, of course, is plagued with a much greater pollution problem than most areas. The waters of this lake are being destroyed by loads of phosphates, detergents, municipal wastes and the like, which are being dumped into it daily. I might also add, Mr. Speaker, that the pollution during the winter months is also on the increase due to the refuse and the various items that the ice fishermen on Lake Simcoe fail to take away with them to destroy, but leave on the ice to fall into the water and cause additional pollution when the ice melts in the spring.

I might also say, Mr. Speaker, that I saw a letter written from a concerned constituent in the Lake Simcoe area yesterday who was commenting on the need for greater control by The Department of Energy and Resources Management, in controlling the pollution caused by the larger boats on Lake Simcoe and on our inland waterways.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the province is engaged in establishing pumping stations to pump the holding tanks and they are trying to encourage the individual marina operators to install this equipment as well. Many of the larger boat owners in the province have holding tanks. They are forced to, due to government regulations. But they also have a pail aboard which they use consistently and pour the refuse over the side, or the waste over the side, into the water, defeating the purpose of the regulations.

Now I am not too sure how we, as a government are going to deal with this. Certainly there needs to be responsibility assumed by the individual boat operator, but in order to police it properly, it would take a tremendous staff. Whether we, financially, can afford to do this, or whether we can develop some other means of policing, it certainly is worthy of consideration.

Mr. Speaker, it is a question of getting adequate sewage treatment facilities within all communities around the lakes, as far as the cottage owners are concerned. The intention is also to encourage cottage owners and associations in assisting and co-operating wherever possible.

This, sir, is what the Ontario government is doing towards pollution.

I would like to make a mention as to what the federal government is doing about pollution. And a mention is about all I think I should make, because in all their efforts I cannot even say that I am prepared to give them an honourable mention.

The federal government, sir, has proposed a piece of legislation known as The Canada Water Act. It is a mechanism designed to set up federal-provincial co-operation for the control of water pollution. It has nothing whatsoever to do with air or soil pollution. Frankly, I have many reservations about it. All that it really proposes is to set up police bodies wherever necessary which would have the authority to give industry and municipalities and others a licence to pollute our waters for a price. I do not think that this is any answer to our pollution problem.

Mr. Speaker, it was with concern that I learned of the proposed moving of the Georgian Bay regional Hydro office, or as it is commonly referred to in my area, Barrie regional office, from Barrie to Willowdale. The members from Simcoe Centre and Dufferin-Simcoe I know also share my concern.

Apparently the reason is that it would save Ontario Hydro in excess of $500,000. The Barrie regional office services 69 municipalities in the Georgian Bay area.

Mr. Speaker, most of these municipalities consist of rural customers who are dependent on the Georgian Bay regional office for important services. Municipal accountants, consumer service engineers and sales personnel from this office work directly with these 69 municipalities. Due to the central location

of the present office, Hydro personnel are able to give reasonably good service to the municipalities. If the office is removed to Willowdale, I know from experience that this service would deteriorate.

It is interesting to note that most of the municipalities served from the Willowdale office in greater Metro have their own professional help, such as engineers, accountants, and so on. These large municipalities are not dependent directly on the central office for their service. And I might also mention, Mr. Speaker, that the proposed removal of the Georgian Bay office would affect over 100 families.

Certainly it would be more expensive to move 100 families to the Toronto area than it would be even to move a similar number of families from the Toronto area to Simcoe county, where the cost of living and the capital cost of real estate is somewhat less expensive.

It is obvious that families moving into the Toronto area would need more money, due to the increased cost of living which, in turn, would reflect in increased wages and also on increased operating costs.

The increased cost of travelling from Willowdale to the 69 municipalities in the Georgian Bay area would increase, but efficiency in the service that could be given to them would be considerably decreased.

If economy is the real issue at stake, perhaps consideration should be given to moving the central office from Willowdale to the Simcoe county area. In this case, local services in the municipalities would be virtually unchanged.

Mr. Speaker, it is time the Ontario Hydro and other private and public utilities and their commissions started to consider people and service to people, not just dollars.

I would join with the hon. member for Simcoe Centre who has been actively opposing this move. The hon. member and I have had several meetings with Ontario Hydro and we have expressed strong opposition to their proposal. I must say that we, as members representing municipalities who would be affected in the Georgian Bay area, the hon. member for Simcoe Centre, the hon. member for Dufferin-Simcoe, and I am sure I speak for the other members in the Georgian Bay area, also are strongly interested in and strongly opposed to the proposal to move the office to Toronto.

We must keep the Georgian Bay regional office in the Georgian Bay area.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the select committee studying election laws and procedures, I have had the opportunity with other members representing the three political parties in this House, to visit other jurisdictions. We have already submitted one report and recommendations which have been dealt with by this Legislature. We as a committee, are still deliberating on other aspects of the voting procedures in the province.

Incidentally, we had the privilege to visit Los Angeles county to study their methods of enumerating, vote counting, and so on. While there, the members of the committee had the opportunity of meeting Mr. Harry McMurray, who is commercial counsellor for The Department of Trade and Development. He was most courteous and helpful to us, as was his federal counterpart, whose name slips my mind for the moment, but he is stationed in the city of Los Angeles as well.

I certainly believe that Mr. McMurray is an asset to the industrial development of this province as far as the state of California is concerned. I was pleased to see the co-operation between the representatives of the two levels of government, the provincial and federal governments, in selling and developing Ontario industrially.

However, getting back to the work of the committee, and my hon. colleagues who serve on the committee, I am not making a report, but rather making some personal observations.

Certainly I do not feel that I saw any basic system of registering or enumerating that would be an improvement on our present system, taking into consideration the needs and characteristics of our province. Most of the methods we witnessed were geared to American elections and their systems of government, and they work quite well there.

However, I do feel that perhaps each citizen of our province, when enumerated, should be required to sign a card declaring that he or she is of voting age, and a Canadian citizen or a British subject. I have heard of New Canadians in the past, some in my area, who were enumerated and it was not completely explained to them just what was going on and they received their vote even though they had not become naturalized Canadians. I would personally recommend that in the future all new immigrants coming to Canada, including those from the British Commonwealth, be required to be Canadian citizens before being eligible to vote.

I am convinced that some people immigrating from some of our Commonwealth countries are perhaps no better informed on our

democratic system of government than new Canadians arriving from other areas such as Italy and Portugal. They should all be treated on an equal footing and be required to live in Canada five years before being eligible for citizenship, or to comply with any other requirements, if it should be changed. The number of years they have to be here should comply with the federal Citizenship Act.

Some of the hon. members in the House may have read or heard of a report concerning an opinion of the members, expressed at our last committee, concerning the lowering of the voting age in the province of Ontario. It is a complex problem, Mr. Speaker, and just as an aside may I mention that I believe a summary was taken of the average age of the voter in the last provincial election here in the province of Ontario, and I believe it was 46-point some years of age.

The hon. Prime Minister of our province has already stated that he is in favour of lowering the voting age and I know that most of the members of our committee concur with this. Perhaps I should establish, Mr. Speaker, that I am in favour of lowering the voting age to 19.

The select committee on youth, which was chaired by the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Mr. Apps), recommended in favour of lowering the voting age, in fact I believe their recommendation was age 19. Some of the members of our committee favour the age of 18.

There is no doubt that the youth of today, due to modern communication systems—TV, radio, and so on; greater coverage of events by these media and newspapers—is more informed than the past generation. The average youth leaves secondary school at I think approximately the age of 19, and starts his post-secondary studies, or goes into industry or the commercial field to learn a trade or vocation. As a result, his interest in governments as they affect him becomes more acute.

Consequently, in my mind, Mr. Speaker, this year of maturing, from 18 to 19, would enable the youth of today to assess the strength and the weaknesses of our political parties and their philosophies and how we as political parties attempt to deal with the social and economic problems of the day which affect them.

Mr. Speaker, in my mind they would be in a better position to exercise their franchise at age 19. In fact, we might do well to consider lowering the age of responsibility to 19 as well.

While I make reference to our youth, I would like to stress, Mr. Speaker, again, that there is need for a university in our area. You will recall that I previously paid tribute in this Legislature to the dedication and the untiring efforts of many citizens in my area who have worked and are continuing to work toward the establishment of Simcoe College.

Studies have been made showing the great need for the establishment of post-secondary educational facilities of this type in central Ontario and Muskoka and in the Georgian Bay area, and we have the local support. The enthusiastic committee, along with the support of area municipalities and area residents, has bought and paid for over 100 acres of land adjacent to No. 11 Highway at the city of Orillia, and have in cash or pledges over $1 million.

Now these two facts cannot help but be impressive to the members of the committee studying post-secondary educational requirements in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a dream of a committee which is saying if we get the committee's approval we will raise so much money locally. But instead, the land has been bought and paid for, over $1 million of the money has been raised, which is indeed a most impressive record.

These two important facts should be recognized by the committee that is studying post-secondary educational needs. Certainly the need for these facilities in our part of Ontario is obvious. The responsibility to fill this need now rests with the committee.

Mr. Speaker, I was disappointed that no mention was made of nursing homes in the Speech from the Throne, or of extended coverage under our OHSIP plan for chiropractors and osteopaths. However, I would like to take a moment to deal with some observations I have concerning nursing homes.

I have received many letters and have had many discussions with families of citizens of this province who, due to chronic illnesses, are confined to nursing homes in order that they may receive the necessary care and treatment they require. In most cases the family's home does not provide the necessary facilities to give the care so necessary to their comfort and wellbeing. The illness is of such a nature that it does not warrant them being confined to a general hospital for treatment, and consequently if there is a shortage of chronic beds in the hospital these citizens must be transferred to a nursing home for the care that is so essential to them.

This is all very well, but unfortunately, as I mentioned, care does not fall under the existing OHSC plan. This is a real hardship to many of our senior citizens who cannot afford to pay the daily rate and whose small savings are gradually being depleted. When this happens, they are faced with seeking assistance from members of the family or applying for welfare assistance.

In some cases members of the family can assist. Sons and daughters will attempt to give the necessary financial aid to their parents or relatives who have been caught in this financial web, to the degree that it is almost a financial impossibility for them to continue to balance the family budget. Mr. Speaker, the third and last choice for the individual would be to seek welfare assistance, much to their own embarrassment and loss of pride.

I realize there are many problems in attempting to implement any such programme. Certainly it would be prudent to introduce some safeguards against abuse. Perhaps certain guidelines could be set up where a medical and lay review board could assess the needs of each case, similar to the medical board of each hospital. Perhaps there could be a deterrent fee, where the individual or his family shares the cost, and if the individual or family finances do not permit, the total cost could be borne by the provincial government.

I feel there is also a need to consider financial assistance for domiciliary care. For example, there are patients at the Ontario Hospital School in Orillia who perhaps would be better off in their family home as far as a rehabilitation programme is concerned. I know that the staff under the mental health programme is attempting to encourage this type of rehabilitation. However, when the patient is transferred to the family home, the family has to assume the total cost of their care and sometimes this poses a financial obligation that they are not prepared to meet. This condition applies to not only the mentally retarded, but should cover all types of in-home care where assessed as necessary by a medical review board.

Frankly, sir, we have to take a look at utilization of active treatment hospital beds and convalescent beds, at chronic facilities, at extended care facilities such as nursing homes and nursing care programmes. These all have to be integrated into a system that places the patient in the best situation for his complete care, and yet not in an overly expensive or more intensive care situation than he requires.

This philosophy should be applied to both physical and mental illness. Only in this way can we provide the best possible care within the financial limits that we find ourselves in; and only in this way can we bring financial control to this area of health and health care costs. We can aim at effective, efficient and economic service.

I have discussed these points with the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Wells), who has assured me that he is concerned and that a study is being carried out by his department.

I am confident that the government will move in and rationalize this whole area of the care of the chronically ill, and ensure that all our senior citizens have the type of care that they need. This has been bothering me for some time, Mr. Speaker, and I know that the report of the select committee on aging has summarized the entire problem.

I was certainly heartened, Mr. Speaker, to note yesterday—I believe it was that the hon. Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) was giving consideration to snowmobile legislation. In my particular area it is certainly long overdue. I am aware of the fact that the snowmobiles are banned from the public highways unless permission is given under extenuating circumstances. Certain areas certainly need them for transportation.

I have talked to some of our municipalities who are experiencing problems with the control of snowmobiles on roads in their jurisdictions and they are a little hesitant to attempt to enact bylaws for fear that they would not stand up in court. I sincerely hope, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. Minister of Transport will take this into consideration and perhaps introduce legislation that would strengthen the hands of the municipalities so that they could regulate and govern the hours of use, and so on, for snowmobiles in their jurisdictions.

As you are no doubt aware, Mr. Speaker, going on to another subject—and I am almost finished—this year marks the 100th birthday of the late Stephen Leacock. Stephen Leacock has become internationally famous for his humorous writings. His home at Old Brewery Bay is located in the city of Orillia. A group of enthusiastic admirers of the late humorist banded together, and with the assistance of the local council, purchased the home and restored it as a memorial to the late Stephen Leacock as a tourist attraction.

Private citizens and public organizations have contributed ideas, money and personal assistance towards the recognition of this centennial anniversary. Mr. Speaker, the hon. Prime Minister of our province has assured me that our government will join with this

enthusiastic group in giving some tangible assistance in preserving Leacock's contribution to society the world over.

May I extend an invitation to all hon. members of this House to visit the Sunshine Town during the summer of 1970, attend the annual banquet of the Leacock Associates at which the annual award for humour is presented, visit the Leacock home, or take part in any of the 100th birthday celebrations that are planned to interest all age levels. I know that you will enjoy it, and I will not take time to mention some of the festivities that are being planned.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, it has been inferred that our hon. Prime Minister has been avoiding the responsibilities of the province in attacking the white paper. These attacks have been described as a red herring. Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, that we are 100 per cent behind our leader. The Prime Minister has seen what others have ignored, what the federal government is ignoring, what the Carter report is ignoring, and what the complete white paper is ignoring, and that is reforms as far as the provincial and municipal levels of government are concerned. The Prime Minister has made it abundantly clear that he is concerned with this problem and hence a study and report by Lancelot Smith.

In the Speech from the Throne I was pleased to hear reference made to the proposed provincial-municipal conference, and again our hon. Prime Minister made mention yesterday of some of the more detailed arrangements that are going forward. We must move forward as a team, two levels of government working together for the well-being of all the people in the province of Ontario.

In his fight against inflation at the provincial level, I was pleased to hear our leader say that there would be no increase in taxes levied in the current year in the province of Ontario. We all share his concern concerning this great problem confronting us from all sides.

Mr. Speaker, a few moments ago I mentioned that great Canadian humorist and writer, the late Stephen Leacock, and I would like to read a paragraph from his book entitled "Last Leaves," and the chapter is entitled "Can't We Beat Inflation?" It is rather a humorous chapter and many of the observations made by him then apply today. However, he becomes serious at the end of the article, which is the portion I would like to read at this time, and I quote from his book.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): He was not the world's greatest economist; as a matter of fact his treatment of economics is a series of jokes.

Mr. G. E. Smith: Would the hon. member listen to my quote please:

> Can't we hang on—in the United States, in Canada, in Britain—holding down wages and prices as best we may? Can we do it? Can we hold it? It is like holding back a team with a heavy loaded wagon on a steep hill—hard but it can be done. I have seen good teamsters do it, but let the team lose their footing for one moment, and it is all over. That is the hill we are going down. Steady, steady – but do not be afraid.

Mr. Speaker, with the Prime Minister at the reins of this team of good government, we are in good hands. May I paraphrase an advertising slogan of a car rental agency: "Let's keep John in the driver's seat."

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): Mr. Speaker, I am privileged indeed to have this opportunity to second the motion of the hon. member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith) for the adoption of the Speech from the Throne presented by the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.

I would like to say in the very beginning, sir, how very pleased I am that His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, continues to have such a tremendous concern for the people of this great province. I sincerely hope that—

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): You need some new writers.

Mr. W. Newman: I sincerely hope—the member might want to listen to this too—that the hon. members make particular note of this, as I sometimes wonder whether some—and I say some—of the hon. members might not have lost sight of what it is they are really here for. I say without hesitation that our purpose here is for the benefit of this province and its people, and not necessarily for the benefit of ourselves.

This is the beginning not only of a new session, Mr. Speaker, it is also the start of a new decade for all of us, and this new decade can be one of the greatest we have ever experienced.

I would like to join with the hon. member for Simcoe East in congratulating members

on various appointments—the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, the new whip, and the extended portfolios that have been taken on by other ministers.

Mr. Speaker, to begin I want to say something about pollution; it seems to be very topical. It is our greatest, our most challenging and our most critical problem, and I say this with full knowledge that Ontario is a world leader in anti-pollution measures.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. W. Newman: Do a little reading, do a little checking and you will find Ontario is a world leader. Look around you, look around the province, and you will find that Ontario is a world leader.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Will the hon. member submit to a question?

Mr. W. Newman: I have no objection to questions.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Do not let him stop you.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. W. Newman: Ontario is a world leader, and again I reiterate, with an admirable and impressive Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

In the past few weeks, we have seen the news media bearing down on detergents by publishing the phosphate content figures.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Oh yes, that stopped it.

Mr. W. Newman: Some supermarket chains have posted these figures in the stores to aid the housewife in her selection of a laundry product. This focus on detergents resulted from the International Joint Commission report of last fall which put the finger on phosphates in detergents as the major cause of the near-death of Lake Erie and the threat of death for Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.

The International Joint Commission report called for an immediate reduction in the amount of phosphates and total removal by 1972. Meantime, the federal Resources minister has ordered detergents makers to limit the percentage of phosphates within six months.

This is a step in the right direction, a big step, but I do not know how effective it will really be because ultimately it will depend on the individual housewife. The ideal solution would be total and almost immediate elimination of phosphates through the simple action of housewives refusing to buy any detergent with any appreciable amount of phosphate content at all. In fact, to use a soap product instead.

Mr. Speaker, if I could talk to all the housewives of Ontario, I would offer them the challenge of their personal responsibility in a major cause of water pollution. Their choice of soap-laundry product could be a major victory in the war against pollution of our water resources. I hope our housewives have not been so brainwashed by detergent advertising that they have become too frightened to change their buying habits. If they give up their whiter-than-white laundry, we can rid ourselves of our greener-than-green lakes.

There are good signs already because some women are taking the problem seriously. If we all took the responsibility of getting the message across—this goes for you too—I am sure our women will not continue to be guilty of literally poisoning our water environment.

To quote the advertising columnist, Wade Rowland, in a recent issue of the *Telegram*:

> If women shoppers ignore the phosphate information now readily available to them and continue to buy high-pollutant detergents, the industry will have been proven right in its public "see no evil, hear no evil" policy.

Mr. Rowland goes on to say,

> But if soap sales are up, the industry will have been shown that it was gravely in error in underestimating the intelligence and concern of its consumers.

I also believe there is another group of citizens, both male and female, who have a peculiar responsibility in pollution. I mean every shareholder in every set circumstance that he has a solemn duty to make his company aware of his deadly serious anti-pollution attitude. Every shareholder in every corporation helps to contaminate our air, water or earth and must accept his share of the very real guilt.

If you own stock in the detergent industry; if you own stock in the pulp and paper companies, or a mining company, or an automobile manufacturing firm, I suggest you advise your company that you hold its management responsible for effective antipollution measures. Tell him his millions will not be much use to him, if he cannot breathe our air or drink our water.

Our task and our trust has been well-defined by Prime Minister John Robarts—good earth, good air, good water and a life and beauty that depends upon them, both inside the cities and outside the cities. This is the natural environment which man cannot create but which he can spoil and even destroy.

It will be for the Canadians of the '70s to decide whether they will hand on to the next generation a better natural environment than was left to this generation. This is not only a great task but is also a great trust for no other achievements can make up for serious damage to the basis of life itself.

Mr. Speaker, I would prefer a less-than-white shirt to a dead Lake Ontario; a less powerful car to unbreathable air; a bug or two on my fruit and vegetables to pesticide content in the bodies of my children.

Turning to another subject of importance, I want to deal with the federal white paper on taxation—here we go again.

The white paper deals primarily with the form and structure of income tax and deliberately ignores the municipal and provincial use of the field. There is no question that the form and structure are designed entirely to accommodate federal objectives and that little consideration has been given to the provincial and municipal needs.

Mr. Lawlor: You do not know that for sure.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): It is the same income tax that you levy here in the province.

Mr. W. Newman: If you read the white paper, you would understand perhaps what is actually happening. The provinces of this size have been ignored by the white paper.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): It is obvious you have not read it.

Mr. J. Renwick: This government totally ignored Carter.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. W. Newman: Almost all of the revenue gained goes to Ottawa; the provinces do get the short end of the stick.

Under these proposals the federal government makes a larger claim within the proposed limits of the income tax field. There is no question that the intention here is to restrict the degree to which the provinces can have access to personal income tax revenue. This can and will, according to experts, severely circumscribe Ontario's efforts towards tax reform and critically jeopardize the capacity for provincial-municipal financing in the '70s.

Provincial-municipal revenue needs are simply not recognized and there is no provision for comprehensive and substantial relief on the burden of the low-income taxpayer, at least as far as our own experts in the field are concerned. We do not share the views that an across-the-board increase in personal exemptions is the most effective or fairest means of accomplishing this objective.

Mr. J. Renwick: We agree with you on that.

Mr. W. Newman: Increased exemptions are of no value to persons whose incomes are below the level of exemptions, but at the higher end of the income scale, increased exemptions must be offset by higher rates.

Also of concern to Ontario is the effect of the federal white paper on economic growth in this province and, in turn, upon the national growth of our existing revenue sources.

The hon. Provincial Treasurer has submitted that the proposals for taxation of capital gains appear unnecessarily harsh and inflexible. The concept of levying tax on unrealized gains will have far-reaching implications both real and imagined that cannot be ignored by the decision-makers on this matter.

Even more critical, the fact that we in Ontario view the white paper as fuel for the fires of inflation. The significant revenue shift from the private sector in itself would tend to be inflationary.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): What do you base that theory on?

Mr. W. Newman: I base it on the theory that if you take it away from the private sector, they are going to pass it on to the consumers. So it is inflationary.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. W. Newman: This is in very simple language for you fellows to understand it.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): After that theory, you should go after Charlie for his job.

Mr. W. Newman: Nearly all of these increases will accrue to the federal government, which has demonstrated an unbelievable ability for developing new programmes to absorb revenue growth. Its common answer to provincial demands for a larger cut of the taxes, "go out and raise your own taxes," has been responsible for the rapidly increasing rates in

consumption type taxes which tend to generate higher price levels. This pattern will be encouraged by the white paper's failure to accommodate a realistic sharing of the income tax revenue. I firmly believe that Ontario has demonstrated its willingness to co-operate in fiscal policy.

While the effective fiscal and monetary tools to restrain inflation, largely at the federal level, Ontario is doing a great deal to fight inflation. I say this in the face of charges by Mr. Trudeau, that he was not convinced that the Ontario government and the people of this province are doing a fair share to fight inflation. In that respect, let me just make a few points.

Last March the Hon. Charles MacNaughton introduced Ontario's main anti-inflation tool, a balanced budget. In other words, we have had a balance budget for a year. Now, a year later—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): It is not quite as balanced as all that.

An hon. member: Not when Davis had got through with it.

Mr. J. Renwick: It was balanced on paper.

Mr. W. Newman: Do not worry about a balanced budget, we will have one.

In other words, we have had a balanced budget for a year. Now, a year later, Mr. Trudeau tells the people that he has arrived at a wonderful solution to our inflation problems, and that is to balance provincial budgets. We have been talking about it for two years, but we have been doing it for a year.

Mr. Lawlor: That was a very poor line.

Mr. W. Newman: That was a poor one was it? Okay.

Mr. Ben: We have to admire you for those figures not sticking in your craw.

Mr. W. Newman: I beg your pardon?

Mr. Ben: I say, we have to admire you for not letting those figures stick in your craw. You have a lot of guts and fortitude.

Mr. Lawlor: He did not know you would be here, George.

Mr. W. Newman: You would think Mr. Trudeau would at least try to be little more original when he tries to steal someone else's thunder.

Now for controlled spending—another one of the supposed Trudeau-conceived policies that will "save the nation"—we in Ontario have controlled our spending for quite some time; and controlled it to the very maximum degree by reducing, for instance, the increase in government spending to 7.5 per cent from 23.7 per cent in the previous fiscal year. Might I add that while we were doing this Ottawa's government spending jumped from a 3.6 per cent increases to a 9.5 per cent increase this year.

Now I ask, Mr. Speaker, who is controlling spending to help fight inflation? Ontario, which has reduced spending by more than 15 per cent, or Ottawa which has increased spending by at least six per cent. Quite obviously, Ontario has.

Mr. Ben: But they were over-spending. That is where they get Davis' money.

Mr. W. Newman: Is the member jealous?

According to experts, the federal government white paper proposes a larger increase in income tax for those in the middle income groups than in some of the higher brackets.

Mr. Benson, of course, is attempting to persuade our people, and the people of Canada, that this is not really so. He speaks of a sample 100,000 tax returns run through a computer and extracts some kind of average situation in the various income groups. The fact is that the tables in this white paper demonstrate clearly that the taxpayer in the $12,000 to $15,000 a year group will, in most cases, pay a greater increase in income tax than a taxpayer in a $25,000 to $30,000 range.

Mr. Lawlor: That is the middle group is it, from 12 to 15?

Mr. W. Newman: I did not say that. I pointed out that the 12 to 15 will be paying a higher percentage rate than those in the 25 to 30.

Mr. Lawlor: Is the member saying it is falling heavier?

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): It will hit the member pretty hard, will it not?

Mr. W. Newman: Looking back in the final years of the last decade, Ontario has a proud record of bringing a balanced budget last March and of moving between 1968-1969 and 1969-1970 from a deficit of $107 mill to an anticipated surplus. In addition, revenue collection procedures have been both improved and streamlined and the level of service has been improved for the benefit of all taxpayers.

On the other hand, Ontario can only anticipate an annual average growth rate of 7.5 per cent as compared to seven per cent in the decade between 1958 and 1968. This will be insufficient to meet the responsibilities of provincial financing.

During the past decade it was found that provincial revenue requirements grew by an average of about 14 per cent a year, or double the natural revenue growth. This situation will be particularly serious, because it has been estimated that the larger Canadian cities will account for all of the nation's population growth in the 1970s. Ontario will have the burden of dealing with urban-related problems in this decade, because it is the most highly urbanized province and urban development has been one of the principal pressures on provincial-municipal financing in the past decade.

Municipal revenues have been even less responsive to changes in economic activity than provincial revenues. The natural rate of growth in real property taxation has been only about four to five per cent a year, while annual revenue requirements have grown at a rate of between nine and 16 per cent over the last decade.

The Provincial Treasurer proposed several steps last spring to combat this gap between revenues and the increasing demand for services, but the white paper makes them virtually impossible. He has suggested a personal income tax, a modest tax on capital gains and a system of tax credits. But the white paper deals only with the form and structure of the income tax and deliberately ignores the relative federal and provincial use of the field.

Mr. Sargent: Is that all the member is going to talk about, the white paper? Let us talk about provincial matters.

Mr. W. Newman: I am going to talk about the member in a minute.

The form and structure seem designed solely to accommodate federal objectives and little consideration has been given to provincial-municipal needs.

Almost all the revenue gain would go to Ottawa. The white paper also would restrict the degree to which the provinces would have access to personal income tax revenue; and potentially it severely circumscribes Ontario's efforts towards tax reform and critically jeopardizes the capacity for provincial-municipal financing in the 1970s.

At this point let me add a few words about inflation and those citizens who are its worst victims. Undoubtedly the person most hurt by inflation is the individual on a fixed income. The majority of this group are over 65 years of age. In 1951 there were 400,000 people in this classification in Ontario. This total increased to almost 600,000 in 1968. The maximum possible assistance paid automatically because of age to a person over 65 today is $1,336.92 a year from old age security, plus the guaranteed federal supplement for the person without additional income this amount obviously does not come anywhere near to covering today's cost of living.

Mr. Trotter: Why does this government not do what they do out in the western provinces, then?

Mr. W. Newman: We do a great deal in the other fields that they do not do.

Mr. Trotter: Oh, come now. The member is begging the question.

Mr. W. Newman: One must be realistic about the fact—I beg the member's pardon.

Mr. Trotter: The member is begging the question.

Mr. Ben: Such as what?

Mr. E. A. Winkler (Grey South): Why does the member not extend the courtesy of the floor and listen?

Mr. Trotter: I am just asking. He is making ridiculous statements.

Mr. W. Newman: It is unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, that quite obviously they do not really understand what we are doing in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Ben: How do the people know?

Mr. W. Newman: The member does not really know because he does not want to know. He wants to sit here and not accept the responsibility.

Mr. Ben: Answer the question.

Mr. W. Newman: For the pensioner without additional income this amount obviously does not come anywhere near to covering today's cost of living. One must be realistic about the fact that no person, regardless of age, can live on this type of money. To help people on fixed incomes to cope with the continuous rise in the cost of living, the old age pension does provide an automatic flat increase of two per cent per year. However, the cost of living has doubled that amount in most of the last decade.

More drastic is the fact that the guaranteed federal supplement disqualifies most of the country's 1,700,000 pensioners by its stringent qualifying terms. In Ontario only one in six persons qualify for this federal supplement. One can only be realistic and assume that the federal government has little or no interest in attempting to help those people of our country who have dedicated and given their lives to it but who now have not even got a livable income to show for their efforts.

Mr. Trotter: Oh, nonsense. What blatant nonsense.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): What is to prevent this government from doing it if it wanted to?

Mr. J. Renwick: The wealthiest province in the country.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Forty-one per cent of the income.

Mr. J. Renwick: People living on $1,300 a year.

Mr. Pilkey: That is what he said.

Mr. W. Newman: In my riding—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member who has the floor will carry on with this speech. There is nothing much that we can do about these interruptions from time to time, but he might perhaps persevere and ignore them.

Mr. Winkler: Bliss is ignorance.

Mr. W. Newman: Mr. Speaker, in my riding of Ontario South—

Mr. Pilkey: Pretty good interjection. It should give him recognition.

Mr. W. Newman: —I have been much concerned about the use of drugs by our school children, particularly at the high school level and at other levels. On a riding basis, with the interest and co-operation of parents, school authorities, municipal leaders and others, we have been able to make some headway in dealing with this problem. Early in December of last year disclosures on the use of drugs by teenagers in some communities in my riding created unrest among the general public. A general meeting was arranged at a high school and the three municipal heads concerned invited a broad spectrum of interested citizens to discuss this special problem. Heads of service and community organizations, doctors, teachers, municipal and school board representatives were all in attendance.

An organization was constituted to further investigate the problem and make recommendations. The name given was CASE—Community Action for Social Emergencies. Citizens at large, including many teenagers, volunteered their services. This organization involved itself in two different programmes. One group discussed obtaining facilities for young people to meet and enjoy fellowship on weekend evenings. At present they have successfully negotiated the use of excellent facilities in the municipalities in my riding.

The other group looked at the larger community and the larger social problems—alcohol, drugs and difficult home conditions. They recommended to the councils of the area that a social planning council be instituted. This may be old to some of you, but in our area it is new, and this would be the liaison between this new organization and the respective councils of the municipalities concerned, and further would be responsible for and to the members of CASE itself. These people are to be congratulated for their efforts in this field.

Mr. Speaker, let me take a broader view of the total problem we are faced with, with drugs today. The provision of services designed to deal effectively with the treatment and prevention of drug problems requires—only in part—more money and manpower. The Addiction Research foundation maintains a network of treatment, education and community development services throughout this province. Most of their activities are intended to develop and demonstrate techniques to be employed by community resources. Any expansion of the foundation's programme places increasing emphasis on the vital balance between direct treatment and programmes to improve the competence and capacity of our hospitals, social agencies, community professionals, and care-giving institutions.

Only part, then, of the "more" is required in terms of finances and physical facilities. Perhaps the most important new thrust will be the invention of new programmes of intervention, treatment, prevention, and community education, to deal with the complex new problems of the chemical age. This significant "more" then requires innovation, flexibility and experimentation to discover bold new solutions to challenging new problems.

Our present care-giving institutions, changing and adopting as they are, seem never

enough to meet the needs of a hurting society. Joining our physicians, social workers, public health nurses, teachers, clergy, and others is a growing number of new generation of professionals from our community colleges. Social work assistants, counsellors, and others require an expectant and accepting professional community as they join in a group for caregiving.

Likewise, workers on the front line, often growing out of the special cultures they seek to serve, deserve our support, both financial and moral. Many of these new programmes are staffed by committed and dedicated persons who do not at present enjoy recognition by much of the professional community. Experimental programmes now under way in several parts of the province, using selected volunteers, and part time workers, also multiply the hands of our over-worked professionals.

New ways of working together; new standards of professional competence and cooperation; new methods to distribute the resources of the community provide the necessary support are part of the "more" required to cope with the chemical age.

Modification to existing legislation may have to be considered to go hand-in-hand with fiscal and philosophical support for developing both new clinical and educational models for service.

What is also required is the willingness to break with traditions if modifications to our professional and institutional resources are indicated. Such modifications to the design of our delivery system for health and social services may well be shaped in consultation with the consumers of these services, many of whom have found their own solutions and seek new means of sharing their newly discovered experience with the professional community.

More money, more services—yes. More staff with new skills—yes. But perhaps most important in dealing with the chemical age, new policies, new programmes, new flexibilities to allow the new generation of professionals to effect creative coalitions for education and prevention.

Another topic, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: It would perhaps be a good time, if the hon. member has more to say, to move the adjournment of the debate and he will continue then the next sitting day.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South) moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Grossman moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.00 o'clock p.m.

No. 5

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CONTENTS

Monday, March 2, 1970

Ontario-Quebec commission for co-operation and exchange in educational and cultural matters, statement by Mr. Welch 117

Vincenzo Fazzari case, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Singer, Mr. J. Renwick, Mr. Shulman 117

Unemployment figures for Ontario, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Nixon 120

Hearings re discontinuation of train service, question to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Gaunt 120

Spadina expressway, questions to Mr. Gomme, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. T. Reid, Mr. Shulman 120

Assault case of Stephens and Bird in Hearst, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. MacDonald .. 121

DDT in mothers' milk, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. T. Reid 122

Report on construction safety by labour safety council, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Shulman, Mr. Nixon 122

White line on provincial highways, questions to Mr. Gomme, Mr. Spence 123

OHSIP office in Hamilton, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Deans 123

Meadows Land Development and White Rock Land Development, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Singer 123

PCBs, toxic chemical compounds, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Burr 123

Recall of faulty vehicles by Chrysler of Canada Ltd., questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. Young 124

Castlefield apartments discrimination case, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Lewis 124

Brief from Co-operative Milk Truckers Association, question to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Innes, Mr. Gaunt, Mr. Good, Mr. Makarchuk 124

London Psychiatric Hospital therapeutic community, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. Bolton 125

Pollution by Auto Specialties Manufacturing Company of Windsor, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. B. Newman 126

New vehicle by Balthes Farm Equipment Manufacturing Company, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Young 126

Special sales on high phosphate detergents, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Trotter, Mr. MacDonald 126

Vacant homes at Picton army camp, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. Pilkey, Mrs. Renwick 127

Common carriers and heavy industry, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Bullbrook, Mr. Deans . 127

Tenants and Roxborough Park housing, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. Gisborn 128

Grand River Conservation Authority and 75 per cent grant, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Worton, Mr. Nixon 129

Wages by Ontario Jockey Club, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Shulman 129

Dredging and disposal problems in Detroit River area, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Paterson 129

Grant to corporation set up to deal in Indian crafts, question to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Lewis 130

Grants to municipalities, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Ruston 130

Senate committee on poverty hearings, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Pilkey 130

Motion to appoint Mr. Reuter as chairman and Mr. Rowe as deputy chairman of committee of the whole, Mr. Robarts, agreed to 131

Tabling reports re expropriations, Mr. Wishart 132

Universities commission, bill to establish, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 132

Schools Administration Act, bill to amend, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 132

Ontario Water Resources Commission Act, bill to amend, Mr. Shulman, first reading 132

Private Investigators and Security Guards Act, 1965, bill to amend, Mr. Breithaupt, first reading 132

Highway Traffic Act, bill to amend, Mr. Breithaupt, first reading 133

Resumption of the debate on the speech from the Throne, Mr. W. Newman, Mr. Nixon 133

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. MacDonald, agreed to 162

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Robarts, agreed to 162

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: This afternoon, in both galleries, we have as our guests students from Stamford Collegiate and Vocational School in Niagara Falls.

Statements by the ministry?

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to advise you and members of the House that the first meeting of the Ontario-Quebec permanent commission for co-operation and exchange in educational and cultural matters will be held here in Toronto on March 5 and 6.

Last December the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) announced that the chairman of the Ontario Civil Service Commission, Mr. W. A. B. Anderson, had been appointed co-chairman of this permanent commission. The commission is to consist of no fewer than five members from each province, and the following have now been named to serve with Mr. Anderson as the members for Ontario:

Mr. A. P. Gordon, the assistant deputy minister, Department of University Affairs; Mr. T. I. Campbell, chairman of educational planning and analysis staff, Department of Education; Mr. D. W. Stevenson, executive director, policy planning division, Department of Treasury and Economics; Mr. S. Davidovich, director staff development and research, Department of the Civil Service; and Mr. R. R. Beriault, superintendent of the Ottawa Separate School Board.

The agreement calls for the commission to meet at least twice a year, alternatively in each province. The first meeting will be hosted by the province of Ontario. This commission is responsible for implementing the agreement signed by the Prime Ministers of Ontario and Quebec last June.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister—

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if, before the hon. leader started, we could have the Attorney General reply to a question that was asked by the hon. leader yesterday. I think this is the proper place for it—in the question period—

—not yesterday, Friday; I am sorry.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As I indicated to the Leader of the Opposition on February 25, I have reviewed in detail the circumstances relating to the trial of Vincenzo Fazzari. I undertook this review not because of any lack of confidence that I had in the proceeding, but only because there had been allegations in certain quarters that all of the evidence had not been placed before the court and because of other suggestions that there was something unusual in these proceedings.

Having completed my review of the matter, Mr. Speaker, I wish to assure this House that my confidence in the manner in which these proceedings were conducted was entirely justified and I am of the opinion that the matter of the trial of Vincenzo Fazzari was conducted in the highest traditions of the administration of criminal justice in accordance with all principles of law relative to the trial of such an acton. At the same time, I would point out that it is the opinion of all of those persons who were intimately associated with both the investigation and the prosecution that it was most thorough and proper and that there is no basis for the expressions of concern that have been made.

In the light of these general observations, Mr. Speaker, may I just review those particular areas which I think are relevant in the light of the publicity that was given subsequent to the conviction of Vincenzo Fazzari.

There was never, at any time, any attempt by any person to suppress, modify or otherwise restrict any of the facts relative to this tragic occurrence. The lawyer members of this Legislature are all familiar with the provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada and particularly, section 452A of the code which expressly provides that the evidence at a preliminary inquiry on the request of the accused shall not be published before the accused is either discharged or his trial completed. This provision, which was introduced

into our criminal law at the last session of Parliament, is obviously designed to ensure the fair trial of an accused person and in this particular case it was utilized to accomplish that entirely justifiable purpose. However, once the trial was completed, the publication of the evidence at the preliminary inquiry was a matter of complete public record and it could be published or reproduced in whatever form any person might elect.

It must be noted that the preliminary inquiry was most thorough and exhausted approximately three weeks and filled almost 1,000 pages of evidence. On this particular point, Mr. Speaker, I wish to emphasize that there was no suppression of evidence other than that which was required by law for the ensuring of a fair trial.

As the hon. members are aware, Fazzari was committed after that preliminary inquiry on the charge of capital murder. The proceedings at the preliminary inquiry were then reviewed by the investigating police officers and by counsel for the Crown and all of these men who were responsible for the investigation and the prosecution of the case agreed that the Crown could not establish, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the police officer was in the course of his duties at the time of his death.

Indeed, the evidence arising from the investigation did establish that on two occasions earlier on the night of his death, the officer had been engaged in other matters that were not in the course of his duty, and these factors, together with the absence of evidence relating to the affirmative obligation of the Crown, that is to prove that he was in the course of his duty, led the counsel for the Crown to the conclusion that in the interest of the administration of criminal justice he should not proceed on the charge of capital murder since he could not establish this absolutely essential ingredient in that charge. He therefore proceeded upon a charge of non-capital murder and presented the indictment to the grand jury on that charge. This was a matter that must rest with counsel for the Crown in any prosecution, and it is, of course, a matter that is of very great concern. In the present case, the counsel exercised a discretion upon the best evidence and upon the best opinion and, I believe, that he did so in an entirely appropriate and proper manner.

Counsel for the accused indicated that the accused would plead guilty to the offence of non-capital murder and in such a case it then is necessary for the Crown to produce to the court a summary of the evidence relative to the offence. The summary was subsequently prepared with the knowledge of the investigating police officers and counsel for the Crown and for the accused.

Much has been said by way of comment about certain evidence that came to light at the preliminary inquiry respecting a statement that had been made by Constable Goldsworthy to his brother-in-law and by the accused to another individual. At the preliminary inquiry, counsel for the accused had objected to the admission of that evidence. The judge presiding at the preliminary inquiry did not find it necessary to rule upon the admissibility of that evidence but this, of course, became a major consideration in considering whether or not such evidence should be referred to in the trial of the accused. It was the opinion of both counsel for the Crown and counsel for the accused that such evidence was not properly admissible at the trial and, therefore, should not be referred to in any summary of the evidence provided to the court.

I would advise the members of this House that this particular point as to the disclosure of this evidence in the summary was raised with the Hon. Dalton C. Wells, chief justice of the high court, in his chambers prior to the trial since it was of such concern to both counsel. The Chief Justice agreed with counsel that the evidence was not properly admissible and that consequently, reference should not be made to it in the summary which would be presented in open court.

May I say, Mr. Speaker, that I am in complete agreement with this decision. In my own view, and I believe in the view of any person experience in the criminal law, it would be most improper to produce in a summary form evidence that would not be admissible in the same court if the matter was proceeded with on a full trial. This would not only be misleading to the public but it would be grossly unfair to the accused, as well as to the other parties who obviously would have an interest in the proceeding.

Mr. Speaker, I do not feel that I should impose further upon the time of this Legislature in reviewing the other matters which are intrinsically legal points in these proceedings and I have dealt with these three significant areas only that it might be made absolutely clear to the public that the trial was conducted in accordance with the laws of our country and in accordance with the recognized principles of justice. The conduct of this investigation, which was outstanding in its thoroughness and the conduct of the

prosecution, were in my mind, deserving of commendation in resolving a most tragic and justified concern of the public.

In closing, may I say, Mr. Speaker, that I regret very much the concern and the worry that must have been caused to the relatives of Police Constable Goldsworthy and others as a result of the publicity attendant upon this matter and I would hope that my comments may now permit a proper and reasonable disposition of any further intrusion into the matter.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary, could I ask the Attorney General if his statement is made in light only of an examination of the transcript of the preliminary, or in addition to an examination of the report of the investigation?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It is made in consideration and review of both.

Mr. Singer: Could I ask the Attorney General if his comments relating to the two instances in which Constable Goldsworthy was apparently not on duty on the night he was murdered, became apparent as a result of the examination of the transcript or became apparent only as a result of an examination of the report of the investigation.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, it is rather difficult to answer that specifically at this moment, but certainly it became apparent as a result of the investigation. I think, if I recall, there is reference in the transcript.

Mr. Singer: Finally, sir, could I ask the Attorney General if he would be prepared to make available to the justice critics of this party and of the NDP a copy of the transcript and copy of the observations so that we might have the opportunity of examining them?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: A copy of the transcript and a copy of which?

Mr. Singer: The investigation report!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well Mr. Speaker, I think perhaps the transcript is something that could be made public. It is I believe obtainable. I will take the whole question under consideration.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question; would the Attorney General clarify for myself whether or not he need take any steps to clarify this question of when a police officer is or is not in the course of his duty, in order to provide the protection which the code intends to provide for police officers in such circumstances?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, was the question: "Would the Attorney General take under consideration a clarification?"

Mr. J. Renwick: Yes. In the mind of the Minister of Justice, is there any need for clarification of when a police officer is in the course of his duties for the purpose of obtaining the protection they are intended to have under the code?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In the light of the question I would certainly consider that matter, and perhaps have some comment to make later.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition has the floor.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, while the Attorney General is still at it, might I ask him if he is satisfied with the conduct of the ticket fixing probe being conducted by the Metropolitan Toronto Police Commission, which I understand resumes today?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: With the conduct of it up to this date? Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not think I will make any comment until the matter is concluded.

Mr. Nixon: Might I just ask a supplementary question, which perhaps the minister is not prepared to comment on as well? Is it within the realm of possibility that the Attorney General, in his formal capacity, might undertake further investigations into this matter?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I will now comment, to say that I thought the investigation being carried on was being very thoroughly done. It certainly had not crossed my mind at this point that we should consider, at this moment, any other investigation.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has a supplementary question.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Does the Minister, as a matter of policy, think it proper for a local police commission to be investigating matters of this nature themselves? Should it not be investigated at a higher level?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think it is quite proper for a police commission to investigate the

conduct of members of the force, which it is its duty and function to administer.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: A question of the Minister of Labour: can he confirm the figures that were published in this morning's paper that the level of unemployment in Ontario has gone from 45,401 in December, 1969 to 61,000 unemployed in January of 1970?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I did not see the actual figures. The unemployment rate as put out by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for January showed an increase from 3.1 per cent in December to 4.2 per cent in January, in Ontario. The latest figures have not come to me since then.

Mr. Nixon: Might I ask, as a supplementary, does The Department of Labour of the province carry on a statistical review of this matter in parallel or in addition to the dominion bureau?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, we work with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. We do not duplicate their services because theirs is on a wider basis than ours.

Mr. Nixon: Might I further ask the minister if this rate of unemployment increase is greater than the increase that is normally expected over this period of time in previous years?

Hon. Mr. Bales: The rate is larger in January this year than last, but the percentage increase from one month to the other parallels the situation of last year.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, my last question is to the Minister of Transport: Does he expect to take part in the hearings pertaining to the discontinuation of train service which have been scheduled for Owen Sound on March 31?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, hearings before the railway committee of the Canadian Transportation Commission are being set up with respect to rail services in the Bruce peninsula and a case is being readied for presentation at that time.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): My first question—

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary? I am sorry!

Mr. Gaunt: What does the minister intend to do with respect to the application? Is it the intention of the department to oppose the application?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, that is the aspect of it that is under consideration.

Mr. MacDonald: My question is to the Minister of Highways. In view of the editorial in the morning "Globe and Wail", will the minister. . . .

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Some people have called them worse than that!

Mr. MacDonald: Will the Minister clarify his position with regard to the Spadina Expressway?

Specifically, does he consider the decision regarding the Spadina Expressway is not irrevocable, as he indicated to me in a letter sometime ago; or is the government committed to 50 per cent grants for the $136 million expenditure without questioning of any kind, as apparently he informed Metro Chairman Ab Campbell?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, I think I informed the hon. leader of the NDP very fully about our position on this; it is entirely in the hands of Metro council to decide what they wish to do with it.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question? Has the member for York South a supplementary?

No; the member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Could the minister let us know whether in 1962 the then Highways Minister, William Goodfellow, attached as a condition to provincial financing of the interchange at Spadina and 401, that the Spadina Expressway continue to Bloor Street, as reported in the *Globe and Mail* a couple of days ago?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, I might just read that one paragraph of the former minister's letter, where he says:

> The Metropolitan council agrees irrevocably that the Expressway will be built from 401 to Bloor Street as a fully controlled-access expressway.

Mr. T. Reid: Could I ask the minister to clarify whether that was a condition of the provincial government financing the interchange at the Spadina Expressway and 401?

Do I understand him correctly on that? Was that a condition of the provincial government paying for the exchange at the Spadina Expressway and 401, that it go to Bloor Street?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I tried to point out, Mr. Speaker, that it refers to Bloor Street, but it refers to the fact that it was to be a fully controlled-access highway. There was no time mentioned in this letter.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has a supplementary.

Mr. Shulman: In view of the widespread opposition and fears that have developed about the continuation of the Spadina Expressway, would the minister, in his role as a senior officer here, be willing to give this whole thing a second look?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned before, we have the greatest confidence in the people in the local Metro council to handle this situation; and I would think that the decision is in their hands.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I do have a couple of supplementary questions now.

Does the Minister then assert that there is no conflict between the letter that he wrote to me on his issue sometime ago and what reportedly was told to chairman Ab Campbell?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, I cannot recall making any report to chairman Ab Campbell.

Mr. MacDonald: Well is the minister in a position to enlighten us as to the basis on which Ab Campbell made the statements that were reported in the *Globe and Mail* and commented on in their editorial?

Has the minister not spoken with Ab Campbell on this issue at all? Was Ab Campbell just talking out of thin air on the issue that was discussed in the editorial this morning?

Mr. Speaker: I would think the hon. minister could not answer for the actions or words of the chairman. I think he could answer for any of his words or actions, and he has already answered that he does not recollect discussing it with the chairman.

An hon. member: Can he recall speaking to him?

Mr. Speaker: I think the member for York South might proceed.

Mr. MacDonald: That is what I wanted to clarify. Do I understand the minister correctly that he has not discussed this issue with Ab Campbell?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, I would say that I have not discussed this with Mr. Ab Campbell. The only thing that I recall saying was when I met him as were were going into the official opening of the Ontario "good roads" convention and I think I said to him, "You have your problems too," and he said, "Yes, but I think they will be straightened out".

Mr. MacDonald: I have two questions of the Attorney General. My first is: Is the Attorney General in a position at this stage to comment on the allegations of Miss Kahn-Tineta Horn with regard to alleged injustice in the Ontario courts?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, this was referred to, I believe, on Friday morning. I located my file and I am getting the report ready to give to this House very shortly.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Call her to the bar of the House.

Mr. MacDonald: Some titillation around here anyway.

My second question of the Attorney General is: Is he in a position to report on the investigations that he instigated with regard to the OPP's alleged non-proper performance in its duties in the investigation of the assault case of Stephens and Bird in Hearst last year? In the same connection, what response has the department made to the request of the Union of Ontario Indians that the government should underwrite the legal costs of this case because the crown attorney did not act on behalf of the victims?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, in answer to the first part of that question, I have a very thick file on that matter. There has been correspondence with hon. members who have expressed an interest in it. It has been fully investigated. I have a complete file on the matter. In fact, I think I answered at very considerable length before the end of last session. I am quite sure I did, Mr. Speaker. In any event, if the question was asked in the House, which I am not certain of, I did answer it. I have a full report. If the question is asked I can give it.

I think the question was asked as to the legal aid, also, and I think—if my memory is not failing me and I do not think it is—I think I dealt with that matter also.

Mr. MacDonald: He said he would take it under consideration.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I certainly did, either in correspondence with some hon. members or in this House. I pointed out that the crown attorney was not approached, that the facts are that the Indians, through the Indian Council, sought a private prosecutor and he was on the case before it ever came to the attention of the crown attorney and was engaged to carry on the prosecution. The crown attorney gave every assistance that he could in the matter, but he was not engaged, and I do not think, in the circumstances, which I reviewed very carefully, that we can suggest that there be legal aid for the payment of that counsel fee.

Mr. MacDonald: With regard to the letter, I shall leave discussion of it to a later point, but on the specific question of the OPP, in a letter to Mr. McLellan, who had been a community development officer in Hearst at the time, dated December 22, the Attorney General told Mr. McLellan that he was going to investigate the allegation that the OPP had not properly conducted its duties. That was after the House adjourned. My question, as originally put to the Attorney General, was: "Have you completed that investigation and what is your report?"

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I will give a report to the House, Mr. Speaker. I have completed the investigation.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for York South completed? The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: I have a question of the Minister of Health. Is the Minister looking into the statement by Dr. Ralph Brinkhurst of Pollution Probe that "mother's milk contains more DDT than is allowed in cans or bottles of milk," and if so, what is he going to do about it?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): I am not sure I can tell the hon. member what I am going to do about it, Mr. Speaker, but our people are looking into this. At the present time I cannot tell him what they are going to find.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): I have a question of the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker. What action has the minister taken on the confidential report on construction safety in Ontario which was presented to him on January 8 by the labour safety council?

Hon. Mr. Bales: I had a meeting, Mr. Speaker, with the labour safety council at that time. I think the report the hon. member is referring to is a report that was submitted to the labour safety council for their review.

Mr. Shulman: No, it was prepared by them and given to the minister for his consideration.

Hon. Mr. Bales: What is the date of the report?

Mr. Shulman: The date of the report is November 20, 1969, and it was presented to the minister on January 8.

Hon. Mr. Bales: That is a different report, and as a result of that report there were certain changes in the construction safety regulations which were brought out last fall.

Mr. Shulman: Last fall? I have a supplementary. These were changes that were brought out last fall in relation to a report that the minister received January 8, is that the answer?

Hon. Mr. Bales: The member said the report was dated last February.

Mr. Shulman: It was given to the minister on January 8, 1970.

Hon. Mr. Bales: That is what I first asked the member in reference to that. I met with the labour safety council on January 7 and had a meeting with them at that time. I believe that the report that the member has—and I have not seen it—he has just shown it to us—is one by a gentleman named Jones.

In my meeting with them I asked the council if they would consider the report and make recommendations to me. The labour safety council is meeting again today as a matter of fact.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Is that report marked confidential? That is the way it was referred to in the question; and I wondered what the significance of that was, just to show how—

Hon. Mr. Bales: I am not aware that it was marked confidential.

Mr. Nixon: It was not a confidential report?

Hon. Mr. Bales: As far as I was concerned it was a matter which I expected they would keep confidential until they had dealt with it.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a new question!

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kent has the floor.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Highways.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the member would wait until the minister reaches his seat.

Mr. Spence: Is the minister aware that in certain spots the white line on our provincial highways has disappeared? What action does the minister intend to take? Can this white line be replaced under winter weather conditions, or does The Department of Highways have to wait for warmer weather conditions?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, I am quite aware that the white line has disappeared. We are not able to repaint this satisfactorily in the wintertime and I think the member has probably seen some comments that some types of tires wear it more than others and it is disappearing a lot faster than it did in former years.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): A question of the Minister of Health: Can the minister indicate what action he has taken to enlarge, both in staff and facility, the OHSIP office in Hamilton in order that it might meet the needs of the people of that area?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I think at the last session we indicated we were going to attempt to meet the needs of the people of Hamilton through that office, and my people have assured me that they are working on this. Now I have not heard any indications that things are not working well over there; if they are not we will certainly look at it again.

Mr. Deans: By way of supplementary question, may I ask the minister whether he is not aware then, in light of the statement he has made, that there have been a great number of complaints from people who are just unable to get through on the telephone to people in the OHSIP office and who find the OHSIP office totally understaffed and unable to cope with their needs?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I will be happy to look into it, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: A question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs: Could the minister advise the House when he is going to be able to table the results of the investigation undertaken by his predecessor into the operations of Meadows Land Development and White Rock Land Development?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): I would reply that both matters are, as the member suggests, currently under consideration and investigation. My answer would be that in a couple of days I hope I will be able to give detailed information to the House with respect to both matters.

Mr. Singer: By way of supplementary, could the minister advise the House whether it is possible that charges will be laid, or is it going to be necessary that we will need new legislation to control this irrational type of development?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think that question, at the moment, is hypothetical; I will wait until I get the report to deal with it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of Energy and Resources Management a question about PCBs, polychlorinated biphenyls, the toxic chemical compounds which are escaping into the environment in many parts of the world.

Does the Minister recall the incident around the Irish Sea last autumn when tens of thousands of birds were killed by PCBs; and has he investigated the extent to which these chemical compounds are being used in manufacturing processes in Ontario?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that all chemical compounds of this nature are continuously being investigated by an interdepartmental committee set up by my department. Now whether or not we have investigated the situation involving these birds in the Irish Sea I cannot say at this time. I would be happy to get the information for the hon. member.

Mr. Burr: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Transport.

Has the minister any more information to add, other than what we read in the press, concerning the recall of motor vehicles by the Chrysler Company of Canada Limited; that is the vehicles being recalled as a result of faulty whitewall tires, and also as a result of master brake cylinder problems?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the matter of vehicle safety at the point of manufacture has now been assumed by the federal Department of Transport in agreement with the ministers responsible for motor vehicle administration in the several provinces. The motor vehicle companes will be reporting to the federal Department of Transport on these matters.

There are, I know, recalls going out in connection with Chrysler cars at this moment respecting whitewall tires by Goodyear; respecting the cushioning or softening of the brakes because of faulty master brake cylinders in some instances; and also with respect to the construction of the front wheel hub.

I leave the resolution of these matters to my counterpart in Ottawa, the hon. Minister of Transport for Canada.

Mr. B. Newman: If I may ask a supplementary question of the minister: does that include the General Motors Corporation buses that are imported into Canada, with which they have found certain defects in the U.S.?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the federal government's responsibility now concerns motor vehicle safety at the point of manufacture or of import.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): I took for granted this was a matter for the federal government, but could I ask the minister if notification of these safety failures is given to him and his department as well as to the federal department?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the motor vehicle manufacturing companies have continued their courtesy of advising me immediately on any of these recall programmes going into effect. I have full information on all of these.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. Lewis: A question of the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker.

Why has the minister not yet signed the ministerial order submitted to him eight months ago by the director of the human rights commission in the Castlefield apartments discrimination case?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, that involved a board of inquiry and a report for the consideration of the minister. At the moment I have to look into the file. I recall reading it, and it is quite voluminous, but I will look into it.

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary question: does the minister remember that the case was decided on January 24, 1969? Its submission for his signature is now more than a year late and it is the only such case yet outstanding?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I do not recall those dates; my recollection of it is that that is not the case, but I will look into it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Oxford.

Mr. G. W. Innes (Oxford): A question to the Minister of Agriculture and Food: could the minister tell the House if, by reason of the brief that was presented to him in early January by the Co-operative Milk Truckers' Association, he has decided to take any action respecting their case as it affects rationalization of the routes?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, I can answer by saying simply that the co-operative milk transports were advised that they should make a presentation to the select committee on—the name escapes me, business administration, I believe it is; no, corporation law—which I believe they have done.

We also suggested to them, and we have discussed this with the milk marketing board, the possibility that they should re-examine their problems with the milk marketing board. This is really a matter that has to be worked out between the milk marketing board and the producers concerned with co-operative milk transports.

It is a difficult problem, but I think it can be resolved. I am not sure it will be resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned. It is not possible to solve all problems that way, but I hope that it will be worked out as satisfactorily as possible.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question?

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Did the minister ask the Ontario Milk Marketing Board for comparative figures as to what saving will accrue to the farmers because of the route rationalization programme?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, this point was discussed with the milk marketing board. The figures that were presented to us in the brief and through the discussions that we had at the time—and we had what I thought was a very excellent meeting with the milk transport association—showed concern on the matter of costs to them in particular. They failed, however, to take into consideration the savings that would accrue to the farmers because of the rationalization of the rates surrounding the milk transport routes. So that one can hardly isolate the savings or the costs, as a matter of fact, that might be assessed or accrue to any particular part of the route rationalization chain without taking into consideration the side effects of other rationalization of routes within the general area.

This is the matter that is of very great concern to the milk marketing board. Their responsibility is to all the milk producers of Ontario, not just the five per cent of the producers who use the co-operative transportation routes. I think we have to bear in mind their responsibility to the others, and they seem to be satisfied that while it may adversely affect one particular private transporter or particular co-operative transport, it might very definitely benefit the producers on another transport route within the general area.

Since pooling of price will commence, as far as industrial milk is concerned, within the next few weeks, and the cost of transportation would be pooled as well, I understand, therefore what will work out to the advantage of some, I think will accrue to the advantage of all.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question? The member for Waterloo North.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Notwithstanding the effect on the transport, would the minister not feel that the milk marketing board should be instructed to pay something to the farmers whose return from the co-operative—$500 or $600 a year—will be cut off when their right to ship milk as they had been doing previously will be terminated by this rationalization?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Of course, that is a matter that will have to be worked out with the milk marketing board. After all, the milk marketing board is an elected board and is composed of producers who are elected and who represent committees of milk producers in every county and district in this province. The people on that side of the House—just let me finish—were the first to criticize us when we started to talk about other marketing boards and the government or the minister interfering in such matters.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Let us leave it to the people affected to suggest for themselves how they should deal with it. I think it would be wise for us just to do that without you in your party telling us what we should do; the responsible board will have to do the job.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member for Brantford.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question, would the minister consider asking the milk marketing board to suspend rationalization action until such time as the co-op milk transporters have an opportunity to present their views to the agricultural committee of this House?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, Mr. Speaker, I will not give that undertaking. I believe, as I just finished saying, the Ontario milk marketing board is composed of producers and they are advised by producers in each county and district. The people who are affected represent five per cent of the producers in Ontario. I think it would be ill advised of us to say to those producers who have worked this whole programme out that they must delay implementing it until there has been some further political representations made.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Middlesex South.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Health.

In view of the assurances which have been tendered to this House that the difficulties of the therapeutic community in London are unrelated to financial strictures and are, one would gather, solely the responsibility of Dr. Hal Mountain, may I ask the minister if he is aware that the director of an out-patient clinic in the United States, an institution employing the same techniques as those employed in London, was interviewed by the

superintendent of the London psychiatric hospital, and is now in possession of a letter from him stating that he was considered suitable for appointment but he regretted that he could not appoint him because of budget restrictions?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not aware of that letter, Mr. Speaker. If the hon. member would like to make it available to me, I will take a look at it. We are still, of course, very much concerned about the London therapeutic community and I would be happy to look into it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville was on his feet a short time ago.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, if I can get his attention.

Has the minister completed the investigation of the complaints concerning pollution by the Auto Specialties Manufacturing Company of Windsor, and has he issued any ministerial order against this concern?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Speaker, a ministerial order was issued last October. This was as a result of a programme that was submitted to the company just a week or so before that. We have no reason to believe that there will not be compliance, and the deadline for completing the terms of the ministerial order is September, 1970.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Attorney General. Could the Attorney General advise whether his officials now have completed their review of Mr. Justice Hugres' report into the collapse of Atlantic, and whether or not additional criminal charges are going to be laid, and whether or not additional steps are going to be taken by the Law Society of Upper Canada or by the accountants' association in relation to the professional actions, either of lawyers or accountants mentioned in the report, who have not as yet been dealt with?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, that question is so broad in its implications that I would direct it to the order paper.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Sarnia a supplementary question? The member for Yorkview.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Trade and Development.

Is the minister free to reveal the type of machine being built by Balthes Farm Equipment Manufacturing Limited, for which a grant has been given—a new amphibious all-terrain vehicle for recreational and utility use? And has the minister consulted with the Minister of Transport in respect of the safety of such a vehicle in view of the experience we have had with the snowmobile?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Mr. Speaker, I do not think I can give you any details on the vehicle in particular, but I would think the ODC has gone into the details on this before making a loan. I would be glad to take a look at it and get further information. I do not have the details here. I do not think it has been discussed with The Department of Transport. As far as we are concerned, I do not think there is any violation of any regulation by the vehicle, with reference to The Department of Transport.

Mr. Young: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Is the minister satisfied, in view of the fact that we did not have regulations covering the snowmobile and therefore we have had a good deal of trouble, that such regulations should not be made for this new vehicle which is being manufactured?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I am not at all satisfied until I have had a look at it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Parkdale.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Will the minister take any steps to dissuade firms such as Dominion Stores from having special sales where they are getting rid of high phosphate detergents? In this matter of selling detergents, the stores are now having sales where they are getting rid of all those detergents that contain high phosphates. I was wondering if the minister would make any attempt to stop that type of sale?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: At the moment I am unacquainted with any statutory authority that I would have to intervene. If the member has some suggestion of authority I have that is not being used, I would entertain it.

Mr. Trotter: By way of a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, there is no statutory authority, but would the minister take any steps to dissuade these firms from doing this by simply advertising the fact that these sales are going on? It is a matter of using the powers of his office to dissuade these firms.

Mr. MacDonald: He should get his colleague to issue an order like the DDT order.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would suggest, certainly, at this stage in my time with the particular department, that I would not want to use any assumed powers that I could not find founded by statute in that department.

Mr. Trotter: Would the minister not make some attempt in order to stop these—

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. member has pursued this as far as is proper at this time. There will be no more supplementaries. The member for Oshawa has the floor.

Mr. MacDonald: May I ask a supplementary?

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary? Provided it is a different line of questioning.

Mr. MacDonald: It is a different one. If the government is persuaded that phosphates are a serious pollutant, would the government consider an order as it did with DDT?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That question, I suggest, should go to the Prime Minister, as distinct from me in this department.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister of Energy and Resources Management—

Mr. Speaker: Yes, but the hon. member will await an opportunity to question the minister if he wishes. The member for Oshawa now has the floor.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): A question of the Minister of Trade and Development.

(1) Is the minister aware that 250 homes abandoned by Canadian army personnel from the Picton army camp are boarded up while we suffer a severe housing shortage in Ontario, and (2), that Mr. H. J. MacFarland, a large property owner in Picton, has applied political pressure on Ottawa to keep these homes out of the local renting field?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of what Mr. MacFarland has done. I can suggest to the hon. member that we did enter into negotiations with the federal government to take over that abandoned army barracks down there and try to turn it into an industrial park like Centralia, but Ottawa dealt directly with a helicopter company—I think it was a helicopter company—which took over the whole base and ODC was excluded. I do not know how they are making out down there. I have heard various rumours.

If the Ontario government was invited to go on that base and take it over, we would have a look at the 250 homes that are closed up. I agree with the hon. member, and we would make use of them as we have done with Centralia. But right now it is federal government property and we cannot enter it.

Mr. Speaker: Unless there is a supplementary, the member for Sarnia has the floor.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough Centre.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Is the minister negotiating or aware of the same situation which might well arise out of the air force base at Camp Borden being moved to Manitoba, which might create the same spare housing?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Yes, we have been notified that some of the air force bases may be changing. I have not heard too much about Camp Borden but we are negotiating on the one at Cobourg that has been abandoned. Along with the mayor and the city council at Cobourg, our people have been down there negotiating with the possibility of taking it over and turning it into an industral park. I do not have any further information on Borden, but I would be glad to have any.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sarnia.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

I am wondering if the minister could advise the House whether he has any liaison with federal and state authorities in the United States in connection with the current investigations and prosecutions of heavy industry and commercial carriers. By way of specific example—if I might enlarge, sir—I am concerned that perhaps the minister has not taken sufficient advantage of this liaison, and I am wondering if he can assure the House, by way of example, that Dofasco at Hamilton is not carrying on similar activities

to Youngstown Sheet and Tube, and Inland Steel, in the Chicago area—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is now making a statement.

Mr. Bullbrook: No, I am asking a question.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, but he is making a speech by way of asking a question. Now, he might please place his question.

Mr. Bullbrook: The carriers out at Malton, for example, are not in the same position as the carriers in the United States at present—

Mr. Speaker: Order. All the hon. member has to do is ask the minister if he is going to take certain action. He has done so. The minister now has the floor to reply.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, you should have let him carry on. I assume the member is talking about commercial—

Mr. Bullbrook: I am asking if the minister has any liaison with federal and state authorities.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, there is quite a bit of liaison betwen federal and state authorities, not only directly but through the International Joint Commission and the Great Lakes Commission. As far as common carriers are concerned and heavy industry, I am not quite sure of the connection—for example, with Dofasco at Hamilton, unless the member is talking about shipping. Is this what the member is talking about?

Mr. Bullbrook: If I might be permitted to clarify it by way of supplementary, as the minister is at present aware, there are prosecutions involving Youngstown Sheet, Inland Steel and U.S. Steel in the Gary, Indiana, and Chicago area. I am interested in whether the minister's department has looked into the manufacturing techniques involved in the American prosecutions so that he can assure the people of Ontario that Dofasco, Algoma Steel and like industries are not carrying on similar techniques and thus polluting our air and our streams. Similarly, in connection with the common carrier prosecution in the United States, are our common carriers here carrying on like activities?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, as far as heavy steel industries, for example, are concerned we feel that our legislation and our prosecutions are even more stringent and more effective than those which have been carried on in most of the states, certainly adjoining the Great Lakes. Both Stelco, for example, and Dofasco are committed to programmes and the deadline of those programmes is 1973.

As far as common carriers are concerned, I am assuming, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member is referring to the state of New York, which recently prosecuted a certain number of airlines. The only problem, my people tell me in my department is that from a jurisdictional point of view. The state of New York would have more authority than a province as far as international carriers are concerned. However, I am looking into that particular aspect of this prosecution to date.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Speaker, without seeming to badger the minister, I am wondering whether I am correct in assuming, then, that he is assuring us that Dofasco and Algoma are not carrying on like technical operations at the present time as Youngstown Sheet and Tube, and Inland Steel. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am not saying they are not carrying on the same manufacturing type of operation. All I am saying is that they are under order to clean up. They are under order to acquire certain types of abatement equipment to meet our regulations and our laws and they are on a time schedule with deadlines. I really do not know what they do in the States, although I do know that their penalties and their Act is not as strict as ours.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary question, I would like to ask the minister whether the order and the schedule they are under can be made public in order that we on this side of the House might know what progress is being made.

Mr. Speaker: This, of course, is not supplementary to the original question, which was a question, as the member later stated, of liaison, but if the minister wishes to answer that question he may, but it is out of order so far as Mr. Speaker is concerned.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would be happy to give the hon. member that information.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Hamilton East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): My question is of the Minister of Trade and Development, and housing. After two years, what progress is being made in the proposition that tenants of the Roxborough Park full recovery

public housing are going to be able to purchase those homes that are available?

Hon. Mr. Randall: As I said before, Mr. Speaker, to answer the hon. member's question, we made application to the federal government—Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, which is one of the partners—to give us permission to go ahead and deal with the people as we did in Guelph. So far, that information is not back to us. I was in Ottawa two weeks ago and discussed it again with Mr. Andras, and I am led to believe that perhaps within the next few weeks we will have a definite answer on it. As soon as we do, then we will start to negotiate with the tenants—not only there, but I hope in 5,000 other places in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wellington South.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Is it a fact, as stated by one of the officials of his department, that the Grand River Conservation Authority has refused a 75 per cent grant on the Grand River conservation request? Secondly, if this is so, has the minister any answers to alleviating the situation of the long-term property owners who have held their property in abeyance for the use of this authority?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, it is my information that in order for the Grand River Conservation Authority to be eligible for the 75 per cent grant, it is required to do more than it originally planned to do. In other words, to qualify, it has to spend more money. The benefiting municipalities have objected to this. I have resolutions from nearly all of them. In short, the scheme is bogged down, and unless, in some way, either with or without the federal government, we are prepared to act immediately on this whole scheme, the landowners in some way will have to have their lands released, certainly from expropriation or notice of expropriation.

Mr. Worton: Would the minister support a request from landowners for a change under the circumstances?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I would like to wait a little longer for two reasons: I would like to have further information or word from, (1) hon. Mr. Greene, and (2) from the provincial Treasurer.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the same minister.

Is it not a fact that about five months ago he indicated that he was seriously considering extending the grants to major conservation authorities such as the Grand and the one that drains through his own riding, to 75 per cent from the former 50 per cent rate?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are doing that on a formula that I have very briefly explained to the hon. member for Wellington South. However, there is a question of budget these days and I am hoping that there will be special consideration for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. We are still hoping. The Grand is in a preferred position, but we are still hoping that The Canada Water Assistance Act, under which we built these big schemes, will still be in operation, and this is the *quid pro quo* with The Canada Water Act.

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary question from the member for High Park? The member for High Park has the floor.

Mr. Shulman: I have a question of the Minister of Labour.

Does the minister intend to take any early action to force the Ontario Jockey Club to pay its employees proper statutory and overtime pay, which it has evaded up to this point?

Hon. Mr. Bales: That is a matter under consideration; the case was, I believe, before the board.

Mr. Shulman: A supplementary question: is the minister going to do anything?

Hon. Mr. Bales: The matter is being reviewed before any legislation comes forward.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Essex South.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Did representatives of his department attend a meeting on Wednesday, February 18, in London, Ontario, convened by the federal Department of Public Works, along with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to discuss at the departmental level the dredging and disposal problems in the Detroit River area? If so, can the minister report anything to this House?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am not aware that anyone from my department attended that meeting in London, Mr. Speaker. However, I will look into it and then give this information to the hon. member.

Mr. Paterson: May I ask as a supplementary: was the minister invited to it, or is he aware of this at this point?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The answer is no on both counts.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): I have a question for the Minister of Social and Family Services.

Could the minister indicate when the $200,000 grant might be made available to the corporation that was set up to deal in Indian crafts?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, I have a cheque in my office at this moment and as soon as the question period is over I am going to go over there and see that it is either delivered by somebody else, or by myself in person, this afternoon.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker: has the minister decided on the department's position in connection with the request for the same amount from the Rankin Reserve in Sault Ste. Marie, to be used for the construction of a rink?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That project, Mr. Speaker, is one which does not come within the same category; that has ramifications for more than one department and more than one government. We have only had the initial proposition put to us; what further developments have taken place in the interval I am not aware, but it is one that will have to be dealt with in the future.

Mr. Speaker: A further question or a supplementary?

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): No, another question!

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex Kent has the floor.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Would the Prime Minister consider, with some of his colleagues who have to do with grants to municipalities, speeding up these grants in order to alleviate some of the shortage of funds in some of the municipalities in the province?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is a problem that has always been with us; it is under consideration at all times.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Oshawa.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, a three-part question to the Minister of Social and Family Services.

1. Does the minister intend to accept the invitation to testify before the senate committee on poverty hearings scheduled for May?

2. Testimony before the Senate committee on poverty indicated that Ontario is not making use of federal money to provide aid to the working poor in an effort to keep them off the welfare rolls: why is the province not taking advantage of federal funds?

3. Does the minister anticipate raising the rates for welfare recipients in view of the fact 50 per cent of the cost is paid by Ottawa and that there has not been an adjustment upwards during the past three years?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part is yes.

The answer to the second part is that that matter has been under continuous review. It has been receiving intensive examination recently. Before we enter into a project, regardless of how well it might look on paper —and it is an ideal that I have subscribed to since I took over the portfolio—we have to make sure that the ends desired will be achieved through this vehicle.

With respect to the third question, the matter of rates is continuously under review and the matter of budgets was raised here earlier. I may say that with respect to 50 per cent sharing, when you offer to pay for half of a man's meal you have got to make sure he has got his half available, and that is one of the problems with this kind of cost sharing programme.

Mr. Speaker: This completes the oral question period. May I thank the members for an exceedingly good question period? Only once or twice did the members depart from what should be the proper rules of this House for asking questions, and as a result we got a great many more questions and answers and information before the members.

Petitions.

The following petitions were received:

Of the corporation of the city of Toronto praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to collect certain expenditures by instalments in the same manner as municipal taxes and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the town of Brampton praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass bylaws prohibiting the sale of confections from vehicles on any highway or park.

Mr. Speaker: Motions?

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves, seconded by Mr. Nixon, that Mr. Reuter, member for the electoral district of Waterloo South, and Mr. Rowe, member for the electoral district of Northumberland, be appointed chairman and deputy chairman, respectively, of the committees of the whole House for the present session.

Motion agreed to.

Clerk of the House: House in the committee of the whole; Mr. A. E. Reuter in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Perhaps before I assume the chair I might be permitted a few moments to express my gratitude to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) for presenting this motion to the House.

I might say that I am very, very pleased at being appointed for the third consecutive time as chairman of the committee of the whole. It is indeed a great honour to serve in this capacity. I do realize that a very great responsibility goes with this particular job in the Legislature. As I see it, the responsibility first of all must be to each individual member to see to it that his rights and privileges in these chambers are safeguarded and protected at all times.

I think, too, that the responsibility goes perhaps a little further than to each individual member where we have a strong government party and strong opposition parties. By virtue of the strength of the government I have always felt that it is necessary for the chairman, Deputy Speaker and those who are in charge of the proceedings to see to it that the rights of the minority parties, these smaller parties without the strength in numbers, are fully protected.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Well said. I hope everybody is listening.

Mr. Chairman: I think it is of paramount importance to see to it that no government, in any parliament, controls the House simply because they are in a majority position. I think the opposition must be given every right, every time, to fully express their views. This has been the approach I have taken. I have often felt that sometimes perhaps I have leaned over a little backwards to see that this is done—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Do not lean over backwards, just stand up straight!

Mr. Chairman: I have felt that sometimes the government members have the feeling that duties in the chair were conducted with a little favouritism. I assure all members that this has never been my intention. I want to fulfil this job with the dignity and responsibility that goes with it as I understand the parliamentary procedure. I intend to do that.

Once again I express my very sincere gratitude, and I accept the responsibility with all necessary humility under the circumstances.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Chairman, I can only say that there seems to be a move afoot in our democracy these days to make the minorities predominant; I just hope that you do not prescribe to that particular theory.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): That will happen in the next election!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, if what the hon. member thinks might happen does happen I suppose we will then have to see what the minority can do to rule the majority. However, that is purely a hypothetical situation because it will never come about.

We on the government side, Mr. Chairman, recognize full well what you have said, and while we will not always necessarily agree with your rulings, you can rely upon us to support you in order to ensure that the functions of this Legislature, while in committee, are properly discharged.

Mr. Chairman: I wonder perhaps if the hon. member for Northumberland, who has been appointed as the deputy chairman, would care to express himself at this time?

Mr. R. D. Rowe (Northumberland): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

May I first of all express my appreciation to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the

Opposition for their very kind motion and the concurrence of the House in same. May I say that as we all know these presiding offices are rather difficult positions at times, but I assure you I am willing to accept the challenge. I would like to say that during the months in which I did act as the chairman's assistant, I did appreciate the co-operation of everyone on all sides of the House and I hope my actions will justify the continuance of the same.

Otherwise or further than that, I really do not want to take any more of your time, I just simply echo the sentiments which have been expressed by the chairman, and be assured that I shall rule as fairly as is possible. Be patient with me if you do not agree with me sometimes, but I will do the best I can. Thank you very much.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, just before the committee rises, I am sure my colleagues would want me to express to you, sir, our congratulations on your re-election and our assurances of our support. Just as the sentiment has been expressed elsewhere, there may be occasions when there will be arguments over the rules of order. Still, sir, we feel very closely associated with the philosophy that you have expressed, and if you feel at any time uncomfortable with your present political and partisan position, since this is the third time you have been elected to the same post, perhaps we on this side might offer you something a bit better. I want you to consider that, sir, but for the time being we look forward to the deliberations in committee under your chairmanship and we once again offer you our assurances of support.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, on behalf on this party we share all the sentiments which have been expressed about you and about the office to which you have been appointed and about the office of the deputy chairman. I am quite certain that you will continue to conduct yourself in your usual upright and forthright style.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that the committee of the whole House rise and report progress.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of the whole House begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any other motions?

Presenting reports.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of subsection 5 of section 6 of The Expropriations Act, 1968-1968, I beg leave to table the reports prepared under subsection 3 of that section.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

THE UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to establish The Universities Commission.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, the bill dissolves The Department of University Affairs and the minister's advisory committee of university affairs. It establishes an independent university commission, containing representation from the government, universities and the community, to allocate the grants of public money and to act in an inter-university co-ordination capacity.

THE SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION ACT

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Schools Administration Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the bill is to encourage the use of school facilities by community groups.

THE ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION ACT

Mr. Shulman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Sir, this bill would ban the sale in this province of detergents that contain polyphosphates.

THE PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS AND SECURITY GUARDS ACT, 1965

Mr. Breithaupt moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Private Investigators and Security Guards Act, 1965.

Mr. Speaker: Might I enquire, I was not listening, who the seconder is?

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): The member for Sarnia (Mr. Bullbrook).

Mr. Speaker: And the date notice was given? It should be on the form.

Mr. Breithaupt: On February 25.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask that the hon. members please see that that notice is filled in.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Breithaupt: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to delete the exemption presently existing whereby credit bureaus and their reporting activities are exempt from the provisions of this Act.

THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

Mr. Breithaupt moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Highway Traffic Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Breithaupt: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the amendments in this Act is to ensure that the minimum speed on controlled access highways is maintained at 40 miles per hour; and also to ensure that vehicles, which because of their loads or conditions cannot maintain this speed on certain grades or otherwise, must keep at all times to an outer or curb lane.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): Mr. Speaker, to carry on where I left off on Friday, I would like to talk about another topic which very much concerns my riding as well as the province of Ontario, and one upon which much attention has been focused lately. It is the process of achieving a revised framework or structure for municipal government in many parts of this province.

That such a need for revision exists in certain areas should be self evident from the unassailable facts of population growth and the requirement for services resulting from that growth. It has been repeatedly brought to the attention of this House that where change is necessary the process will embrace community participation, and I am confident that the utilization of that democratic process by our government will produce solutions which are fair, viable and acceptable to all.

Mr. Speaker there is not, however, a single formula which can be applied uniformly to every community or region in this province. There is need for a widespread public awareness that proposals for regional governments will be consistent with special circumstances which may be peculiar to each area. The principles, or criteria, for restructuring local government as outlined to this House in statements by the Prime Minister of Ontario (Mr. Robarts) and the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) during late 1968 are still valid; but the application of these principles must not be based upon preconceived solutions.

It is recognized that a number of people have indicated concern respecting the possible implementation of regional government; and in my view that concern has dual classification. Firstly, a concern that change in the structure of local government will be enacted even though it may not, in the opinion of local residents and their representatives, be warranted. In areas devoid of special problems and where local government is functioning satisfactorily, we should allay the concern through assurance that change for the sake of change will not be proposed.

Secondly, where the need for change is generally recognized there is a terrible fear of the unknown.

Concern of this type covers the spectrum from preservation of identity, to environment, to taxation. In a process as complex as that related to the best accommodation for future growth and development and the design of desirable units of local government, there is always a compelling attraction to propose a final solution in advance of a thorough analysis of the problem. My remarks are not intended to imply a restraint upon the expression of opinion, but they are intended to underscore a need for objective consideration and the avoidance of prejudgement; not only by the hon. members of this House but by all representatives who serve in positions of responsibility throughout the province.

In my comments regarding regional government I have deliberately avoided referring

to specific areas or regions. A study of regional government which embraces the ridings, or parts of the ridings, of several members of this House east and northeast of Metropolitan Toronto, is now under way.

The Oshawa area planning and development study is a unique experiment in participating democracy and the progress of that study is deserving of your careful future attention. It is unique in two important aspects. The study will permit integration of proposals for both future development and the framework of local government in which that development can take place. But of equal importance is the process whereby the proposals of the study will come, in very large measure, from an organization comprising many elected representatives, their staff members and special consultants. Although the study is a co-operative municipal-provincial undertaking, the emphasis which has been placed on local participation may very well be of great help to the government in deciding on the most suitable format for future studies.

A few weeks ago I expressed my own displeasure and concern to the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs because of his statement in late December, 1969, concerning the boundary between Metropolitan Toronto and the township of Pickering. That statement suggested a rigidity of position to which I could not subscribe. In my subsequent conversation with the minister I was assured that it was not, nor is it his intention in the future, to predetermine boundaries; but rather that he will have an open mind on the subject, at least until the results of the study are represented.

This government, Mr. Speaker, has continued over the years to provide the maximum for its people. We have undertaken many programmes, even over the past few years, without which there would not be the prosperity, development and growth that we hear so much about at all times.

Let us face it, Ontario is the most prosperous of all provinces, and this is mainly due to the sound judgment and the aggressive policies of this government. Often times, Mr. Speaker, the measures undertaken by this government come under direct and vicious criticism from the hon. members of the opposition. This is not sour grapes; it is the job of the opposition to provide constructive and necessary criticism. But it should be confined to constructive criticism which will benefit the people of this province.

In January of this year the Ontario government took over real estate property assessment in an effort to bring about a much-needed thorough reform of assessment in the province. Needless to say this reform will be of immense benefit to all the people in municipalities, as well as the province in general.

As we all know, under the old system the method of assessment was often extremely irregular and unfair. It frequently differed widely from one municipality to another, from street to street, from area to area; and even from assessor to assessor on houses and properties worth the same market value.

This, of course, was unrealistic and unfair. It was unfair to the individual because he was either paying more than he should have been or not enough.

Then, too, it was unfair to municipalities. The old system of giving grants to municipalities was chaotic, since each municipality had its own assessment procedures and levels. Consequently, under the new system the province will provide grants on a uniform basis, and one which will be infinitely more equitable.

Each municipality used different methods to assess tax bases, with the result that some did better jobs than others. While the province did its best to make the allocation of grants fairer by employing an equalization chart, the circumstances under which it was operating made its task almost impossible.

The takeover of assessment by the province of Ontario has many advantages in the equalization of the grant structure throughout the province. We must be very careful of some of the problems that have been and will be created by the new Assessment Act.

In the past year one of the municipalities in the riding of Ontario South found that by the system being carried out on the principles of the new Assessment Act there was quite a heavy shift in assessment from the industrial to the residential section of the municipality, which of course created some very grave problems for the municipality.

I am not suggesting that the industrial base should have to carry any more than its fair share of taxation, but it does seem very unfair when the shift in burden is moved from the industrial to the residential. This did create some grave hardships in a municipality in my riding during the past year.

During the summer of 1969 the government of Ontario appointed a farm assessment committee to study the total picture on farm assessment. This report has been completed

and is now being evaluated. In many municipalities where the reassessment has taken place farm assessments based on values have again created some very grave problems.

To give you an example, in the municipality of the township of Pickering where I live the average farm tax doubled from 1968 to 1969; not the assessment but the tax. This created an excess burden on the agricultural people in the area.

The farm assessment committee report is an excellent report and I would urge the government and the Minister of Municipal Affairs to implement most of its findings into legislation in the very near future, as it is essential if we are going to have people farming and producing food in the greater metropolitan area of Toronto and other metropolitan areas in the province of Ontario.

There are certain factors in the farm assessment report that should be considered by the government which were not really fully considered in the farm report. The overbuilt allowance should be taken into consideration. Many farm homes that were built over 100 years ago have no location allowance because of the location of the farm out-buildings, and a certain amount of depletion allowance for many of these older homes should be considered in The Farm Assessment Act. However, I would urge the government to bring into legislation as soon as possible on most of the recommendations of the farm assessment committee report in order that it may become law.

Mr. Speaker, one of the main reasons why I am especially pleased with this opportunity to second the Speech from the Throne with its reassuring programmes is that in my own riding of Ontario South our people have a direct interest in, and a direct benefit from, nearly all of these measures for continued good government. I say this because in Ontario South I served such a variety of interests that it could be considered a miniature province of Ontario within the boundaries of only 200 square miles. In my area are represented urban and rural people, big city commuters and farmers, industrial and office workers, residents of small towns, and those who are, for all practical purposes, suburban citizens of metropolitan Toronto. We have mushrooming residential communities which have replaced open fields with hundreds of recently developed homes, as well as those quieter four corners whose histories stretch back 100 years into Ontario's past.

Like most members I feel that I represent this province's finest riding. I know, too, that it would take much more practised words than mine to do full descriptive justice to the beautiful countryside and the wisdom and industry of the people of Ontario South. My riding, sir, must be well and favourably known to the hon. members of this House. They will recognize it geographically as that portion of the province which reaches eastward from Metropolitan Toronto in a band 12 miles deep—from the shoreline of Lake Ontario to the farming highlands of north Pickering and Whitby. Within that area of 200 square mles are 75,000 people on whose behalf I am privileged to sit and speak in this chamber.

One of the largest communities in my riding is the town of Whitby, where the traditions of maturity are blended most aptly with the vigour of youth and development, where new industrial parks sit side by side with century-old farms. More recently incorporated is the town of Ajax, not quite 30 years old, but representing one of this province's most modern, well-planned communities, enjoying a desirable balance of industry and residential growth, with great plans for the future.

My riding, too, has its fair share of those long-established smaller centres which have existed as long as this Legislature itself—Ashburn and Whitevale, Brooklin, Brougham, Balsam, Claremont, Myrtle, Columbus, Greenwood and Pickering – all centres of local community life throughout the less hurried agricultural and residential sections of Ontario.

I also want to identify those sections of my constituency that typify the fast spreading and ever growing progress that we enjoy—those communities along Lake Ontario such as Bay Ridges, West Shore, Fairport, Rouge Hills and West Rouge, that reflect the echoing influence of the dramatic surge of growth in Toronto and its adjacent areas.

When I consider the throne speech, and some of its benefits to Ontario, I identify very quickly with the fine record of achievement that this government has made evident in my own community. In transportation services we have the Macdonald-Cartier Freeway, Highway 2, and a number of other provincial highways all currently undergoing a programme of improvement and expansion to better suit them to our travel needs.

We have also the two eastern stations of our famous GO Transit service, a most welcome and efficient means of allowing large numbers of our people to reach Toronto quickly and at a minimum cost. Current plans

to make this train service even more accessible by means of co-ordinated bus routes and regularly scheduled feeder services will open the potential of the government's commuter trains to even larger areas and populations.

Ontario Hydro has also made its influence felt in my riding with the landmark installation of its atomic-powered generating station at Frenchman's Bay.

In education we have an enviable programme of new school building at all levels, and this has been extended recently with the addition of our community college—Durham College—which is providing a very real service to our community and surrounding communities.

In health and social service we enjoy the medical security of several recently built hospitals, and the comfort of the knowledge that our provincial programmes for assisting the troubled and less privileged members of our population are not exceeded anywhere in Canada.

Over the last year, continuous and impressive progress has been made in Ontario South, helped along to a gratifying extent by the generous assistance of this government. The decision to extend GO Transit service on a provisional basis to the north, east and west of Metro, will be of major importance to commuters in my riding and will provide vital rapid transportation between Oshawa and Metro Toronto in my area.

The government has also been of tremendous help during the past year in developing our other major services in Ontario South. For example, just to mention a few: the awarding of Equalization of Industrial Opportunity grants, which has brought new industries to Pickering township, which will help immensely in its industrial expansion drive; Ontario Housing Corporation has built senior citizen housing units and is planning family units in the town of Whitby; the province is assisting toward the cost of operation of day-care centres in my riding; a new sewage disposal plant was opened recently in my riding under the auspices of the OWRC; a new Department of Transport office will be opened soon to serve the needs of the people in my area. These are just a few of the things that have been done by this great government in the area that I represent.

In the fields of taxation and municipal affairs my people will welcome the suggestion that Ontario can manage its affairs in the coming year without any dramatic increase in taxes. That news, combined with the continuation and increase of the very real help of the municipal assistance rebate is a bright spot on an otherwise cloudy taxation horizon.

I am fully aware of the needs of my riding, Mr. Speaker, and that is why I continued my policies over the past year of fully acquainting myself with the problems of the municipalities in Ontario South. I held many meetings with the various municipal people, and when I felt it would be of further assistance, I also arranged for the council members to discuss their problems with the appropriate people in government. I am pleased that this policy proved highly successful in solving many of their problems.

Mr. Speaker, my riding of Ontario South has continued to develop and prosper under the wise policies and programmes of this government. We look forward with confidence and enthusiasm to a continuation of that progress under the most capable leadership of the hon. Prime Minister.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I listened to the mover and seconder of the address in reply, very carefully and with much interest.

Once we cut through the usual cloying compliments directed toward the Premier, who was absent for at least some of those discussions, I felt that both the hon. members made a worthwhile contribution. As a matter of fact, I suppose they are in a position where they can be somewhat independent, because sitting as they do in the far corner of the back row they cannot very well be demoted, and I think they have a special responsibility to speak out as backbench members and supporters of the Conservative Party in matters that concern them.

The member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith), in his reference to the need for government assistance for nursing homes, would get general support, I am sure, on all sides of the House, and it is to be hoped that the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) paid careful attention to his words. And the hon. member for Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman), particularly in his references to the problems of drug use and addiction among young people, put his finger on a problem that is reaching, if it has not already surpassed, levels of crisis importance, and I want to say something about that myself.

There is a tendency, certainly among the supporters of the government and the government itself and most notably by the leader of the government, to put the blame for any problems that might come in the way of a

provincial administration on the federal jurisdiction. I want to say something about this, because I, as leader of the Liberal Party in Ontario and Leader of the Opposition, have been criticized by those thoughtless politicians opposite who are too quick to say that we on this side apologize unnecessarily for programmes of federal origination.

I want to put to you, Mr. Speaker, and even to the minister of agriculture (Mr. Stewart) who has finally come out of his shell and perhaps out of his nap, that I believe the leader of the government and about five of his colleagues have worked a serious disservice, not only to the taxpayers of this province, but to the people of Canada, in their thoughtless and irresponsible response to federal initiatives that have been shown over recent weeks. I think it might be worthwhile to list some of these matters, because I am sure that those people I am mentioning sitting opposite might from time to time want to interject their own views on my interpretation.

It was just little more than a year ago we were treated by the Treasurer of Ontario (Mr. MacNaughton) to that famous speech in which he referred to the financial situation of our province as one leading to a fiscal nightmare. This was the first application of real pressure on the federal government, trying to convince it of the need for the transference of a larger fiscal equivalent for the use of this province. Before I go further, I think it should be well understood that of the budget of this province—which is in excess of $3 billion—fully a third is met by federal fiscal transfers and shared cost programmes that are already in use. I believe the Premier is wise when he says, or is reported to have said, that we must consider accepting the federal offer of accepting full responsibility for these heretofore shared cost programmes, if the *quid pro quo* is a reasonable transference of federal funds.

Surely this is an efficient way to fund a programme which in its inception benefited from this sharing of responsibility, but now that it has been established—and I would think hospitalization is one—the federal involvement is no longer required. The Premier said, "Will they agree?" As I understand it, the offer originally came from the federal level, and it is the provincial level that is dragging its feet about the acceptance.

But we are referring to the Treasurer's former statement that Ontario faces a fiscal nightmare. In a sense, this is ancient history, a statement made 14 or 15 months ago, but we have to follow it up, as it was designed to put unnecessary, and I would say irresponsible political pressure on those at the federal level and those in the committees that share federal and provincial responsibility. The net result of this "fiscal nightmare" was a balanced budget that was presented in this House just about a year ago, a balanced budget that was maintained in spite of the fact that the province undertook heavy new and unexpected expenditures.

Basically the newest and most unexpected expenditure was the necessity to paper over the problems that the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) found when he imposed the county school boards without consultation or without any sort of an experimental run in a programme of that nature.

I have said it before and I will say it again in the Treasurer's presence, Mr. Speaker—and I use the adjective "hard nosed"; I suppose it applies to him better than anyone else in those benches, a hard nosed Treasurer, a seed merchant from Clinton—and as a farmer I know how tough those men can be—that he was put in the position where he had to write a blank cheque for his colleague who sits at the far end of the Treasury benches because of the disfavour into which he has fallen, because of his inability to administer these complex new programmes.

Following the fiscal nightmare, we came to the famous "MacNaughton balanced budget", a budget which he said was achieved only by dint of very careful administration. It maintained itself even though he was forced to find an additional $48 million, an amount of which even he did not know the precise size until the fiscal year was half completed. The members know the way he did this. Well, I suppose there were two strings to his rather limited bow: the first was the acceptance of federal medical insurance money—$176 million—but more than that, the Treasurer's undoubted inability to predict the revenues of the province, and in shooting at a prediction a year ago, he fell $90 million short of the amount that was forthcoming in the actual accounting that was given to the Legislature, I believe in December, 1969.

This was the first act in this programme of crying wolf. You might call it the fiscal nightmare syndrome, or the gambit which was designed to squeeze out of those intransigent federal Liberals a few more million dollars to be added to the $1.10 billion that is already forthcoming from the federal treasury in support of provincial programmes.

The same sort of attitude was carried through this year as well, because the same thing has been happening in the last few weeks. This was discussed perhaps too extensively in the question period two days ago.

I refer to the padding, the cooking of the books on the part of the Treasurer of Ontario in making his submission, Mr. Speaker, to the federal-provincial tax structure committee.

For years under good old Tom Kennedy and good old Les Frost the Conservatives established a reputation *par excellence* for administration. Maybe they were heartless, maybe they could not see the needs of those less fortunate in the community, but before any other government in Canada with the exception of some of the federal administrations, the Kennedy-Frost jurisdiction developed the reputation of being hard-headed businessmen, and in fact conducting the business of Ontario as if in fact it were a board of governors operating a substantial business.

But that has gone by the board, because the people sitting opposite were able to tell this Legislature that in fact this is the way they do their budgeting, that they simply take the gross amounts that come in from the rising expectations of the various ministers, put them all together in a big bundle and ship them down to Ottawa and say, "This is what we expect to do in the forthcoming year in the province of Ontario". It is not only fraudulent, it is ridiculous, it is unworthy of a government that has the reputation for administration that this government had until the advent of the county board fiasco a year ago.

As a matter of fact, the amount of padding, the misleading figures that were sent to Ottawa amounted to about $350 million. How far the Treasurer has come from the days when he used to stand behind that counter and dole out alfalfa seed at about $1.20 a pound. You know, things have changed; that great mind-expanding experience of sitting in the front bench has really robbed him of his good judgment and he, himself, has become a party to the Premier's nefarious plan—a nefarious plan, and there is no doubt about it—to overplay the responsible position that Ontario must play and must put forward in the negotiations with the government of Canada.

I would say, Mr. Speaker, that it was only a few hours after the submission was made to the tax structure committee that the Premier himself, sitting around that table—there were no television cameras here for him to play to as he has done on some occasions—announced to his—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): You are on every night.

Mr. Nixon: I try to be; sometimes I miss out. But it was on that occasion—and of course he went immediately out to the press and told them the same thing, if his assistants had not already done so—that he announced that in spite of the $350 million deficit prediction that was being fed into the Ottawa computers to perhaps plan the development of the tax reform at the federal level, we in Ontario were not only going to have a balanced budget, but, as the hon. member for Ontario South just mentioned, a balanced budget without new taxes, and without any deterioration in services.

I would say that any reasonable observer would tend to think that there was a credibility gap in the statements made by the leader of the government, and his right-hand supporter, the Treasurer. They are using up their credibility in dealing with the government of Canada, and their opinions as to the need for tax reform are, in fact, slowing up that process even more than it has been slowed up in Canada and in Ontario.

This government has been mounting a major campaign against the federal white paper proposals on tax reform. It went into the finance ministers' meeting in early February predicting that the reforms will produce $1.3 billion more revenue than the existing system—about double what Ottawa predicted. This is a real problem because surely any government can make a mistake. We know that, having watched this government in operation for some time.

Instead of walking away from it, as Mr. Trudeau and his Minister of Finance might have done, and saying, "Well, these are the proposals we put forward, and Ontario, of course, is working on another project that is not necessarily to scuttle tax reform but to get more money for their purposes without taxing themselves," they said, "All right, let us have some kind of a reconciliation on this. We will send our experts to Toronto, the people in Toronto can send their experts to Ottawa, we will get together and figure this out." We have been treated to this situation in the newspapers where neither the Minister of Finance nor the provincial Treasurer, I think, have come out with any great laurels around their foreheads by saying, "Well, why does he not meet with me," and this sort of thing.

But I just want to read one or two excerpts from a publication which is not usually recognized as being a supporter of Liberals wherever they happen to be, either in office or in public affairs. I am just going to read

three excerpts from the February 9 edition of the *Financial Times of Canada*. Before I do, I would think one of the most unfortunate decisions taken by the leader of the government of Ontario was when he decided that his unfortunate counterpart, the Leader of the Opposition in Ottawa, needed some special help. Do you know what kind of help he gave him? He sent down the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White).

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: He sent him down there to sit in that closed meeting in which poor Bob Stanfield was finally pumped up, two months after the fact, and sent out across Canada.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: I sometimes wonder who is helping Bob Stanfield now, but I notice that the Minister of Revenue is back in his seat in the Legislature because even Stanfield could not put up with him for very long.

So now I will quote from the February 9 edition of the *Financial Times of Canada*, from an article by Michael Cassidy, entitled "Some Progress Made Despite Feuding". I have three paragraphs. The first one is as follows:

> Ontario has mounted a major challenge to Finance Minister Benson's tax white paper. It reckons the reforms will produce $1.3 billion more revenues than the existing system, about double what Ottawa estimates. The Ontario figures are suspect, but they serve to undermine the credibility of Mr. Benson's proposals.

I quote further from the article:

> Once they start using the same assumptions, their figures will probably be fairly close, but by then the damage will have been done. The aim of Ontario's exercise was to embarrass Mr. Benson, to strengthen the province's case for a greater slice of federal revenue. The white paper promises to yield about $165 million more than present taxes on the 1969 base, but Ontario's figures indicate the yield will be $550 million higher.
>
> Its figures also do not stand up under analysis. Mr. MacNaughton's team estimated $375 million tax increase from increased basic exemptions and a new rate schedule under the white paper.

In parenthesis, I will say that I am skipping one paragraph which in fact gives more detail than I can understand. But to go on:

> These facts alone account for $100 million of the discrepancy between the two estimates. Another $100 million is explained by Ontario's large underestimate of the lost revenue from the white paper's three per cent deduction for employment expenses. Ontario has estimated that only 40,000 families will claim the proposed $500 child care deduction for working mothers, whereas Ottawa estimates a more realistic 300,000 families.
>
> The apparent errors in Ontario's forecasting all tend to increase the revenue gain forecast from the new system. More realistic estimates, that excluding the mining revenues which will not be significant until the end of the decade, would leave Ontario's figures not more than $200 million higher than Ottawa. That is within the range of forecasting errors and not enough to embarrass Mr. Benson.

Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to say that this author is the final authority in matters such as this. I look forward to the reconciliation of the figures that have been brought under suspicion by the Treasurer of Ontario, but my point is this: Ontario's involvement in the tax reform initiative from the federal level has all been of a negative, retrogressive type. Its efforts stem from the original, unfortunate pressures of the "fiscal nightmare" statement. They went on to the over-estimation of Ontario's deficit—which the Premier said would be zero but which the Treasurer says will be $350 million—through the exercise which I have just described, in Ontario's attempt to draw into suspicion those figures that have been brought forward—not by Mr. Benson as the Minister of Finance, but by those people who are hired, as public servants, to do this important research on behalf of the government and the people of Canada.

The government has been mounting this major campaign for reasons that, I suppose, are selfish; reasons which we, as members of the Legislature, support in their principle but not in the means which have been brought to bear. Because we are Liberals, and we are prepared to be proud of that in the future as we have in the past.

This by no means requires us to support the Liberal government in Ottawa in all of its pronouncements, but surely it is our responsibility not only as Liberals, but as taxpayers in Ontario, to draw to public opinion the effect that the irresponsible approach taken by this administration is having. We have

waited a decade, and longer, for significant tax reform in Ottawa and in Ontario. There has been no significant reform proposed here. I want to talk about that a little later and probably in some detail when we hear the Treasurer's 1970 budget, but I do want to say something more about this matter from remarks that I have prepared.

We have a very expensive computer system here. The Treasurer and his advisers hold seances with it from time to time. This was the machine that predicted that fiscal nightmare; it is the machine that added up the padded accounts from the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) and the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) and the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), and even the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) no doubt—which resulted in the $350 million misrepresentation at Ottawa. This is the same computer that underestimated provincial revenue just a few months ago by $90 million.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, the Treasurer's record is abominable, and certainly the credibility gap rests on his shoulders as much as on his boss, the Premier of the province.

The attitude on the part of Ontario threatens to hold up the course of tax reform at Ottawa and in our province to the detriment of our taxpayers, and certainly to the detriment of efficiency in government.

Further to these deliberate attempts to cloud the discussion of tax reform, the Premier and the Treasurer of this province have also, by their seriously misleading and conflicting statements, thrown a giant smoke screen over all tax reform proposals; and as a matter of fact have used federal initiative to excuse themselves for lack of initiative at the provincial level.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that any discussion of the federal white paper on tax reform should be considered with due attention paid to the provincial white paper on taxation released as part of the 1969 budget statement in March a year ago. In it the Treasurer announced the province's intention to levy a separate provincial income tax in Ontario, as well as a capital gains tax if Ottawa did not act first. And for all of his complaints about a capital gains tax, the citizens of Ontario had no chance whatever. Because the Treasurer, and the Premier backing him, said in this House that if Ottawa did not move we were going to have one imposed at the provincial level—of course at nominal levels of taxation.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Exactly.

Mr. Nixon: In other words, Mr. Speaker, we would have a tax but there would be no money to pay. You understand, Mr. Speaker, that this is the way the Conservatives like to have it, both ways at the same time.

Ever heard that phrase before?

In a rather weak attempt—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: In a rather weak attempt to save the rather thoughtless, but precise, statements of the Treasurer in his white paper, the Premier on his return from his Japanese-Hawaiian vacation indicated that there was not anything positive in a provincial income tax, that it had been merely a suggestion. But, Mr. Speaker, I put it to you; you were present in the House and listening as attentively as I a year ago when the Treasurer, for two hours on television—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Two hours and 20 minutes.

Mr. Nixon: —gave his presentation. He specifically said there would be a provincial income tax. When the federal white paper was issued—

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): The member is so wrong, but I will not take the time to interrupt him.

Mr. Nixon: Feel free!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: All right, Mr. Speaker, in that event I will feel free to say that is a complete misquote. I did not say that at all. This is about the fifth of these so far, but it is all such old straw that I do not think I will bother anyway.

Mr. Nixon: Is that the extent of the Prime Minister's interjection? Does he mean that is all he has to say about that?

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That is awful.

Mr. Nixon: All right, Mr. Speaker!

When the federal white paper was issued the Treasurer, as you know, lauded the proposals in this House on November 10, 1969; and I feel that I would like to remind you of his words specifically, and I quote from *Hansard*:

> I personally must commend the Minister of Finance the Hon. E. J. Benson, for his concern to develop much greater equity in income taxation.

You know now he says there is too much equity. I quote further from the Treasurer:

> I believe his proposals on balance will be applauded by the majority of the Ontario people.

This was before the Treasurer had heard from John Hull and John Bullock and John Bassett and John White—and even John Robarts. Since that time, of course, he has changed his views.

I quote further from the Treasurer's comments at that time:

> The proposed revisions to the personal income tax base will produce a much improved measure of ability to pay. The inclusion of capital gains in taxable incomes is a significant reform which relates directly to Ontario's earlier proposals.

He wanted to get in on a good thing, you know. I quote further:

> We are convinced that the federal and Ontario white papers provide a substantive base for positive and constructive negotiation toward the development of a better system of public finance and harmonized tax reform.

And further:

> I am pleased, of course, that the federal objectives of tax reform parallel those set out in Ontario's white paper.

Mr. Speaker, the Tory government in this province used their favourable reaction to the federal white paper to announce the death of the separate income tax idea, which of course was extremely unpopular and which would have been a major election issue if they had stayed in such an untenable position.

I believe, actually, that the Minister of Revenue, having come fresh from his own committee experience, had sold the administration a bill of goods on the need for a separate income tax. The idea had sprung full blown from his brow and somehow or other, at a cabinet meeting or somewhere, these people had taken the bait and swallowed it whole. It is now, a year later, that they have finally regurgitated it; and I think they are very wise to do so, because anybody examining our tax system realizes that while there is crying need for reform at three levels, one of the reforms is surely not a second income tax payable at the provincial level.

Now if this government, including the Minister of Trade and Development, is seriously interested in much greater equity in income taaxtion—as the Treasurer has indicated—then these activities are irresponsible statements indeed. The misleading information that has been forthcoming from Ontario to the tax structure committee, the cries from the Premier that "there are great socialist overtones" to the white paper must cease. As a result of the white paper—and here I suppose I am acting in the role of apologist, if by that you mean putting forward some facts—as a result of the white paper 700,000 people on low incomes will be removed from the tax rolls, 3,000,000 will pay less taxes in Canada, 3,000,000 people will pay more taxes—and that is the government and most of their friends I presume—and 2,000,000 people will pay the same taxes as under the present system.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: They have more millionaires per square inch over there than we have in our whole group.

Mr. Nixon: The Premier might call it socialism; the Treasurer calls it too much equity. I call it a very just principle on which to design reform of the tax system.

Hon. J. White (Minister of Revenue): Now we know where the member stands; four square with the white paper!

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): His deputy leader does not stand there.

Hon. Mr. White: No? Well, he applauded!

Mr. Nixon: After careful study of the white paper, I have indicated my support for the principle that was just enunciated. I have also been frank about those proposals with which I have some disagreement. Surely this is the constructive approach to the discussion of such important matters which should ensue from any white paper, a paper designed for discussion.

Perhaps we should take more time for some of the parts of the paper that I think will be improved and changed, and even withdrawn.

For example, I cannot see that the five-year revaluation approach is workable—I am not the only one that has said that, and I say it here and I have said it publicly previously. I further believe that if the government at Ottawa is going to proceed with the removal of the tax exemptions for smaller businesses that it must be accompanied by other programmes, federal and provincial—

Hon. Mr. White: They get the revenue; we get the cost!

Mr. Nixon: —which will improve the atmosphere for the development of business; smaller than the area that, for example, to which EIO caters, which latter are largely those international concerns like Kraft food. I think there will be another opportunity to debate the provincial approach to the provision of a climate in which small business can grow, but this is a matter of concern as it affects the white paper and it would only

be fair of me to express my concerns at that time.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Tell us about it now.

Mr. Nixon: The interventions of Ontario are certainly not in the interests of the co-operative federalism—if I can use that phrase; It's a pretty old one now but still a good one—which must be the backbone of a sensible far-reaching tax reform which must take place, not only at the federal level, but in the provinces and in the municipalities.

The Premier of this province must come forward and demand the best possible tax reform for the benefit of the province and we are prepared to work with him to do that. I refer specifically to some matters that were mentioned by the Treasurer a year ago, and as far as I know they are still in abeyance.

What are we going to do about succession duties at the provincial level? Are we negotiating with the government of Canada in order that we turn over to it the full responsibility in return for—if I call it an abatement, the member for London South will get excited—but for a share, at least, in the funds that would be collected. What are we doing to end shared-cost programmes, and is this government prepared to accept the invitation of the government of Canada to go its own way in conducting the administration of these expensive and growing programmes? I believe we should—

Hon. Mr. Randall: How many points?

Mr. Nixon: I believe we should, and I sincerely hope that the budget that is now but a few weeks away—we will hear it just when we return from our Easter recess—will contain some positive statements in that regard.

Hon. Mr. Randall: How many points do we get?

Mr. Nixon: Unfortunately, the head of this government is using up his political capital by launching a campaign to thwart the reform of taxation in this country.

Mr. Singer: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nixon: There are those who have irresponsibly called for an election on this issue, an election two and a half years after the last one, and an election which I would predict to you, Mr. Speaker, if the Premier so foolishly accepted as a challenge, he would lose.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: So why is the member talking us out of it?

Mr. Nixon: That is the kind of advice he gets from Allan Eagleson and John Bassett, and believe me I hope he has got a wider spectrum of political advisers than that.

Hon. Mr. Randall: He is just putting off the inevitable.

Mr. Nixon: The government of this province has held up deliberately and overtly the process of tax reform at a time when the need is not for playing politics but for honest, hard bargaining around the table at Ottawa and in the various provincial capitals.

The only so-called reform in taxation that has been put into effect in this province, despite the availability of the report from both a federal and a provincial royal commission on taxation since 1967, is that political plum, the basic shelter exemption, the homeowner's grant, which in the view of the government of Ontario was tax reform. To be fair, I remember when they accepted it a few weeks before the provincial election, they also undertook to pay the costs of the administration of justice, which has been accomplished and that was very worthwhile. But the continuing aspects of reform, in the guise of the basic shelter exemption, leave much to be desired.

Precisely what it involves is the overtaxation of close to $140 million extracted from tax base of this province. It goes through the gentle hands of the bureaucracy, and particularly the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) and is fed back to the public about a year later, about Christmas time, in the cause of tax reform. We do not accept it in this guise. I have referred to this as a political bribe, and that is precisely what it is.

I would predict that before the next election, if the Conservatives stick with the shelter exemption, the homeowner's grant, it will probably be raised to $100. They have seen how well it works for W. A. C. Bennett out west; we have seen what is happening in other provinces, and I believe the homeowner's grant is now up to $150 out there. They raise it $25 each election, and out there they have elections every three years. This is not the kind of administration we want in this province and it is certainly not the kind of tax reform that is so seriously needed.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nixon: Time passes rapidly. I was first elected to my seat in the House here early in 1962, a few months after the present Premier achieved his high office, and one of the first

statements I heard him make was the appointment of the Smith committee, the royal commission on taxation in the province. Then year after year, as we simply extended the tax rates a few more cents on liquor, and another per cent on the sales tax, with little better agreement from Ottawa, this sort of expansion of tax income and the programmes grew the same way. The administration through the Premier would always say, "Well, we have this high-powered committee examining into the whole matter of reform." The committee finally reported in 1967, almost three years ago, and still we have not been treated in this House to any approach to far-reaching or meaningful reform, and this is a very serious matter indeed.

It may be a political matter but it is far more important even than that. I believe that it is mal-administration on the part of those gentlemen sitting opposite, particularly the Treasurer, who must carry on his shoulders the main responsibility for equity in our provincial tax system. If we are going to have taxation reform, and we must have it, it will involve close co-operation of this province with the government of Canada. It will involve the continuation of the exchange of ideas and the interrelation of the tax bases of our province and our nation. This will bring about the principles of equity which are basic in the white paper. The government of Canada has moved, the government of Ontario has not.

Mr. Speaker, another matter closely related, which I want to deal with, comes from the federal-provincial conference and the statements arising or emanating from it two weeks ago. That is the situation regarding inflation and the undertaking of the province of Ontario to deal co-operatively with the federal government in restricting and relieving inflationary pressures. I was much struck, actually, by statements made by the leader of the Ontario delegation who indicated in a rather quiet way that he was concerned not only with inflation but also the bogey on the other side of the coin—unemployment—leading to what we used to call, I guess, depression, or at least an economic downturn.

I come from a community centring in the city of Brantford. The member for Brantford (Mr. Makarchuk) does not happen to be here this afternoon, but he could verify what I say, that the businessmen and the labouring people in that town are very much concerned. Fifteen hundred to 2,000 have been laid off from the farm implement machinery plants on a short term basis, I suppose—

Hon. Mr. White: That is what Mr. Trudeau wants.

Mr. Nixon: They are laid off, and there is some definite concern. A real balance between the relief and mitigation of inflationary pressures and planning for what may be another sort of a problem must be a part of the basic concern of everybody in government or any member representing a constituency. But the province of Ontario has indicated that it will co-operate with the federal government in the fight to control inflation. We sincerely hope that the co-operation in this area will be much greater than that accorded to tax reform.

Any action against inflation must begin with the government's own spending programmes, cutting back on unnecessary expenditures and diverting that money into vital programmes or simply not spending it. The government could begin by revamping health care in this province to make it administratively efficient. I will refer to that in more detail later.

Another step is to make use of the central purchasing agency, which I would like to remind you, was designed to save $10 million in provincial expenditure each year. I would like to re-read into the record of this House an exchange which occurred on the final day of the last session, December 17, 1969, when the Premier tabled answers to questions of my colleague, the member for Wellington South (Mr. Worton), concerning the central purchasing agency. When these questions were followed up a day or two ago, it was obvious that the Premier had not read his answers before tabling them because he was completely nonplussed by the information that was put to him at that time.

Q. What are the names of the officials and their salaries in the central supply division, Department of Public Works?

A. Seven employees, salaries total $90,166.

Q. What is the full cost of the operation on a monthly basis?

A. $13,130.

Q. What is the amount of purchases undertaken by the division during the last 12 months?

A. Nil.

This is surely an indication of the lack of commitment of this administration toward governing its own affairs toward efficiency and administration, but it is only one example and there are others. It was easily two years ago when the Treasurer, perhaps in another capacity, was still defending the methods used by the administration in making its purchases. We have a purchasing department in each

department and this decentralization of responsibility is bound to accrue to the benefit of the taxpayer.

Then he had a great change of heart—a great change of heart—in which he announced that they were bringing into being a central purchasing agency in this province, and he predicted the saving of $10 million. It was many months, and under repeated questioning, before he was able to announce that in fact personnel had been hired, that the programme was moving forward and the expected savings were simply then a matter of allowing these people to do their duty.

Now, what happened? At that point, the pressure from some of those people perhaps sitting behind the administration came into play: "Do you mean to say that our people, let us say down in riding X, are not going to be able to deal directly with The Department of Highways or The Department of Lands and Forests; or we are not going to be able to deal directly with the Housing Corporation?"

"That's right, that is what it implies. Central purchasing means that without regard to political ramifications or customs entrenched over 26 years of patronage, that the purchases are going to be made to get efficiency and save taxpayer's money."

But, no, the Treasurer and the Minister of Public Works could not withstand the pressure. As a matter of fact they even changed the Minister of Public Works, probably, at least in the back of the mind of somebody, to get a new approach to this very important matter.

But the new man is just like the old man—pardon me, the former Minister. They are not prepared to move away from the practices that have served them so well and so long, and I do not mean purposes of efficiency.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The member is making assumptions.

Mr. Singer: Drawing the obvious conclusion; the only one!

Mr. Nixon: There is a second example, of course, which lies precisely on the Treasurer himself, and that is his productivity improvement programme. I will not spend a lot of time with this, although I do not feel particularly put upon to save time, but I do have a lot of things to say, important things.

The productivity improvement programme was one of those things that was dreamt up, I believe, by the public relations advisers to the Treasurer, or to the government, and it was brought forward with much fanfare.

We on this side had been calling for the use of the private sector for taking an external, objective view and assessment of the business of government. The last time it was done was when Walter Gordon did it in 1959, and most of his recommendations were completely ignored.

The minister now says he is going to do it again. It is not going to be objective. He is going to have these people from within the department, a number of deputy ministers and others, who are going to be hired to look into their own affairs, to look into means whereby they can improve the efficiency of their own departments. Finally, when the appointments were made, six months after the original announcement, most of the deputies did not know anything about it at all. We were assured and we were reassured, Mr. Speaker, that there would be interim statements as the various departments came under the review of this so-called PIP.

It has been working for six months and I have not heard of any interim statements yet. I do not know whether this has been any assistance to the government. . . .

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: What does the member mean, six months?

Mr. Nixon: Six months!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Can the member not count? Where has he been?

Mr. Nixon: Sure I can count. Does the minister know that the announcement was made 14 months ago!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: We are giving the minister the benefit of the most liberal timing that we possibly can. We are talking about the efforts to moderate and control inflation; you know once the Premier takes the lead there is a tendency for all the other fellows to get into the act if they can. One of these actors opposite never misses, and that is the Minister of Trade and Development.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: The minister responsible for housing has always claimed credit for housing expansion in Ontario, even though 90 per cent of his funds come from federal sources.

Hon. Mr. Randall: And they are paid back with full interest.

Mr. Nixon: He is now claiming, Mr. Speaker, that growing Ontario unemployment is entirely Ottawa's fault since Ottawa is not controlling inflation.

Hon. Mr. Randall: They are loans; do not forget that!

Mr. Nixon: Ottawa, he says, is spending too much money on public buildings which, according to this minister: "We need like a hole in the head". Those were his words.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: I would like you to examine, Mr. Speaker, Ontario's anti-inflationary measures beside the ones I have already described.

Our Centennial museum, and I admit this is a bit of ancient history now, but still our Centennial museum, which cost $30 million, opened last fall, three years late.

A new Ontario exhibition building rising on stilts out on Lake Ontario by the exhibition grounds, built without a Toronto building permit until the last week, is going to cost us $13 million.

A new building for the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education on Bloor Street was built on a lease-back basis, which according to the Minister of Education is a very economic basis at $2 million per year for 30 years. By new math, Mr. Speaker, or even our old math, that still comes out to $60 million; but as the Minister of Education answers, it includes janitorial services.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Another example, if you want one that is perhaps not self-liquidating, is the $24 million office complex at Queen's Park, built right next to the $36 million office complex completed just a year ago.

This is certainly some programme of financial restraint! I would say to the Minister that maybe it is his attitude and his expressions that we "need like holes in the head"; and I was glad to see that the editors of the *Globe and Mail*, although they did not give attribution to the remark pointed that out publicly.

We believe, Mr. Speaker, that while we must bear in mind what I said in my remarks at the opening of this session, that the situation could turn over even before the end of this session, that is by next November or whenever that occurs, but meanwhile we will be very much concerned with unemployment which is expanding at a very serious rate, a very serious rate.

Hon. Mr. Randall: The member is now!

Mr. Nixon: Since the Minister of Trade is interjecting, I would draw to your attention that he is the man who is solely charged in this province, through the funds that are made available by this Legislature, to create an expanding economy in such a way that there are enough jobs to meet the requirements of this province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: There are 60,000 unemployed in Ontario right now, and he sits back with his feet up and says somebody else is responsible.

Hon. Mr. Randall: That is what Mr. Trudeau said.

Mr. Singer: They are awfully sensitive today.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, you might rule me out of order in the next point I want to make, since it has been briefly discussed and voted on in the House, but under these circumstances I want to briefly bring to your attention that it is our view, in the Liberal Party in Ontario, that there should be a standing committee of the style that we put forward in our amendment to the committees' motion a day or two ago. This in fact would be the counterpart to the prices and incomes commission at the federal level, which would expose to public view those changes in costs affecting the cost of living in this province. I am saying to you, sir, that it is a working proposal. It is an alternative that we should adopt and I urge the government to reconsider the views expressed by the leader of government—

Mr. Speaker: I have no objection to the hon. member making brief references to it, but I would say that he is quite out of order in raising for reconsideration, a matter which has already been decided in this session.

Mr. Nixon: I accept that, Mr. Speaker, but I simply wanted to emphasize at this stage in my remarks that we were not just being critical, and I believe fairly critical, of government programmes but we were prepared to offer viable alternatives to their lack of action.

I think when we are discussing inflation we must accept the fact that most people in the community have been able to conduct their affairs so that they personally have not been seriously hurt by the effects of inflation. That certainly is true for all of us in this chamber, even the minister of trade—

Hon. Mr. Randall: The member must be kidding.

Mr. Nixon: —who is now getting $36,000 out of the public treasury before he starts traveling around the province—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member looked after himself pretty well.

Mr. Nixon: All right. That is the very point. I have said that we have looked after ourselves here, and there is no doubt in my mind, Mr. Speaker, that most of the working population, whether they are in the labour force or the professional force, schoolteachers, or anybody else, have been able to keep one good jump ahead of the expanding costs in this province.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Not altogether true.

Mr. Nixon: There are two general exceptions to this rule, and the first is the farm community—I will talk about that again—and the second is another group that I want to refer to briefly now. We have called them "the new poor" because they are newly poor. They are those retired on pensions and living in this province of opportunity—

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): They are not new.

Mr. Nixon: The interjection from down here is that they are not new. I would say that they are newly poor because most of these people have worked a lifetime. They have given a lifetime of service to fund and establish for themselves a pension which, of course, is fixed on the day they retire. Then the effects of inflation take over and those people who were looking forward to a retirement, a life of some pleasure and some dignity and some freedom, find that the availability of this sort of life is eaten up by inflation, and in fact they face many years of worry and concern, and approach the public agencies for assistance.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The white paper does nothing for them.

Mr. Nixon: The government of Ontario must accept its responsibility to those of our province who are most affected by the results of inflation—those living on fixed incomes and old age pensions. These people find rising costs and rising interest rates most difficult to bear, since they have no comparable rise in income to offset the increase. These are people to whom the government must direct much increased attention and assistance. The government must make clear and simple the right of exemption from local education practices for pensioners.

We took part in a debate in this House three years ago that gave them the right to some assistance only if, under the generosity of the Conservative Party opposite, a lien is registered on our estate. This is obviously not good enough, and for that reason we opposed the government legislation at that time. Guaranteed income supplements are inadequate. Supplemental payments to pensioners over 65 years should be increased so that income will reach at least the poverty level as defined by the Economic Council of Canada. This can and must be done in Ontario, the wealthiest province in Canada.

Now let me speak specifically about two or three things I want to mention here. There is no reason why Ontario, in its position, cannot step away from the rest of the provinces and say for the citizens of this province, "We are prepared to make these concessions and have these special programmes of assistance." There is precedent for it. As a matter of fact, the last time it was done was when a good friend of most of us, hon. Farquhar Oliver, was minister of welfare. It was at the end of the '30s when the federal assistance was not sufficient, according to the view of the government of the day, and in very hard times indeed when there were budgetary problems that the members over there could not possibly imagine—

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Or handle!

Mr. Nixon: They made the point that they had a commitment to these people and they made additional payments so that they could at least live out their years in some comfort and dignity.

I happen to know, Mr. Speaker, that the chairman of the Treasury Board has his heart in the right place on this issue. His responses to a similar appeal a year ago brought forward from him the statement that he realized that this was a severe problem indeed and that the government was concerned about it, and there have been changes in the superannuation position for teachers. I would say that they are inadequate, and will have more to say about that afterwards, but we cannot say that the government has been immobilized in this connection.

But what about the hundreds of thousands of senior citizens who do not have access to pensions controlled by the government, and

this is most of the people in the community. They sit back and say, "Look what the government has done for this group and that group". We must surely have a general approach in policy and legislation which will meet this need, and I am saying to you, Mr. Speaker, that it must come about. This is one area where a hold-the-line position is simply inadmissible and unacceptable.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Did the member not hope the white paper would do something about this?

Mr. Nixon: I would think that the Treasurer, above all, would be concerned with the provincial white paper. It has been knocked into a cocked hat. What has happened to it? It has disintegrated. He is not doing anything about his own reform.

With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I want to make a personal allusion. About three weeks ago when I was opening the mail at home on the farm, I noticed that I had two separate communications from the Health Insurance Registration Board. One came in an orange envelope, and when I opened it, it said that I owed them $33 for the quarterly premium for the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, that was payable for the three months beginning next June, and that I should make out a cheque payable to the Health Insurance Registration Board and remit before about five days had elapsed.

When I opened the green envelope, also from the Health Insurance Registration Board, another form informed me that I owed the Treasurer of Ontario $44.65 for three months' premiums for OHSIP which would cover the three-month period beginning, I think, about four months in advance of the premium notice, and they wanted the money sent back within, I think, about nine days.

I got these two separate communications in the same mail. I made out two cheques, one payable to HIRB, and one payable to the Treasurer of Ontario, and I made what may have been an unforgivable error by putting the two forms, all with the little holes punched in them, and the two cheques in one envelope and sending it back. I figured I had better save the six cents. I have a feeling that Dr. Aldis and the Minister of Health and the rest of them are up there now trying to sort out the problem that that may have brought to their attention.

I had no sooner made those payments which I am quite willing to make, although I would prefer to make them as tax payments—when I had a phone call from a former student of mine, a very bright young girl indeed who had married and gone to live in New Brunswick. She had just come back to Brant county with her husband and she said, "I am in some difficulties here, because in New Brunswick we have combined services, with no premiums to be paid, and this is supposed to be a portable plan. Now I find that although I am expecting a child in about six weeks from now, when I get in touch with the provincial authorities, they are quick to tell me that I have a three-month waiting period."

I should tell you, Mr. Speaker, that we were able to waive the waiting period, whether or not the original communication had been sent out in error, but here is the problem that we are having as private members.

We are citizens of a province with a programme that really should be one of the best in Canada, but which has developed into a chaotic circumstance. The government's programme for health care must be completely revamped. OHSIP is another programme which satisfies neither doctors nor patients, and one which places a severe financial burden on those working poor and others of our population who can least afford the costs, the highest in Canada.

Adequate health care is a right. We do not have to argue that here. The people of our province are justified in demanding the best system of health care and they do not have it in Ontario. An adequate plan should cover 100 per cent of medical expenses, it should be administered by one central non-profit government agency; it should be financed from the corporate and personal income tax base of the province.

An adequate health plan should be an integrated plan. OHSIP should not exist apart from Ontario Hospital Services Commission, and the Health Insurance Registration Board should not operate apart from the other two. Thus, certainly its function of co-ordination is not being fulfilled. One central agency which would administer medical and hospital insurance in this province is a necessity, not only from the point of view of administrative costs, but from the point of view of providing service to the people. The government of Ontario should, through the central health agency, initiate the use of a simple credit card for the 7,000,000 participants as part of a computerized accounting system. I have mentioned this before; it is an idea that somehow attracts me very much. I can never find that little strip of paper that is sitting in the

drawer at home that covers my whole family. Whenever anyone needs some assistance, there is always a wild scramble—where is the card? If it were in there with the cards I now have, the same shape, the same sort of thing, when I went to hospital or went to the doctor, I could go flip, flip, and all of the information would be available and sent away and the bills would be paid. Why can the government not work this out on a more efficient system? With an estimated 24 million claims a year, the provision of such cards can only increase administrative efficiency. This is a small thing, but it is something I wish could be done.

We believe that the doctors of this province are entitled to their full fair fee for medical services. However, the public interest would not be served properly if the medical associations were allowed to set a fee unilaterally, without adequate compensation. They can do this now but the law requires notice that they can do it unilaterally. Therefore, the Legislature's standing committee on health should be empowered to meet with the officials of the Ontario Medical Association before any changes are made in the association's fee schedule.

I would like to say something more about nursing home care. I do not believe it is necessary to repeat the arguments that have been put forward so well and forcefully in the past by several of my colleagues, including the member for Huron-Bruce (Mr. Gaunt) and, most recently, by the mover of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Hospital costs are something that will concern us in the budget that will be forthcoming.

The Premier, in his statement that taxes would not go up, qualified this a bit when he was asked specifically about hospitalization premiums. It appears that the costs now are rounding out in a very broad average of between $45 and $70 per day. Any research that we have available will indicate that the actual hotel costs are substantially under $10 a day and are probably not too big, and that the great massive increases to these costs are almost entirely associated with the move to pay an adequate wage to those people who have been working at inadequate salaries for so long, and beyond that to provide the tremendous list of services and tests that are often required when patients enter a hospital.

These costs, of course, are averaged out on a *per diem* basis for all patients, and must obviously point out to the Treasury Board and the Minister of Health, who does not happen to be here this afternoon, the crying need for a spectrum of facilities, a range of facilities, so that not everyone who requires special care must enter a hospital with all of the high costs associated with it.

These matters are of grave concern and I would say that while OHSIP and the administration is obviously an important matter, a political matter, there is every reason to expect that even the administration opposite, which is often blind to these obvious needs for change, will make changes in ample time. We do not expect this to be a big issue when the election rolls around in a couple of years from now—or even this spring, whenever it comes about—because no government can face the people, being the author of an administration such as this, without improving it.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier earlier, in some of his remarks in the last few days, was talking about the fact that all politicians are getting on the pollution bandwagon, and I think he said something about the fact that pollution was on the lips of everyone. I thought it was unfortunate phraseology but, nevertheless, it is true that politicians have finally realized that the citizens are demanding much more than has been forthcoming either from this administration or the administration in Ottawa. Pollution control must receive the same priority in the '70s as education did in the '60s.

I well remember the day when the former Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) rose in the Legislature to introduce Bill 71 back in 1967, just a few weeks before the 1967 election. I can almost hear that tone that the member for London South normally gets in his voice on those occasions when he says, "How do you like that, eh?" "How will that sound on the hustings?" It was that sort of approach, because it was obviously an election gimmick. It was anti-pollution legislation designed to get votes. The bill set out a programme of provincial responsibility for the control and licensing of disposal dumps with related penalties for offenders. That was 1967; he was here.

At the time the bill was introduced, we accused the government of electioneering and questioned if the bill would ever be passed into law. In introducing the bill, the minister said, and I quote:

> With the enactment of this Bill 71 and of the regulations, Ontario will have legislation that is more advanced than any in any other province of Canada and indeed in most of the United States.

The bill was never proclaimed. That was the thing that allowed somebody over there to go up to the blackboard on those television commercials when they wrote out pollution control. He wrote "Done."

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: The government still has not done anything to control pollution.

So, Mr. Speaker, the bill gathered dust for three years. Now the new minister responsible for pollution has resurrected the ghost and plans to reintroduce it under his own name.

We must face up to action on phosphates, a major contributor to the death of our waters. We want action now, and unilateral action by this province if it is necessary—and frankly I believe it is necessary, and I am referring specifically to phosphates. We cannot wait for a consensus before action begins in our provincial home. We want phosphates banned from detergents which are manufactured, advertised, sold and distributed in Ontario. The phosphate content in detergents should be limited to 20 per cent by no later than this summer.

I want to read you an alarming report on lake pollution in the situation in southwestern Ontario, and the following is a quote from that report:

> These waters are seriously polluted in many places on both sides of the boundary. The most serious pollution exists in the St. Clair River, below Port Huron and Sarnia in Lake St. Clair along the west shore, in the Detroit River below Belloisle and in Lake Erie, particularly at the west end. There is a progressive overall degradation of the water between Lake Huron and Lake Erie. There is a transfer of pollution from each side of the boundary to the other. There has been injury to health on both sides of the boundary.
>
> A potential menace is present where waters polluted to this extent are used for domestic purposes. They are in such condition that they cannot be safely used as a potable supply without complete and continuously effective treatment. These waters are so polluted in many areas as to render them unsafe for bathing purposes. This damage is not only reflected in cases of typhoid fever and other reportable diseases but it may include enteric ear and upper respiratory infections.

I am reading from the report of the International Joint Commission written in 1948. I draw to the members' attention that the International Joint Commission was not only prepared to make that sort of an exposé of the problems of pollution that long ago, but following the formation of the commission in 1910, it undertook similar studies and in 1918 predicted that if the governments in the Great Lakes Basin did not take effective action, Lake Erie would be ecologically dead by 1928.

There are several purposes in my taking the time of the House to make statements that are in fact extracted from periods now sometime in the past. The first is that those people who have been given the responsibility to deal with these matters have been aware of the levels of pollution in the Great Lakes system since 1918, and secondly, that the International Joint Commission is still holding hearings in Sault Ste. Marie, Detroit, Windsor, Hamilton, Toronto, and up and down the Great Lakes Basin.

Frankly, I question the ability of the joint commission to take effective action to control pollution in time to improve the quality of life, particularly as it relates to water pollution, during our lifetime. Nearly 20 years later, as I said, little has been done to correct the situation, and so much has been done to make it worse, that the joint commission began to investigate last year to see why the recommendations of the 1951 treaty had not been implemented.

I suppose an obvious case in point, Mr. Speaker, is the action brought by the Ontario Water Resources Commission against Domtar, one of the largest pulp and paper producers in Canada, for continued pollution of waters running into Lake Superior at Red Rock, Ontario. The water resources commission had to get permission from the new minister responsible for pollution in the province in order to bring these charges. OWRC had tried to get such permission from the former minister without success, but finally under the new approach by the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, charges were laid. A conviction was obtained and the judge ordered the maximum fine allowable by this government or by the laws of this province, $1,000. And in his own words: "This is a licence to pollute". It was an obvious statement on his part, and I have heard representatives of the government opposite being severely critical of The Canada Water Act which is before the Parliament of Canada now, an Act which in my view does not by any means fulfil all the requirements of modern federal legislation, but still at least it has fines of $5,000 a day for those industries found guilty of pollution in this way.

So certainly we want stringent fines, not $1,000 maximums, for those industries which continue to pollute water through industrial waste. Many people have been sent to jail for causing much less damage to society than

polluting a lake. Jail terms are needed! You people over there are too dove-ish. It is time to bring out the hawks in the war against pollution. We must be firm in establishing a priority of a clean environment. We will not be able to argue from our graves in the next century that we simply could not afford it.

I perhaps should be more specific. The pulp mills obviously are one of the most serious sources of pollution. They are also one of the most important sources of employment in the development of northern natural resources. I am not just sure how many mills there are in Ontario, but I believe there are about 31 major pulp and paper mills in Ontario; and none of these presently meet minimum government standards, none of them. None of them are within range of meeting those standards, even though the minister responsible has said repeatedly that they are on what he refers to as acceptable programmes of pollution abatement.

I remember sitting in this House about 1965 and hearing the former minister (Mr. Simonett)—where is he from—the member for Frontenac-Addington, tell this House that under his leadership in this area the pollution, the industrial pollution would be abated by 1969 and 1970. We now find that he had a programme that did go forward through the Ontario water resources commission, designed to clean up the pulp and paper pollution. It set a deadline of 1967, I believe for primary treatment; 1969 for secondary treatment, which would in effect have abated the pollution to the level where it would no longer be such a menace to our northern waters.

Of course that former minister has gone on to great heights, he is now Minister of Public Works—we now find in 1970 that not one of the 31 pulp and paper producing plants in this province come up even to the primary standards as set by this government. A lot of talk, a lot of statements; but no teeth in them! No regulations, no rules; and only this charge against Domtar was brought forward as an indication of at least the intentions—good intentions—which I am prepared to accept, of the present minister.

But this is not good enough, and I think that these are the facts and figures, the statistics that must be a part of any assessment of this important matter.

In the matter of air pollution, we believe that Ontario Hydro has no more right to pollute the air than an industry has to pollute water. Ontario Hydro must be required to reduce the concentration of sulphur dioxide from its sulphur-fuel generating plants to levels which no longer endanger life.

The danger level set by the provincial government has frequently been exceeded in the last few years. We are still waiting for the present Minister (Mr. Kerr) to live up to his commitment, made to me in the Legislature last fall, of informing the public. I perhaps should spend more time on this, but he made the statement that the pollution levels in major urban centres would be reported publicly so that we could involve public opinion in the expenditure of moneys, and it is going to take a lot of money to approach some sort of an abatement solution.

The effects of pollution in this province can be easily defined and the sources can be easily identified. We have been too tolerant of industrial giants who are quick to rationalize that adoption of anti-pollution measures is not financially feasible.

I have two concrete solutions I want to bring forward. And I must say to you, sir, that one in particular has been debated in this House before. I believe that it is going to be necessary to make public funds available to assist industries to clean up the pollution resulting from their operations if it can be proved that they cannot undertake this abatement by the use of their own funds or their own availability of capital. It is going to be necessary to assist these companies which are in fact unable to meet the financial commitments required in fighting pollution and still maintain present production level.

The provincial government should make available low cost loans, over the specified timetable for each industry, at two per cent less than current prime rates. This means that we will recover the money that is used, or most of it.

We are putting some public funds into a programme that is designed to clean up the environment. The advantage, of course, is to those of us living in the community now; but if we continue to set 15 and 20-year goals then we are not living up to our responsibilities to our friends and neighbours, those people who have elected us to these positions in the Legislature.

These loans of which I spoke would be made available only to companies which after exhaustive examination can prove that they are financially incapable of meeting the anti-pollution requirements. The loans would be applicable to the installation of anti-pollution devices and the conduct of anti-pollution research for the industry.

Accompanying the provincial revolving loan fund would be a programme of tax writeoffs for larger companies which are ineligible for loans.

Of course this has a federal involvement as well. And furthermore, all sales tax on anti-pollution equipment must be removed immediately.

Now I have already indicated, and this is something that I feel strongly about, I already have indicated that I have grave doubts that the International Joint Commission is ever going to get to the point where they will bring forward a programme which is going to effectively meet the needs of the Great Lakes basin. I say again to the Premier sitting opposite, that it is his responsibility to convene a conference of his opposite numbers in the American states, all of whom have the same political pressures on them, all of whom are making the same commitments—and some of them better commitments that are being made in Ontario.

The approach in the Great Lakes basin can and must be integrated; we are not going to continue saying that we are clean on the north shore of Lake Erie, if the people down on the south shore, Cleveland and so on, are the culprits. This is undoubtedly true, but why can we not have a conference in which the sources of pollution are pinpointed? Why can we not approach this with this international co-operation, which I submit is not going to be achieved by the International Joint Commission.

It is not going to be achieved at the two federal levels either. Naturally they have to make boundary water agreements and treaties.

The Premier knows that there is precedent for this. I will remember the conference on lake levels that he himself called. As a matter of fact, I told him at the time that it was political grandstanding, and so it was, but this is different.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member thought of this, therefore it is different.

Mr. Nixon: Not at all, not at all!

As a certain federal politican said at the time: "Robarts can have his conference, but the good lord is going to affect the lake levels."

I am afraid that we cannot count on the good lord to clean up pollution. It has got to be done by men, it has got to be done with integrated programmes and it has got to be done with the expenditure of money.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member is always telling us to leave the federal government alone. Let them keep their surplus and tell us how to spend more money.

Mr. Nixon: As a matter of fact I think it was Mr. D. S. Caverly, Mr. Speaker, who was considered by people on all sides as one of the best public servants in the province, who was criticized—by somebody, I do not know who—criticized publicly for going over to the United States and making statements on behalf of the Ontario Water Resources Commission on these matters. I was offended that he was criticized and publicly said so, because we in Ontario have the major responsibility. If members think of the map of the Great Lakes basin we share it with, I think, nine states; and of course—how many?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Eight states and one province if the member includes Quebec.

Mr. Nixon: Well all right!

While we are quite prepared to urge the federal administrations to get into this, and have the joint commission hold more hearings like they did in 1918 and 1958—all of them very valuable—I think the real political decisions, the real commitment of money and programmes, has to come from the states and this province.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: At the same time, do not help us to get any more room for revenue from the federal government.

Mr. Nixon: Oh!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: At the same time he protects his federal friends.

Mr. Nixon: Once again, Mr. Speaker, the concern of the people is evidenced by such groups as Pollution Probe and GASP who have far outstripped the leadership of the government of Ontario. To illustrate the effectiveness of these groups I would like to read, as an aside, a note from Susan Ford's column in the *Telegram* of Saturday, February 28, on this week's citizen, Pollution Probe:

> Don't those amateur commissions know anything? Not only did the two-day hearing cost virtually nothing—maybe $200 at the outside—but they actually came up with their conclusions on the day it ended.
>
> Don't they realize this sort of thing just isn't done? At the very least they should charge a royal commission type fee, like

> $1,000 a day; and make the hearing last two years, by which time the air will be unbreathable and the lakes unswimmable.

I do not know who Susan Ford is, but I thought it was quite an interesting thing for her to say. You see the picture there, and all the papers played it up.

The chairman, whose name eludes me, was a very academic looking chap with his glasses down at the end of his nose. There were other people, half of them bearded, and they were all looking at the person on the witness stand with a real air of inquisition on their faces and in the air. This was just a group of citizens who had somehow got hold of one of the committee rooms down at city hall and were holding very meaningful examinations into the decision made by Ontario Hydro that the only way to deal with sulphur dioxide in Toronto is to build a 700-foot stack and spread the pollution out over a larger area. They came to the conclusion that that was not good enough.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: So all concerned citizens, the voluntary groups such as these, are holding commissions of enquiry. What is the government doing?

They laughed at us the other day. We said: "Let us have a select committee that is going to find out about these things". The government tells us from day to day what they are doing and what they are not doing, but we sit here and have to take their word as some sort of gospel.

We read in the newspapers about Domtar. We read in the newspapers of what the judge says about "a licence to pollute". I think there should be a committee of this Legislature charged to go out around this province. We are elected to get this information, and when the best source we have is the newspapers, good and all though that source may be there is nothing we can do at all. I also would like to have independent access to the sort of hearings that should be conducted if we are going to rate the government's action; and believe me, from the information we have now it rates very poorly.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): They are afraid of a select committee.

Mr. Singer: Sure they are!

Mr. Nixon: I want to quote, Mr. Speaker, from an article in the Toronto *Daily Star*, January 23, 1970, entitled: "Pollution War Feared Peril to Erie Boom", datelined London, Ontario. And I would ask for attention; it is important.

> An Ontario Water Resources Commission spokesman today warned the International Joint Commission that the province is opposed to antipollution restrictions on population and industrial development which might jeopardize an expected industrial boom along Lake Erie.

Think about that! OWRC is opposed to antipollution restrictions along the shores of Lake Erie. The article continues:

> The possibility of future growth restrictions around the lake was raised in a report by a commission advisory board as to measures to combat serious pollution in the lake. Two major Canadian steel companies and an oil company have plans for multi-million dollar plants along the lake and other industries are expected to follow.
>
> D. S. Caverly, general manager of the OWRC, mentioned the province's concern over any move that might affect Lake Erie development in a statement prepared for delivery at the IJC's hearing here today. In his paper to the commission hearing at the University of Western Ontario, Caverly charges that some United States are dragging their feet in the war on pollution. He singled out New York for allowing raw sewage to enter the Niagara River from Niagara Falls and industrial pollution from Buffalo.

Two points here. Number one, Mr. Caverly was involved, as he should be. He was stating what amounts, surely, to government policy, that the government is against the kind of pollution control that would affect the north shore of Lake Erie. Simply because the Americans got there first, and they are making the south shore filthy, we have got the right to make the north shore filthy.

Some hon. members: No, no!

Mr. Nixon: And while I have the highest regard for the gentleman—

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): On a point of order.

Mr. Caverly made the point that these are international waters and Ontario has as much right to have industry on the north shore as the United States has on the south.

Mr. Nixon: That is the point.

Mr. Root: Now, my point of order is this that we now have about 10 per cent of the

industry on the north shore and no industry is going in there until they submit satisfactory programmes for treating their wastes. We want the other side of the Great Lakes to clean up the way we have cleaned up in Ontario. And for the member's information, there have been over $1,997 million worth of treatment works approved since the OWRC programme started.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has raised his point of order and he is now straying.

Mr. Nixon: I am certainly glad to hear the interjection from the member for Wellington-Dufferin, because it is a very helpful one.

The point is this: the north shore of Lake Erie is still largely farmland; you drive along No. 3 Highway, you climb out of your car, and you can climb over the fence and walk through a cornfield right to the edge of the lake. Believe me, this is an opportunity that is ours and we are going to lose it very, very quickly.

Now if we are going to follow the policies of OWRC—I should not pin it on them, the policies of this government or maybe the general manager of OWRC—that we have as much right to pollute that as the Americans have, then I say that that is a serious error.

Mr. Root: I did not say that we have the right to pollute. I said we have as much right to put industry on the north shore of Lake Erie as the United States has on the south.

And I also said that no industry will go on the north shore of Lake Erie until they submit satisfactory plans to our industrial waste branch indicating that they can control any pollution from the industry.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: May I just ask the Leader of the Opposition one question?

Mr. Nixon: Sure!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would just like to know whether, in the last few remarks, he is suggesting that it is the policy of his government that there will be no industrial development on the north shore of Lake Erie.

Mr. Nixon: The Premier wants my policy; I am glad he asked that question.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I just wondered.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt very much if the Leader of the Opposition could answer that question; because the question was, "was the policy of his government"; and I am not sure what government he is leader of.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: A slip of the tongue, Mr. Speaker; but I just wondered, if it is the policy of his party, then that they will ban all industrial development on the north shore of Lake Erie. I just wonder if that is what he has advocated.

Mr. Nixon: In answer to the question from the Premier, I would say the following.

Mr. Stokes: He has not made up his mind yet.

Mr. Nixon: Design for development is the phrase reserved for the government's approach to province-wide planning. It already has a chequered history of interdepartmental overlapping and empire building. Lack of clear-cut leadership and guidelines from the cabinet committee chaired by the Premier has resulted in confusion, waste and inefficiency as The Departments of Municipal Affairs, Treasury, and Trade and Development all seek a prime position. We are expecting The Department of Mines to get into this argument fairly soon.

The lack of a provincial plan for the development of the southwestern peninsula has become a matter of immediate concern. Ontario Hydro has already expanded its original plan for development at Nanticoke on Lake Erie to a $400 million installation. Actually it is bigger than that, I believe. The original one was $285 million, and recent announcements would put it well over $400 million for one Hydro plant down at Nanticoke. It has been joined by the Steel Company of Canada and Texaco refining in selecting that as a site for industrial expansion.

Now the Steel Company of Canada has postponed its decision for one year, although it has the land and it is proceeding with the collection of capital. Texaco refining, on the other hand, after being practically kicked out by the good citizens of Burlington, the home town of the minister of anti-pollution measures, did get acceptance from the planning board, and probably the OWRC, to locate at Nanticoke as well, as they are going ahead with one of the most modern refineries in the world and dumping their phenol into Lake Erie.

A few miles down the lakeshore, Dofasco has announced plans for a new steel and industrial centre.

If industry is allowed to continue making —here is the answer to the Premier's question —if industry is allowed to continue making the basic planning decisions for our province, then the whole north shore of Lake Erie will

be a withering pollution belt by the year 2000.

A provincial plan should designate areas set aside for industrial growth in the areas of greatest expansion as the centre of economic growth moves into the western peninsula, and it is. I tell my friend, the member for Oshawa, that he is now part of the "golden horseshoe," but the main industrial and economic growth is going to move westward from that horseshoe into the main southwestern peninsula, and the minister of agriculture is already putting a price on his farm.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): That will not matter because we are going to have wall-to-wall factories.

Hon. Mr. Randall: You are getting them now.

Mr. Pilkey: The Minister of Trade and Development said so.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Nixon: This provincial plan should have dictated the decision to oversize water, sewage, and docking facilities at Nanticoke that Ontario Hydro had to build anyway, so that it would become the centre of industrial growth instead of it being sprawled indiscriminately along the shore.

There is a difference between the view that I hold on this and the view that might be expressed by the party to my left. We do not feel that the province of Ontario, through any of its departments, should say to any industry, "You must locate there," but we do have the power as a Legislature and as a government to bring forward the facilities and the plans which will naturally direct the decisions taken by expanding businesses into those areas where they must locate.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: All right. So, we can provide any industry, Mr. Speaker, with treated water, sewage disposal, good transportation, including access to the seaway, and yet this government missed the boat. It just said, "Hydro, you go in there, build your plant." A couple of others went in—Dofasco 15 miles down the line—and I would predict to you, sir, that if nothing is done about this, if this government stays in office, there will be a pollution belt going from Buffalo right through to Windsor along that shore. OWRC, or at least the man who speaks for it in this House, will get his wish and we will have the same kind of industrialization that they have on the south shore, and I do not want that.

The next step in this plan must be the designation of the Niagara escarpment for provincial zoning and eventual acquisition. I am sure everybody would agree with that. In its general geographic location, it would run as a ridge right up through the centre of the province. Exactly the same long-range decision must designate a Lake Erie parkway which will eventually set aside adequate public lands and lake access from Fort Erie through to Leamington and Windsor. We can make the decision now.

I said a moment ago that you drive along Highway 3 and in some places that road is not the one you would like to drive on, but you can walk right down to the lake. The farmers farm the land—

Mr. T. Reid: You can even walk on the lake in some areas.

Mr. Nixon: Well, some politicians can, oh, yes. But, Mr. Speaker, it is there, and we are not just going to zone it so the farmers are frozen and lose the advantage of the developing value of their land. We cannot do that, can we? I point to the minister of agriculture. Surely he would not want that sort of a programme. But the long-range decision—and it does not have to be so long-range, certainly not for the escarpment and this parkway—the long-range decision to do this as a part of a plan for Ontario must be made now. I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, that it will be made, if not by that government by a Liberal government.

Mr. Singer: Next question!

Mr. Nixon: The concept of the Minister of Trade and Development of "wall-to-wall" industry in southern Ontario is completely unacceptable. The robber-baron approach that puts industrial expansion ahead of pollution control and planned communities has no place in a modern concept of government responsibility for planning the community of Ontario. Think about it. You are going to let the member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root) put all of the refineries and steel plants along the lake and you are going to let the Minister of Trade and Development—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is very unfair.

Mr. Nixon: It is not unfair; he is going to let it spread right through the peninsula.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The leader knows it is not so.

Mr. Nixon: That phrase "wall-to-wall" industrialization is going to sink more ships because nobody wants it—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Proper designation of industrial growth areas, bolstered by the availability of facilities for water, sewage, transportation and power will permit us to maintain our valuable farm lands and a mixture of rural and urban living opportunities all within commuting range of modern economic opportunity. As a matter of fact, that is a very good paragraph that the members opposite should have been listening to. This can never be achieved—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: This can never be achieved without a plan for Ontario that sets the quality of life ahead of raw industrial growth.

Hon. Mr. Randall: The member has a great writer over there.

Mr. Nixon: The minister is right. I sure have, one of the best; I wrote it myself.

Mr. T. Reid: It is a heck of a lot better than the throne speech.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that the comments typified by what the minister of trade said do not bother me. This is my own stuff and I believe in it.

Any useful form of municipal government must be preceded by the adoption of a policy of decentralization and a reform of local grants. A clear division of responsibility bolstered by unconditional grants is the basis of meaningful democracy at the local level. The Conservative government has demonstrated its philosophy of centralization through the new Assessment Act and through the imposition of regional governments without meaningful consultation.

It is too bad that neither the Premier nor the minister is here to hear me say that. We want power to be given back to the people. Surely meaningful reform of municipal government, regional or otherwise, must be predicated on the reform of the system, whereby dollars are put in the hands of municipal governments so they can carry out their responsibilities with something more than just a nod at local autonomy.

The plight of the cities in their fight for real home rule means that our cities would not be second-guessed by the Ontario municipal board or by The Department of Municipal Affairs in matters concerning the provision of basic services. Real home rule means that urban areas would have the right to set their own capital budgets and run their own show.

We have all visited the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs down at 801 Bay Street. You go in there and he has got seven floors of experts, and the closer you get to the top the more rarified become the decisions that are made until finally when you get up to the top floor there is only one man there and he does have tremendous powers over the decisions taken by our municipalities.

We are prepared to argue with him, Mr. Speaker, when he comes forward on a policy basis about regional government and the centralization of assessment, but it is also our responsibility to bring to the attention of those sitting opposite and to anybody in Ontario who will listen, the centralizing tendencies, the autocratically centralizing tendencies that this government has exhibited through this minister and others in their relationship with local government.

Today our Ontario cities are operating with a municipal structure that was fairly effective 100 years ago. In 1970 when 85 per cent of our people live in urban areas, our provincial-municipal relationships are really anachronistic. The Conservative government's fragmented and unco-ordinated approach to the problems of the cities has been a constant frustration. We believe that a cabinet committee, headed by a minister of urban affairs should be set up to deal with urban problems in a co-ordinated, comprehensive manner.

Mr. Speaker, they made a bit of a bow to what they thought might save their political vision in the north by designating that personable new minister, who has had the responsibility for mines, with some responsibility for northern affairs. I do not know how he is going to get along with the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) or some others, but I think the conflict is pretty good. They do not have the nerve, they do not have the vision, to do the same with the designation of a minister with special responsibilities for urban affairs, and I believe this is even more essential.

Our municipalities must be relieved of 80 per cent of the burden of education costs—not just one half, or not even just 60 per cent—if they are to meet the costs of providing even basic services well. I well remember when this was debated on the hustings—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Now he is going back.

Mr. Nixon: I am talking like a very old politician indeed, but I can well remember, Mr. Speaker—perhaps you took part in the debate at one level or another—when the proposal from the Liberal Party was that over a period of five years the budget of this province had to be adjusted on a basis of priorities to extend 80 per cent assistance on an average to the cost of education. The people over there said, "Where are you going to get the money?" Precisely the same place that the government must get the money now that it has accepted the priority of transferring 60 per cent in three years. It simply has to make the priorities conform to the policy decisions of the administration, and it essentially has bought the programme that we put to the people and which the government was not prepared to debate at the time of the 1967 election. I am glad that in its old age, it at least got a bit of wisdom but unfortunately it still does not go far enough.

I had the great honour, along with the member for York South, of accompanying as observers, the delegation from Ontario to the public federal-provincial conference last December, and I had a chance to shake hands with the municipal politicians who had been invited by the Premier to be a part of the delegation. I had the impression that they were—I do not know what the phrase might be—but sort of show mayors. They sat back in the third row and people would say, "Gee, that is Ab Campbell, you know, he is in the Ontario delegation".

But if this sort of an approach is going to be meaningful—and surely the premier must agree with me—we should have the sort of conference at the federal level where at Ontario's initiative, if at no one else's, the agenda will include urban matters, and when they come up for discussion the seat beside the Premier will be occupied by Ab Campbell, or someone else selected by the government of Ontario in consultation with the municipal organizations, who can take part in that discussion, and can speak for the needs of municipalities. I believe that the Premier was just indulging in a little window dressing in bringing along—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is what the member always says.

Mr. Nixon: All right, I will say it again. And what were they there for? Did the Premier consult with them? Did he say anything that they said? Why did he not bring them up to the table? It was window dressing.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I just, as always, have to correct the Leader of the Opposition. It was not window dressing, it has happened many times before. There have been municipal members of delegations at federal-provincial conferences as long as I can remember, so to say it is window dressing is just another piece of window dressing by the Leader of the Opposition.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Try again; that did not get you any votes.

Mr. Nixon: The government of Ontario must press for the inclusion of city problems and urban representation in federal-provincial discussions.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Tell that to Mr. Andras.

Mr. Nixon: Representatives of municipal governments should be allowed to participate fully in all discussions of federal-provincial-municipal problems. There is no doubt in my mind that when the agenda for the next federal-provincial conference is circulated, if the Premier of Ontario indicated that he wanted certain urban problems discussed, they would be, and he could have at his side any adviser he chooses, and I would suggest that Ab Campbell would do a better job than the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

In 1967, as part of our election platform we said, "A Liberal government will start this programme by convening a conference"—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: What Liberal government?

Mr. Nixon: The one that the Premier was talking about.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Nixon: "A Liberal government will start this programme by convening a conference this year of the Premier, his cabinet, provincial experts, and key representatives from the province's municipal government." We did not debate this either. I presume that the people opposite agreed because now that we have come up to 1970—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: What is he quoting from? Where is all this coming from?

Mr. Nixon: It comes from the Liberal manifesto. The Premier read it; surely he read it. This is one reason that if we are going to serve democracy, when a provincial election comes along, the Premier must not get up on

that Olympian cloud and refuse to recognize that there are other politicians in the province. I do not know why he does that, because this is an area which I felt was a very important part of the alternative that we offered the people of this province. It contained a political promise to convene a provincial-municipal conference at which all the wardens and mayors and as many others as could be fitted in, would be called to Toronto for this kind of negotiation.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Very familiar ring.

Mr. Nixon: Does that sound familiar? We would have done it in 1967. The Premier might even have got the good idea if he had taken part in reasonable debate, as he should as a democrat, but now that we are just moving into the outer fringe of the next election, I can see all of the planning that is going to go into the Tory municipal conference. I think it is a great idea, I am glad that I am going to be invited, and I intend to take part, but it is going to be the sort of window dressing that the Premier does not like to be accused of.

He is not going to come forward with any plans or programmes; it is going to be an exchange of ideas in the science centre, and it is going to be laid on with everything that the group of people that usually sits over there attending on the Premier will be able to bring forward. It will be a great conference, and there will be others. I will tell them it is a good idea, but it is three years too late. It may even be later than that. It is later than the government thinks anyway.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Is that the best the member can do?

Mr. Nixon: I am just telling the government where the best ideas around here come from.

There is always a compulsion on the part of people taking part in the throne speech to cover the waterfront, and I certainly do not want to miss this opportunity to say something about recent developments in agriculture. I am glad the minister (Mr. Stewart) is here because I think some of the recent matters pertaining to the industry have not been dealt with effectively by this minister and I want to say something about them now.

I believe that the facts associated with the federal commission on farm machinery, the Barber commission, as they relate to this province should be brought out publicly in hearings held by the legislative standing committee on agriculture, and these hearings should commence immediately—at least, as soon as we can convene the committee. The documented charge of the federal commission is that the cost of farm machinery, particularly tractors, to Canadian farmers was artificially raised by what appears to be collusion among the major farm machinery industries. This has added a very heavy extra cost of doing business to the hard-pressed farmers of this province.

The federation of agriculture has taken an important initiative in arranging for the private importation of 250 tractors, more by now, and some other items of machinery from England and also from other sources, at considerable savings to the farmers who avail themselves of this service. They have found that by buying the tractors in England and paying the cost of shipping, they are still able to make savings of $2,000 and sometimes $3,000 on each tractor.

I am very concerned about this. I have heard that in an effort to, let us say delay the programme of the federation of agriculture, the serial numbers of the tractors have been taken down as they are being put on the ships or taken off the ships and reported to the farm machinery agencies. Through these serial numbers, the tractors were traced to the dealers in England who had the nerve to sell to somebody for export, whether they knew it or not. Those particular dealers were disciplined financially, I presume because of this action.

It came to the point where the federation had to have plates welded over the serial number discs that are on all farm machinery. In other words, they actually had to act as if they were buying on a black market to prove the point that farmers in this province had been suffering the financial pressures of unnaturally elevated farm machinery prices.

More than anything else, even more than the Barber report, the actions of the federation have actually brought this to public attention. It was not until the federation started to import tractors, thereby putting pressure on Canadian distributors, that prices started to come down. They have not yet come down to the point where costs are equal in Canada and in England. Labour costs are not a factor, since there are practically no Canadian manufacturers of tractors.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food was well aware of the efforts of the federation to pressure tractor manufacturers to reduce their prices, yet the department failed to take any meaningful steps to assist the farmer.

I would say further that the Minister of Trade and Development shares the culpability for this lack of action, because he has trade delegations in England at all times. This surely would have been an area in which his undoubted ability to promote trade would have been effective.

A careful examination of all the facts in a public hearing, so that farm periodicals and the media in general have access to the views expressed by all sides, is the best way to bring the pressures of free enterprise to play in the solution of this problem.

There have been other solutions put forward by the leader of the NDP, who agrees with certain recommendations that have come really from two sources, one from the farm income committee . . .

Mr. MacDonald: Chaired by the deputy minister.

Mr. Nixon: . . . and the other put forward by the Barber commission as a possibility. While these may very well in fact be the final solution, if I may use that phrase, still I am convinced, as a free-enterprising farmer myself, that the anti-combines legislation and the real competition that must be a part of doing business in the agricultural industry, like every industry, is really our best solution.

When I phone up an agency I do not want to talk to an employee of the government. I do not want to tell somebody who works for the Minister that I am buying an implement, or I want to have repairs on a Saturday afternoon when a baler is held up in a field. I certainly believe that this sort of approach is not needed in our agricultural industry.

I am convinced that if we use the facilities at our disposal, federal legislation and the standing committee on agriculture to make these facts known, we can apply the sort of pressure which will return real competition in price, and maintain the kind of competition in service which serves the farmers best.

I must admit, Mr. Speaker, that I did add a section to this speech, that I want to refer to now, which is on a different subject and which I believe has reached crisis proportions. It concerns me, as a legislator and as a parent, and I have to give full credit to the hon. member for Ontario South, who referred to it in his speech today and Friday, and also in some other statements he has made.

I refer to the drug problem in the province of Ontario. It is not my intention to give you the benefit of any research, which I have not done, which will show that it is even worse than we think it is. It is not my intention to berate any member of government for not taking some action which should have been taken which would alleviate this, but I do have some things to say as the member for Brant, and as a parent, in an effort to let us say spark the kind of discussion which has got to take place here if we are going to reach some kind of an accommodation with a problem which is literally exploding.

I read the articles in the Toronto *Star* over the weekend. Most of the publications have been referring to what has been happening in New York and Chicago. We may be shocked and horrified but there is always the feeling that the situation does not apply, to Paris District high school for example, and that fortunately we are avoiding those problems.

It was not until I had a chance to read a series—I believe there were seven articles in the London *Free Press* by Del Bell, who is also in our press gallery, that the immediacy of the problem came home to me.

We all know London well, some of us better than others; and we are perhaps aware that the pressures for conformity and Calvin Coolidge-style normalcy are greater in London than in almost any other city in this province. Still, this series of articles, which were written, I think, after careful research by the author, gives some shocking details and information that should be available to us all.

I am not going to read them by any means. I have three or four paragraphs that I want to bring to your attention, and then a brief statement in connection with them. Some paragraphs are more appropriate than others, but I have selected these and I intend to read them to you.

This one is from the London *Free Press* of February 17; the heading is "The Drug Scene" by Del Bell of the *Free Press*:

> On the seventh floor of Victoria Hospital, which is the psychiatric wing, there are 10 kids who know what speed is all about. Since last summer when speed really exploded on the London scene, Victoria has been almost alone in its attempts to salvage the lives of kids taking the speed runs.
>
> Speed is methydrene. About 30 of them have passed the seventh floor, and there are many more of them out on the street who desperately need help.
>
> How many? No one really knows, but the people who are closest to the quietly rotting drug scene say there could be as many as 300 who are in trouble or on their way and do not know it.

This is from the *Free Press* of February 18.

> During the period from July 26 last year to January 15, there were 60 cases of trip-drug overdoses seen at St. Joseph's and Victoria Hospitals. Actually, there were 71 overdoses recorded, but 11 were repeat efforts.
>
> The statistics are from a research study on suicide attempts currently underway. Researchers decided to include a special study on trip-drug overdoses when they started to emerge as a significant element. The biggest number, 30, came in the 15 to 19 age group. There were four cases in the 10 to 14 bracket.

And this from the London *Free Press* of February 20:

> People like Gary Carrothers, programme director of the Hardy Geddes Boys Home, finds it hard to understand why so much of the underground regulars can know of the few really big pushers yet they are never knocked off by police.
>
> "I think cops must go around with earmuffs on their ears," he says. "You hear the kids talking and you hear the same names over and over again."

At the Geddes Home, all 14 boys have been involved with drugs. Carrothers feels there is a crisis in London and says the home, which handles youths from 16 to 20, has had to reject 50 referrals already simply because they could not handle them.

Further, in the same article, one sentence I quote:

> There haven't been any arrests in London for trafficking in speed.

Then the *Free Press* of February 21:

> Victoria Hospital is trying desperately to cope with the speed syndrome, but it is not unlike trying . . .

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Not legal!

Mr. Nixon: What?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I do not think it is legal.

Mr. Nixon: To traffic it is, not possession!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Speed is, unfortunately difficult to control.

Mr. Nixon: Trafficking, trafficking! Well the minister makes a good point.

> Victoria Hospital is trying desperately to cope with the speed syndrome, but it is not unlike trying to cure a cancer with a small bandage.

It is not of course that they are not making a courageous attempt; it is simply that the problem is so complex and rehabilitation something that is virtually beyond the hospital's control—such a vital factor—that about all that they have been able to do is to salvage a few kids' lives.

Most of the time—unless kids can be squeezed into special homes, and this is virtually impossible because of the long line already waiting to get in—they just drift back on to the speed scene. Within a couple of months they are on another trip that can end only in jail or a second stay in the hospital or death. A further quote from the same article:

> Then there is the Hardy Geddes Home—I previously referred to it.
>
> —for boys, and programme director Gary Carrothers thinks that it is starting to work out. It has only been operating for six months but the house is right in the heart of London and the drug scene is all around them so everything becomes just that much more complicated.
>
> They are trying to get a farm as a sort of halfway home for boys on their way back to society that will be totally isolated from the speed scene. The farm will also be used to involve them in a work environment again—and even something as obvious as this is not a simple thing by any means.
>
> Almost inevitably, it all comes back to what is needed most: a drug treatment centre for teenagers.

And this is in London, Ontario. A further quote:

> Unless there is a drug centre available soon with top staff and resources that make followup action possible, it is just going to get progressively worse.

And the final excerpt from the articles is from the London *Free Press*, February 23:

> And for the people at the addiction research foundation, it is like running hard to stand still. But somehow the frustration never gets everybody down at the same time and this is probably why they keep trying. They feel the only effective way of coping with what has developed into a crisis is a long-term drug treatment centre. By long-term, they mean at least six months.

And finally:

> If London can get a drug centre functioning, there are precedents that indicate the government may step in and assist with the operational costs.

That is the end of the quotes from the articles. I do not do justice to the series by any means. I recommend them to anyone who has the opportunity to read them.

I cannot say too much about this. I think most of us in this chamber are relatively isolated from association with the problem that has been described in these articles and that has been mentioned by others already. We sometimes think that it is happening in New York and Chicago, but even when we do find that it is a part of urban life in the province, there is a tendency for us to think that in our smaller communities it has no impact. But I now feel differently.

The medical officer of health for Brant county is spending most of his time talking to young people's groups wherever he can get them together, bringing to their attention the threat of drug use, the tremendous dangers that young people run in experimentation. It is not possible for us through speeches in this House to convey our feeling of alarm at what seems to be snowballing, exploding in our own province. There is no doubt that information centres, probably under the direction of the addiction research foundation, are part of it.

I was quite interested when the question was asked by our hon. friend from Scarborough about the programme at Richview High School where the principal had sent a dozen young people down to the addiction research foundation to get the information to bring back in school. He did not send the president of the student council or the captain of the football team; he selected those young people who, in his judgement, had what we might call "a rapport" with the people who were obviously going to need help. Certainly, this was a good attempt to break through the stylized attempts to cope with this problem, and I would recommend it to the Minister of Education so that it could be used by other schools even before it becomes a problem.

The inadequacy of treatment centres was certainly brought out in the articles that I read. It is impossible overnight to have drug addiction treatment centres in all the major centres staffed by people who know anything about it. Even at Victoria Hospital, the point is made that the doctors and the nurses, who probably had 10 years' experience, have tremendous difficulty. When the young people arrive in a chaotic state under the influence of a number of drugs, there is no way of predicting what can be done to help them.

Enforcement programmes certainly have got to be a part of it—particularly enforcement directed heartlessly against pushers. This may be difficult in many ways. It may be a wholly federal responsibility. I do not believe that it is. The Mounties are certainly on the scene whenever these things come to public attention, but I believe that our laws must be stringent to the extreme in dealing with those people who are profiteering in the sale of these drugs. There is no objection on any side to this, I am sure. It is a simple thing to say, but it is something we are going to have to come to grips with.

The Minister of Health, in one of his early statements when we were talking about the use of marijuana by the addiction research foundation for research purposes, expressed some reluctance, but he has changed his view, and I congratulate him for that. I would presume that pretty advanced research is taking place with the $8 million we voted for the ARF last year. I am very much impressed with what the foundation does, and the brochures and so on, but it has largely got out of the treatment business; at least it tends to be getting out of the treatment business as more and more this comes under the Minister of Health.

Well, so be it. I think that is all right as long as the minister or the departmental responsibility does not lag far behind the needs of the community, and I believe at the present time it does lag behind the needs of the community. I promised that I was not going to try to escalate this into some sort of a political attack and I will not do it, but these are some thoughts that occur to me.

I have a few other things that I want to bring to your attention, sir, before 6 o'clock, because associated with this—and it is by no means an answer to the drug problem—is a programme associated with the needs of young people. I would put the thought before you for your consideration. With vacation period for our high schools and universities a matter of weeks away, we must urge this government with the strongest possible voice to act to provide employment opportunities for our student population. There are going to be 500,000 students available and I know that already some budget somewhere is being used to put over a very attractive advertisement on television and radio saying, "Get your summer job lined up now". Canada Manpower offices have a similar programme.

Last year, while this may have been helpful, I did not feel that it was sufficient, and there were many of our young people who were left hanging around the streets without anything to do in the summer. Mind you,

most of them have their own imaginations and many of them can think of some things to do besides experiment with drugs, but this has got to be a part of the problem—giving them alternatives that are meaningful.

As a matter or priority we would like to urge implementation of a programme that I would call a summer of service, a programme which would provide the students from grade 11 upwards with training and work experience in provincial government departments and agencies. We envision a widely dispersed programme where real work needs to be done and where the contribution of the students will not only ease their financial burden for education but will assist those students to make the best choices about the life they want to lead and the careers they want to pursue. As well, the students will be making a contribution to the growth of the province in a very real way.

A summer-of-service student, enrolled in science courses or intending to study engineering, could be placed with Ontario Hydro, OWRC, The Department of Highways or Energy and Resources Management in their programmes across the province. Students interested in physical education might work with The Department of Education, or with The Department of Tourism and Information or local recreation programmes. Students wanting a career in social work and related areas could work in The Department of Social and Family Services, just as young people now work with junior rangers, Ontario Hospital and the department of agriculture. Programmes of archeology, the archives, history and language training all would fit into a comprehensive programme of this type. The summer-of-service programme would put an emphasis on work as a means of producing income. It also includes training and experience in a given field.

Summer-of-service students would free the specialist to do the work that only he can do while allowing young men and women to do something useful and be paid for it. Activities in this programme would be located throughout the province, in rural and urban areas, in wealthy and poor communities, and the diversity of the region would increase an awareness of the potential and the greatness of the province. Special emphasis could be placed on community action projects or projects to combat pollution—areas in which the interests and demands of the student community are very evident.

Following the first summer of operation we would hope that the programme would be expanded to operate on a semester basis with students participating in a semester of service with the same basis of employment.

Mr. Speaker, I am about to conclude my remarks. But feel that I want to say something that follows on from a little-noted debate that took place in the House some months ago based on the group in our community that is sometimes called the third force, or the third group. The Minister of Social and Family Services has expressed his views about those who do not associate themselves with either the English or the French tradition.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Third element.

Mr. Nixon: Third element. I will accept that as a suitable phrase. The great strength of this province lies in its people of various cultural heritages and their different languages and customs. This province must always recognize through educational programmes, through social programmes and recreation and through the introduction of new plans, that the greatest creativity is that which springs from the diversity of our people. Most recent statistics show that in recent years, immigration to Ontario is 25 per cent Italian, 10 per cent Scandinavian, 13 to 15 per cent American, 10 per cent German and 20 per cent British. The Anglo-Saxon element of the population is shrinking rapidly to a minority of residents.

Our educational system must ensure that the cultural diversity is nurtured through new courses of study and perhaps new types of schools that give greater recognition to the contribution and needs of our new society. Extending grants to separate schools under the jurisdiction of democratically elected separate school boards would be a part of meeting this need. Our franchise must be extended municipally and provincially to allow for the maximum participation of all residents after reasonable residence requirements.

The physical beauty of Ontario stems from the fact that it is not a monotonous landscape. The cultural and political greatness of the province lies with the fact that its people are not monolithic in nature, language, heritage, customs or goals. By taking maximum advantage of the cultural diversity of the people, I believe that the province can be more enriched and grow even stronger.

Mr. Speaker, the matters that I have brought to your attention do not, of course, cover the complete spectrum of those areas which we believe are of outstanding importance and which must be dealt with by this

session of the Legislature. I was deeply disappointed that the Speech from the Throne, while it referred to a plan for the '70s, did not, in fact, bring forward such a plan, but dealt only in generalities. It was not, in fact, by any stretch of the imagination, any sort of a blueprint either for the 70's or for the session that lies ahead of us.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Nineteenth century.

Mr. Nixon: It was obviously the product of an author who has run out of imagination and perhaps is running out of energy. It was obviously written by an administration which, after 27 years of power, is running out of those pressures that are bound to be necessary to meet the new challenges of the remaining years of this century. The administration appears to have its feet fastened in the concrete of patronage and special pleading, and I believe, Mr. Speaker, because of this their days are numbered.

The views that I have expressed to you, sir, and to the House, have brought me to the conclusion that it will not be possible for us to support the motion for an address without an amendment. And therefore, sir, I move, seconded by the member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) that the following words be added to the motion:

That this House regrets the failure of the government:

1. To provide initiative and co-operation in efforts to bring reform and equity into federal, provincial and municipal tax systems;

2. To provide an efficient system of comprehensive medical insurance funded from the tax base;

3. To provide for equality of educational opportunity in the public and separate systems;

4. To strengthen and decentralize municipal and regional government and instead has imposed autocratic and centralizing policies seriously eroding local autonomy while ignoring the special needs of large urban centres;

5. To take meaningful action to combat pollution of our environment or to provide a plan for Ontario which will direct the strengthening of the quality of life in the face of growing population and industrialization;

6. To include agriculture and northern development in a programme for economic development;

7. To provide jobs for the growing work force of this province;

8. To provide adequate housing for the people of Ontario;

and therefore the government does not have the confidence of this House.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I cannot vote for that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Nothing about Benson's white paper.

Mr. MacDonald moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, in view of the information I am given by the whips as to the number of participants who will be in this debate, I think we might agree to sit perhaps Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings of next week and the week following.

Mr. Nixon: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday; but there will be no night sessions this week. It has been indicated to me it would be too short notice as there are many members who have other commitments.

Tomorrow, sir, we will continue with this debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.

No. 6

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, March 3, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, March 3, 1970

Site for new international airport in Ontario, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 165

Acquisition of lands on Niagara escarpment, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Gisborn 165

People in Ontario jailed for marijuana offenses, questions to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Sopha 165

Redevelopment of downtown Hamilton core, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Deans 166

Uniform taxation of international bridges, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Bullbrook, Mr. Paterson 167

Use of fungicides in treatment of seed grain, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Burr 167

Discontinuance of one-, two- and three-room schools, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Paterson 168

Tax reduction situation in Woodstock, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. MacDonald 168

Chasing of wolf with snowmobile, question to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. T. P. Reid, Mr. Shulman 168

Abuses of social club charters re chartered flights of non-members, question to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Lawlor 169

High incidence of forest fires in Sudbury district and incidence of sulphurous fumes, question to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Sopha 169

Amending The Theatres Act to bring videotape within jurisdiction of board of censors, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Bullbrook 170

Use of propane gas in automobiles to reduce air pollution, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Young 170

Summer employment for university and high school students, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Spence 170

Industrial pollution by Barrie tannery, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald 171

Discharge of Formosa brewery effluent, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald 171

Use of defoliants, question to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. B. Newman 171

Negotiations by faculty members of CAATs, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Pitman 171

Payment of municipal taxes to Sarnia, questions to Mr. Simonett, Mr. Bullbrook 172

Uniforms for correctional officers in Don jail, question to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Shulman 172

Procedure upon a plea of guilty to a charge under indictment, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Sopha 172

Summer recreation in area of Crystal Bay, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Burr 173

Imminent closing of Mohawk Institute, question to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Nixon 173

Compliance cost study re burden on Ontario taxpayers, question to Mr. White, Mr. Lawlor 173

Alternatives to building of 700-foot Hearn smokestack, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. T. P. Reid 174

Sale of leaded gasoline in Ontario, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Shulman 174

Repeal of five per cent sales tax on production machinery, question to Mr. White, Mr. B. Newman 175

Goals plan as outlined in MTARTS study, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Deans 175

Amherstburg municipal council and business licences, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. B. Newman 175

Forest-based industries and cost of Hydro, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Lawlor 175

Committee re agricultural pollution and farmers' organizations, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Gaunt 175

Roman Corporation interest in Denison Mines, questions to Mr. A. F. Lawrence, Mr. Ben 176

Pollution from electric generating station in Windsor, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Burr 176

Incentive plans for doctors and dentists, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Shulman 176

Establishment of a goals plan and regional boundaries, questions to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. Deans 177

MOHs and enforcement of ban on use of cyclamates, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Nixon, Mr. J. Renwick 177

Federal government and rent scale changes in Ontario housing, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. B. Newman 178

First report, standing orders and procedures committee, Mr. R. G. Hodgson 178

Report, select committee re standing committees, Mrs. Pritchard 179

Gun Control Act, 1970, bill intituled, Mr. DeMonte, first reading 180

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Act, 1965, bill to amend, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 180

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. MacDonald 181

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Welch, agreed to 211

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 211

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Today, we have many guests with us: in the east gallery, students from Northern Collegiate and vocational school, in Sarnia, from Whitchurch Highlands public school in Stouffville, and from Our Lady of Fatima school in Scarborough; in the west gallery, from Vineland Research Station, Department of Agriculture, and Brampton Centennial secondary school, Brampton, and later today there will be students from Kennedy Collegiate Institute, Windsor; and as special guests in Mr. Speaker's gallery, we have a group of blind students from the Canadian National Institute of the Blind from all across Canada who have joined us here this afternoon.

Statements by the ministry.

Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, using a little imagination I might direct a question to the Premier and ask if he could inform the House if he has any further information as to how the committee working with the government of Canada, particularly the federal Department of Transport, is progressing in the selection of a site for a new international airport in Ontario.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): No, I do not.

Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, I should give you an explanation as to why there are so few ministers here. They will be here. We have a large delegation from the northwestern chamber of commerce and our meeting with them ended about 1.40. There are always matters that these delegations wish to ask of individual ministers, but they will be here, so I suppose if I spin out my answer to this question there will be ministers here to answer further questions by the time I resume my seat.

Meanwhile, I have nothing further to report on the negotiations that are going on and the discussions relevant to the establishment of a new airport.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for York South any question of ministers who are here? The Leader of the Opposition has exhausted the supply.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): No, Mr. Speaker, on examination, none of my targets is here.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): My question is to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. Has the government initiated any action, as yet, to implement the first priority set out by the Guertler report in acquiring lands on the Niagara escarpment?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We have made all this public. It involves some very complicated questions and I am really not in a position to give a report on what we have done to date. I think that this will come along in due course but I am just simply not in a position to tell the House at the moment. As members can see by reading the report and the recommendations contained in it, it is going to be a very expensive procedure and that is one of our problems, of course, in this particular present atmosphere in which we find ourselves. But as we proceed to implement it, the information will be given to the House.

Mr. Gisborn: As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, I take it, then, that the answer is that no action has been implemented other than the report being made public?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I simply say no action that I am in a position to divulge to the House at the present moment.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): I would like to ask the Minister of Correctional Services if he was speaking with strict accuracy when he said, on the Timmins television station on Sunday night, that persons have been jailed in Ontario in relation to marijuana offences who actually did not have physical possession of the drug but were merely present when an

offence against The Narcotics Act was committed. How many such persons have been jailed?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, my recollection of what I said at that time was that when we were discussing the marijuana problem, and in answer to questions asked, I said that it was my view that we should be tougher—that I would like to see the courts be tougher—on those who were trafficking in marijuana and not so tough on those who just happen to be caught in possession. I think I used, as an example, the possibility; I am fairly certain I did not say that this had been happening. I said, if I recall, that it was possible that if your daughter or mine—

Mr. Sopha: That was what was said. We heard what the minister said.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well now, if the hon. member has the script and will read it to me, I will be glad to tell him—if he has the script—that is what I said. I am telling the hon. member my recollection of what I said.

I said that it was possible, that if your daughter or son, or my daughter or son, were present at a party where someone was smoking marijuana, that they could be picked up.

Mr. Sopha: I beg the minister's pardon, that is not what he said.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, all right! If I said something else, I would like the hon. member to tell me what it was. Read the script and I will tell him whether in my view it is an accurate account of what my views are.

Mr. Sopha: I have told the minister what he said.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well I do not accept that unless the hon. member will read the script to me. He may be speaking from memory as well, I do not know.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): A question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I was wondering if the minister, in the light of last evening's action by the Hamilton city council in which they terminated the agreement with first Wentworth, whether he now feels that he ought to play a more forceful role in assuring the city of Hamilton that the downtown core will indeed be redeveloped and will not be left as a vacant piece of property?

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, unlike some of the members opposite, I have great faith in local government and I think they can deal with these problems—

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister's actions deny it!

Hon. Mr. McKeough: —in their own way and in their own time, using their own good judgment.

I regret, of course, that it has not been possible to consummate the agreements between a developer and the city. It may delay what I think we all want to see, the revitalization of the downtown area of the city of Hamilton.

The member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. J. R. Smith) was in touch with me this morning with several suggestions as to how we might proceed—

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Does he not have faith in local government?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I am proceeding to examine those suggestions and no doubt will be in touch with the city at the appropriate time or they may well be in touch with me.

Mr. Deans: May I, Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary question, inquire of the minister whether in the light of the province's participation—financial participation—he does not feel that it would now be necessary for the province to exercise at least some discretionary power and initiate discussion with the city of Hamilton, rather than to wait until another six months goes by? He may recall that I have raised this a number of times, suggesting to him this was about to happen.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked a question.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: All I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that if we interfered in the affairs of local government as often as members opposite suggest we should, we would not have any kind of local government left in this province.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sarnia.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the government anticipates legislation in connection with the uniform taxation of international bridges during this session?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is a matter of government policy and I find it a little difficult to answer. We initiated a study, as I told the hon. member before, covering the various arrangements at all international bridges that exist between Canada and the United States, and that report has only confirmed our worst fears as to the very wide variety of arrangements there are.

I recognize that in the hon. member's riding there is a specific problem; we have not forgotten about that, and we will be looking at it. But as to whether we are going to be able to introduce legislation here covering the whole range of international bridges is a question that I am not really prepared to answer; it might take us some time to define, if there is, in fact, an answer to the whole problem. It may be that we will have to deal with them on an individual basis, even though that may not be the best course of action.

I cannot say that the government will come up with a policy in this regard at this session; but I can reply—and I know the member's interest in the matter because of the situation in his own riding—that we will certainly see if we cannot find some answer to that.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: Would the Prime Minister in his study give consideration to the requests that have come from time to time from the lower Detroit River area for a similar type structure in that area? I believe this has been drawn to the attention of various departments.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not quite understand the member's question. Does he want us to build another bridge?

Mr. Paterson: Yes, an international bridge in the Amherstburg area.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We are not dealing in this matter with the construction of new bridges. What, in fact, we are dealing with is some way of working out a policy that would be applicable to all the international bridges at present in existence. As I have said in this House before, these bridges have developed under a wide variety of circumstances and the only uniform thing about them is the complete lack of uniformity of arrangements and parties to these agreements and so on. So this has been our endeavour, but it has nothing to do with the construction of new bridges; that is another matter.

Mr. Bullbrook: I wonder if the Prime Minister would entertain a supplementary? In connection with the report that the government has received, is it a document of a confidential nature, or could the member for Sarnia have a copy of same?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: As I say, it is an intergovernmental document. It is not something that we necessarily want to make public, but if there is anything in particular the member wants to read, I might arrange for him to see it. But it is not something that I think should be published.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Has the minister taken any steps to have mercury fungicides replaced by other fungicides in the treating of seed grain in Ontario as a result of the accumulating evidence of mercury's role in polluting our environment?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): No, Mr. Speaker, we have not taken any particular action in that regard in the province of Ontario because actually mercury is used in very minute content in any seed treatment that is carried on in the province of Ontario, as I am given to understand by those who should know. We feel that it is not the hazard that it might be in other areas. In fact, I think there is great concern being expressed by many people that the mercurial poison that appeared in some of the birds that were found in western Canada might not be attributed to seed treatment; it might have come from some place else. There is no real proof of it as yet, to my understanding.

Mr. Burr: A supplementary question. Does the minister realize that this has been banned in Sweden and that game birds in Prince Edward Island and on the prairies have been affected? Why should the game birds in Ontario escape?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It may be because of the different environmental type of pollution in the area.

Mr. Speaker: Did the member for Essex South have another question?

Mr. Paterson: Yes, Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Education, if he is finished reading that good book that was on his desk a moment ago.

Is the Minister aware that the regional director of education within the last few days has refused permission to the Essex county board of education to discontinue the operation of a three-room school affecting some 77 students who were going to be transferred to a larger one?

Has there been any change in the minister's policy in regard to the discontinuance of one-, two- or three-room schools in the past few months where it was deemed advisable by a county board of education?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, there has been no specific policy outlined. What has happened in the past six or seven months is that we have been requesting the boards, when they have had applications in for new school construction, to analyse very carefully whether or not they might be able to make do for a further period of time, during the difficulties of capital financing at this present moment, with some of their existing situations.

I am not familiar, Mr. Speaker, with the specific example in Essex county, but I would think that this probably comes within that rather broad definition, and I will be quite prepared, Mr. Speaker, to get some more specific information, but I think this is probably the origin of that particular question being raised.

For the enlightenment of the members—in that the hon. member himself raised it, Mr. Speaker, I guess I am in order—I refer to a book that I have on my desk here. In case no one else has seen it, it is entitled "The Guelph Papers" by Robert F. Nixon—except I think he is the editor, not the author.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs has the reply to a question given by the member for York South yesterday.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I think it was actually last week that the member was asking me about a tax reduction situation in Woodstock. I am still not aware of all the details, but I understand the staff is looking into it; it is being investigated. It might be of interest to know that it would appear that in similar circumstances to those described in the newspaper clipping, last year, or I guess early this year, a landlord in the great town of Wallaceburg, in my own riding, was fined $100 for exactly the same circumstances.

Mr. MacDonald: That landlord?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: No, a landlord in Wallaceburg, but it would appear under the same circumstances he was fined $100.

Mr. MacDonald: Question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister explain why, since his department was aware of this at the time it was published in January, so I am authoritatively informed, no action is being taken until the matter is raised in the House?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Oh, I think action was being taken. I was not aware of it, but I am not aware of as much as I would like to think I am in everything my staff are doing. I was informed that the staff were aware of it, after I went back to the office. Whether they were aware of it from the press clipping or whether they were aware of it from a letter, I do not know, but they have been aware of it for some time.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury, a supplementary?

Mr. Sopha: No, I do not.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Lands and Forests has a reply to a question placed Friday by the member for Rainy River.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, last Friday, the member for Rainy River asked me, "What action will the minister take with reference to an article in the February 26 Toronto *Daily Star* whereby a wolf was killed through exhaustion when being chased by a snowmobile?"

Mr. Speaker, laws relating to cruelty to animals are part of the Criminal Code, and in this case, an offence, if any, would be against the Criminal Code, which is normally enforced by police and humane society officers. If there had been a closed season or protection for wolves, or if there had been a loaded firearm in the snowmobile then an offence against The Game and Fish Act would have occurred.

Our investigations in cases like this relate to the harassment of protected animals and to the illegal use of firearms. If no illegal means were used, then the person or persons who killed the wolf were eligible for bounty. In fact, county officials are required by law to issue a bounty certificate.

Mr. Sopha: Run them to death and then collect money out of us.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It has not been a practice to make payments where infractions of

The Game and Fish Act were involved. Heretofore, these were the only type of infractions called into question.

Mr. Sopha: What a society.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question:

Does the minister not feel that this is a violation of the code of The Game and Fish Act, and does he not feel that legislation therefore should perhaps be forthcoming from his department to ban this kind of activity?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, it states in The Game and Fish Act that harassment to animals is an illegal offence, and this case is being investigated.

Mr. Shulman: Supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary, yes.

Mr. Shulman: In view of the circumstances which occur here, would the minister consider supporting the bill at present before the Legislature which would prevent such things occurring in the future?

Mr. Nixon: It does not refer to wolves.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has placed many bills before the Legislature and I must admit that I have not had time yet to look into his bill but I will certainly look into it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, to the hon. Minister for Financial and Commercial Affairs: How many cancellations of social club charters has he made recently arising out of abuses having to do with chartered flights of non-members?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I do not recall any coming across my desk since assuming this portfolio. Whether they were dealt with at an administrative level, I can find out for the hon. member.

Mr. Lawlor: There is the Shamrock Club.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: I should like to ask the Minister of Lands and Forests whether his department has established that which everybody in the Sudbury district knows to be the case who thinks about it, that there is a relationship between the very high incidence of forest fires in the Sudbury district, which Mr. Falkowski calls the highest in Ontario, and the incidence of the emission of sulphurous fumes. If that has been established by the department, would the minister tell us what action is proposed to be taken arising out of this relationship?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, I would be pleased to. This, I think, would be of interest to the hon. member for Sudbury as well as to the other members. The number of fires in the Sudbury district is the highest for any of the 20 fire districts in the province. Since 1960, some 2,328 fires, or 13 per cent of the provincial total, have occurred in the Sudbury district. Most of these fires have been reported within a 25-mile radius of the city of Sudbury.

There are a number of factors, including human activity, that have contributed to this situation, but the principle one, we believe, has been the sulphur dioxide emission occurring in the Sudbury basin. The vegetative cover in the area has been affected over the years by the sulphur dioxide fumes resulting in the severe restriction of tree growth and high mortality of those which do grow.

This has encouraged the development of grasses which present a flash fuel situation, where fire ignites and spreads rapidly. Also, the soils of the area are very thin and the vegetation dries out quickly and becomes quite inflammable, even under moderate weather conditions. There is no particular evidence that the sulphur deposit in itself contributes to the fire danger condition in the area.

Added to this combination of unfavourable physical factors, we have in the Sudbury district the highest proportion of man-caused fires, including the highest incidence of fires started by children in the province. This situation can partly be attributed to the flash fuel conditions; but land use patterns, that is the spread of housing in forest areas and public attitude, have also a bearing. Despite concerted fire prevention efforts and the good co-operation of municipal officials and news media, little impact, if any, has been made in reducing the number of man-caused fires.

However, Mr. Speaker, on the bright side, the instance of fires has not increased in recent years, despite the population growth, new development and more public activity in the outdoors.

We have been deeply concerned over the effects of the sulphur dioxide fumes on the natural resources and the outdoor recreation potential of the Sudbury area. Several studies of the condition of the vegetation and chemistry of the lake have been conducted

and I am pleased to say, Mr. Speaker, that last year we were able to launch a joint programme with the Laurentian University biology department, along with our own Department of Lands and Forests, directed at rehabilitating the Sudbury area with the most suitable type of vegetation. This action, combined with the efforts of other departments of the Ontario government to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions, should in time result in lower fire hazards and marked improvement in the general landscape.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): A question to the Minister of Correctional Services: Has his department lowered the educational requirements for correctional officers?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I am not familiar with any change; however I will take that as notice.

Mr. Shulman: Well, this may help, will the minister enquire if a notice has been put up on various bulletin boards announcing this?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: As I have just said, I will find out.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sarnia.

Mr. Bullbrook: A question for the Attorney General and Minister of Justice: in view of the rather confused circumstances surrounding the exhibition of the movie "Vixen", I am wondering if the Minister of Justice had any liaison with the Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) with a view to amending The Theatres Act to bring videotape within the jurisdiction of the board of censors.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I have not discussed this with the Minister of Tourism and Information.

Mr. Bullbrook: I did not hear the reply.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have not discussed this as yet.

Mr. Bullbrook: A supplementary: Would the Attorney General consider it might be appropriate to do so?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well that is a matter of policy, Mr. Speaker. I think perhaps we will be discussing it.

Mr. Speaker: Is there a supplementary question? The member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. In view of the action of the government in Washington and several other jurisdictions in installing propane gas as the motive power in many of their cars, is the government of Ontario undertaking any action in this direction with a view to cutting down on air pollution?

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if I might just point out to the hon. member that the last part of his question was the only proper part of the question, that is to ask the minister if he was taking certain action. I would ask the members in future to just use that question technique.

The minister will make his reply.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, our present regulations regarding automobile emissions are based on United States regulations. The latest proposal regarding propane gas is being studied by the air management branch of my department and if these regulations are workable, if they can be installed to decrease the carbon monoxide emissions, we will adopt the same type of legislation as the United States.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kent.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): I would like to ask the Premier of the province: Is the Premier aware of the large number of university students and high school students enquiring about summer employment? Of course the Premier is well aware we are finding it difficult—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member merely asks a question.

Mr. Spence: Has the Premier got any plans or programmes to hire students or secure them summer employment?

Also, is it true that high school students under the age of 18 cannot be employed in The Department of Lands and Forests or in the hospitals for the retarded across Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is yes; I am aware, as we all are, of the number of students that are looking for work.

Yes, we have programmes in continuation of what we did last year, and an extension of the programme based upon what we learned last year. I do not know about the retarded children's situation but certainly Lands and Forests employs a great many people under

18, particularly in the junior ranger programme. I would point out to the member, too, that we will place the greatest weight on providing employment for those young people who are proceeding into post secondary education, because quite definitely their need will be greater.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: With the return of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management I have three questions:

In view of the report of the OWRC engineer, J. F. Orgill, to the city of Barrie last fall that the Barrie tannery was discharging seven times the legal limit of BOD and five times the legal limit of suspended solids in its effluent—legal limits established by the local bylaw—what action did OWRC take in face of this flagrant industrial pollution?

Mr. Speaker: May I, before the minister answers, again point out to the hon. member that his question should really have been, "What action did the minister propose with respect to the action of this particular organization".

The minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I assume the hon. member is referring to the Formosa plant; is that the plant—

Mr. MacDonald: No.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that. I will take that as notice and have the answer for the hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: My second question to the same minister is:

Has the OWRC model bylaw for municipal pollution levels been upgraded in light of recent concern about phosphates, and if so, why is it countenancing the discharge of Formosa brewery effluent with five to 30 parts per million of phosphate content when the acceptable level is 10 parts per million?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, as far as the Formosa plant is concerned that plant will be discharging its waste through the municipal plant. It is my information that the municipal plant can, in fact, handle the effluent from the Formosa plant as far as the phosphate effluent or waste is concerned. It is hoped that the Barrie plant will be the next plant in which we will install our lime process, so that in this way the phosphate effluent, or the phosphate waste, which is included with the other waste from the plant, will not be a problem.

Mr. MacDonald: My final question to the minister is:

Will the minister table in the House the letter of an OWRC engineer by the name of Shikaze, dated November 10, indicating how the corporation of the city of Barrie might circumvent its own pollution bylaw by permitting higher levels of effluent pollutant on payment of a surcharge?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I would have to take that one under advisement.

Mr. Speaker: As notice?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests.

May I ask of the minister if the department makes use of defoliants in its projects?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I believe so, Mr. Speaker, but I will verify this and let the member know.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could direct a question to the Minister of Education and University Affairs?

1. Could he indicate when he intends to introduce legislation which will allow the faculty members of the colleges of applied arts and technology across the province to carry on negotiations for their next year's contract?

2. Whether he intends that they shall negotiate directly with their local board of governors or with an appropriate committee of the council of regents?

3. Will they have any opportunity to take any part in the creation of this legislation?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, in our discussions with various individuals and groups from the faculties of the colleges some three weeks ago, I restated the memorandum that was sent to them, I believe, on January 22, signed by the director of the applied arts and technology branch, indicating that it was the intention of the government to introduce

legislation resolving this problem, and indicating to them, as it is the custom of this government, that when the legislation is introduced there will be opportunity for very full discussion at that time.

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if the minister may not have caught the second question—whether he intends that they shall negotiate with the local board of governors or with the committee or council of regents.

Hon. Mr. Davis: It will be reflected in the legislation.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sarnia.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Public Works.

I am wondering when the minister's department might define its position in connection with the responsibility or otherwise of the province of Ontario for the payment of municipal taxes to the corporation of the city of Sarnia, under the provisions of the indemnity agreement contained in the lease between his department and the corporation of the county of Lambton?

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I have discussed this matter with the hon. member before; in fact we have communicated with the city of Sarnia. I think our position at the present time will remain as it has been, that we feel we are not responsible for paying municipal taxes on Department of Justice buildings.

Mr. Bullbrook: By way of supplementary, if I might, is the minister saying that he had communicated with the member and the city defining absolutely a negative position on the part of the province? I did not realize that.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Speaker, I did not say I communicated with the member, but our department has communicated with the city. Whether we have actually said we are not going to pay municipal taxes, I am not sure of that. I discussed it with our people this morning and there will be an answer going to the county and to the city.

Mr. Bullbrook: Just one supplementary. Am I given to understand then that the answer is no, that the province will not pay taxes?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I am in a position to say that definitely right now, but that is the feeling, that it will be no. But I have not said that definitely.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: I have a question of the Minister of Correctional Services.

Is it correct that new uniforms were issued to all the correctional officers in the Don jail at the beginning of December without pre-measuring, as a result of which neither shoes nor uniforms fit most of the men?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I do not have the slightest idea.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): The minister can never be accused of that.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Attorney General, in relation to his public statement of yesterday, whether he considers that upon a plea of guilty to a charge under indictment, it is a preferable procedure to give the evidence by way of summary—or as they say, from the dope sheet—rather than use the procedure generally followed, that the evidence shall be given by witnesses who can give a digest of direct evidence.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think it is a matter, Mr. Speaker, that will be determined by the Crown. Particularly, as in this case, where there is a plea of guilty and the evidence is properly summarized, this seems to be preferable in most cases to calling perhaps a great number of witnesses. In this case, it would have been necessary to call a very large number of witnesses. If the evidence is properly summarized, as I think it certainly was, it seems to me there is no point of calling witnesses where there is a plea of guilty.

Mr. Sopha: Maybe there is no point in giving evidence—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, no. I am sure the hon. member has had a great deal of experience in courts and I am quite sure he has certainly defended cases where he has offered a plea of guilty, and I think it is quite proper and quite fitting and quite necessary for the court, the judge presiding, to know the background, the facts which led to the charge to which the accused had pleaded guilty. The judge must have this evidence if he is to properly assess the matter, and particularly in determining the matter of sentence.

The hon. member's question is, which is preferable? Well, I suppose if one wanted to be philosophical one could say that it

is always preferable, perhaps, to have the utmost, ultimate, complete evidence; but I think that common sense in the administration of justice would surely lead us to the conclusion that if you have a full, complete summary of facts and they are correct, that should be adequate.

Mr. Sopha: I should like to ask by way of a supplementary question, is the minister saying that in the high court of justice, the supreme court of judicature in the province, that it is a question of saving time in dealing with the offences directed to it under section 413 of the Criminal Code? Is that what he is saying? That time, the economy of time, is important?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No.

The hon. member's question again was which is preferable? This trial to which he is referring was presided over by the chief justice of the high court of Ontario. I think what was essential for him to know was what were the facts behind this charge, behind this offence to which this accused had pleaded guilty. The Crown attorney, who was competent, decided to take the evidence and place it before his lordship in a proper form without going through all the business of extracting evidence from various witnesses. I think that—to answer the hon. member's question directly—would be preferable, rather than to attempt to draw that evidence from perhaps 20 to 25 witnesses.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management concerning Crystal Bay, a recreational area on the Detroit River of interest to many of my constituents. Have any decisions been made recently that would have an adverse effect on swimming, boating and fishing in this area of Crystal Bay?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any decision having been made recently that would have the adverse effect suggested by the hon. member.

A question yesterday referred to a meeting that was held in London just recently, at the civil service level, involving the federal Department of Public Works and the U.S. Corps of Engineers. I now understand that there were representatives at that meeting from OWRC, and I have asked for a report. In my opinion there is no decision that could be made at that level which would detrimentally affect Crystal Bay as a recreation area.

Mr. Burr: As a supplementary question: may I assume, then, that the minister is still the protector of Crystal Bay?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I had better just say "yes", Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if you could inform me whether or not questions directed to the Minister of Social and Family Services on Indian Affairs are still in order?

There is an indication from the minister that he is still responsible for the Indian advisory branch and I would like to ask him if he is aware that the Mohawk Institute, one of the largest organizations for the training of the Indians in the province, is about to be closed, or may be closed?

If so, has he undertaken any discussions with his colleagues in the cabinet to provide assistance whereby that educational organization may be upgraded under Indian direction into something that would be a secondary or a post secondary school for Indian use?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, I do not have the exact details before me. I do recall hearing something about it. If it is within the department, it is being considered by the relevant officials. I will check into the matter for the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: To the Minister of Revenue, Mr. Speaker: has his department presently underway any compliance cost study as to the weight that the taxpayers of the province must bear, keeping books, hiring staff, and so on? And my supplementary question is, before the minister answers, if not, why not?

Hon. J. White (Minister of Revenue): We have no such study underway, Mr. Speaker. Mrs. Kenneth Bryden did a study a few years ago for the Canadian Tax Foundation. I have looked at that.

Mrs. Bryden and I, I think, are of the same opinion, namely that it was not particularly accurate. The size of the sample, the difficulty of standardizing data and such like make it something less than conclusive. As you know, we have a very determined programme underway to decrease cost of compliance, but I will not spend a lot of time on that in this answer.

I just do not think it is worth any significant public outlay at the present time to decide whether it is costing corporation "A" X number of dollars or Y number of dollars,

because whichever amount it may be we are determined to decrease it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Before I place my question I would like to draw to your attention, sir, and to the rest of the chamber, the presence of the delegation from the Northwestern Ontario Chamber of Commerce, some of whom are sitting under the Speaker's gallery at the present time. They have been down to Toronto to meet with the Premier . . .

Mr. Speaker: That has already been mentioned.

Mr. T. P. Reid: They were not in the chamber at the time.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will proceed.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I have a question, Mr. Speaker, for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Has the minister requested and received a report from Ontario Hydro outlining the alternatives to the building of the 700-foot Hearn smokestack?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows there was a hearing, I believe just last week, dealing with this particular matter and generally with pollution in the city of Toronto. It is my understanding that one of the recommendations of the jury, shall we call it, was that the higher stack be proceeded with and constructed. My information is this will be done, that Hydro intends to proceed to obtain a permit to start construction on the stack.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary: I take it that the minister's answer is no, he has not received a report from Ontario Hydro. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, Mr. Speaker; sorry, I did not hear that part of the question. I have asked for a report from Ontario Hydro and I have received a report from Ontario Hydro regarding that hearing.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask, Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary, if the minister does not think it is his responsibility, rather than that of Pollution Probe, to pass on whether this is a good thing or not, especially since Ontario Hydro comes under his department and is one of the largest polluters in the province?

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked his question.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, based on the advice of people within my department, particularly the air management branch, I have been satisfied for at least six months that Hydro should proceed with the construction of the stack.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: To the Minister of Energy and Resources Management: is the minister preparing legislation to ban the sale of leaded gasoline in this province?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, this matter, along with the whole matter of exhaust emissions from motor vehicles, is being studied.

Research, as the hon. member knows, is going on to a great extent at refineries in the United States. The findings to date appear to be very encouraging that that lead can be replaced, that there are suitable fuels without lead that will give the same degree of power, and I would assume that when this research and its findings are completed, we could very well have legislation affecting lead content in gas in this province.

Mr. Shulman: As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker: in view of the statement by President Nixon last week, which stated that substitute gas is now available; and in view of the new legislation now being prepared by the California—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is now not asking a proper question. He can, if he wishes, ask the minister if he is preparing certain legislation, but he must not give a preamble with what is happening other places.

Mr. Shulman: The minister obviously is not aware of the entire situation, sir. I can hardly ask him the question—

Mr. Speaker: In any event, whether the minister is aware of it or not, the member will ask his question in that manner. If the minister is not aware of it, he will be made aware of it through proper channels.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact which I am not allowed to mention, does the minister intend to copy the California legislation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, it is my information that the California legislation is nothing more than a proposal, that it is not yet law, and as far as the remarks of the President of the United States are concerned, this is based on research and testing that has been going on at the refineries. This has not been

perfected as yet, nor is this type of fuel available for sale.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Revenue.

In view of the growing unemployment in the automotive industry, is the minister considering the repeal of the five per cent sales tax on production machinery?

Hon. Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, that is the responsibility of the Treasurer and I think the question should be put to him.

Mr. B. Newman: Then may I direct a question to the Treasurer, Mr. Speaker?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, this is one of the series of matters that will be made clear when the budget is presented to the Legislature.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: A question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Can the minister indicate whether the goals plan as outlined in the MTARTS study are still being studied by his department? If they are, when will a decision be reached as to which might be adopted?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: That question should be more properly directed to the Treasurer, inasmuch as the prime responsibility is carried by The Department of Treasury and Economics.

Mr. Deans: By way of supplementary question, might I ask whether the minister believes that the determination of which goals plan will be used plays a large part in the regional governmental studies presently going on, and the decisions that will be reached as to which municipalities fall into what region?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: It plays a part, certainly.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

In view of the actions of the Amherstburg municipal council in revoking and then reinstating the business licence of an establishment in that town, is the minister considering the repealing of section 247 of The Municipal Act, which gives the municipal councils too much power in revoking business licences?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I am not aware, Mr. Speaker, of this particular circumstance in Amherstburg and I must say that at this moment in time I am not giving any consideration to repealing whatever that section may or may not say.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: A question of the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests, Mr. Speaker. How many forest-based industries have refused to come into Ontario because of Hydro rates as set out in the recent economic council report?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. member will agree with me that it would be very difficult to answer that question of how many industries have refused to come in as a result of the high cost of Hydro. The high cost of operating in Ontario is the reason, and these matters are being looked into by our government. I am very optimistic, Mr. Speaker, that in the 1970s we will see considerable expansion in the forest industry commencing with this year.

Mr. Lawlor: A supplementary, if I may, Mr. Speaker. What does the hon. minister think of the statement suggesting that high Hydro rates are acting as a curb on industries coming in?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, as Minister of Lands and Forests, trying to encourage forest industries to expand and establish themselves in this province, I would like to see lower Hydro rates. At the same time, I think we must appreciate that whatever is done for the forest industries has to be done for the mining industries and other industries and this is a matter of government policy. As I said to the member, I am very optimistic that we will have further expansion in the forest industry this year.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Why not? That is where the cheapest source of power is.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, a question of the minister of agriculture.

Has the committee dealing with agricultural pollution consulted the federation of agriculture and the national farmers' union with respect to the regulations pertaining to agricultural pollution?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, this matter has been discussed with the federation of agriculture. Inasmuch as the code of practice

guidelines that was developed between the staff of my hon. friend, the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, and The Department of Agriculture and Food, is being revised as a result of many public hearings that have been held across the province with hundreds of farmers, as soon as it is redrafted then my hon. friend the Minister and I propose to sit down with the federation of agriculture executives and discuss the new suggested code of practices with them. The national farmers' union has made no comment as yet to any of us about this.

We propose to discuss these new suggestions as widely as possible in various areas of the province so we can obtain the thinking of farmers as to what they feel would be in their best interests and those of the whole community as well. It is purely in the talking stage yet; there are no firm, fixed procedures yet, we are simply exploring and setting down this code of practice. If there is something we should change, then we want to change it to the benefit of all concerned.

Mr. Gaunt: As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, will the code of practice be part of the bill proposed—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I should think, Mr. Speaker, that we will have to wait and see what the legislation provides.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Humber.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Yes, this is a question directed to the Minister of Mines.

Would the Minister of Mines care to comment on the decision of Mr. Trudeau, the Prime Minister of this country, in his statement yesterday that he proposes to introduce legislation retroactively which would prevent the Roman Corporation from selling the 25 per cent interest in Denison Mines outside of Canada?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, the implications from that announcement last night in the House of Commons by Mr. Trudeau are pretty wide-ranging and I would rather the member direct his question to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Ben: A supplementary question: Would the hon. Minister of Mines like to scoot out and get the Prime Minister back so I can put that question to him?

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. Peacock: What would they do without the Prime Minister?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: We would not have a good leader and we would be in the same position as the members opposite.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside has the floor.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management regarding the Cartier electric generating station in Windsor. What is being done to control, reduce or eliminate air pollution from this generating station?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, could the member repeat the name of the station?

Mr. Burr: Cartier generating station.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am not familiar with that, Mr. Speaker. I will have to get that information.

Mr. Burr: It is the only one we have.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Why is it not called "Windsor"?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. Stokes: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health. In view of the fact that the minister was not at the meeting today to answer some of the questions—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will please place his question without preamble.

Mr. Stokes: Could the Minister of Health indicate how successful incentive plans for doctors and dentists have been to date, and what alternatives he might propose because of the negative reaction by professional people in taking advantage of this incentive programme?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, I do not know what the hon. member means about the negative reaction of professional people.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): If he gave a preamble it would clarify the question.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There has been a very good reaction to the programme, and indeed I think I indicated when I made my statements about it last fall that there will be 20

to 25 dentists available this summer to go into the designated areas; they will be available under our programme to go into those areas. I indicated to one of the member's colleagues the other day that I will have a very up-to-date report in a few days for the members of the House on what is happening insofar as medical people are concerned, but the programme is being received in anything but a negative manner.

Mr. Stokes: Can the Minister indicate why the only application made by a dentist in all of Thunder Bay did not qualify under the incentive programme?

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question? The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: A supplementary question: Are these 20 or 25 dentists graduate dentists, or are they students?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Fourteen or 15 of them are the Czech dentists who are being trained at the University of Western Ontario at this time. The others will be on the line in the—

Mr. Shulman: A further supplementary: Are these Czechs then going to be sent up there whether or not they pass the examinations?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They will be sent out, Mr. Speaker, if they pass the examinations which I am fully confident they will.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for York South a supplementary?

Mr. MacDonald: No, it is now covered.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Humber has a supplementary?

Mr. Ben: Alongside those Czechs, were there any Slovaks?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, could I ask a question of the provincial Treasurer?

Would it be fair to assume that the Treasurer agrees with the statement of the Minister of Municipal Affairs that the establishment of a goals plan will play a part in determining the boundaries of the regions for regional government in the metropolitan Toronto through to the Niagara region? If so, when will the establishment of a goals plan be made public by the government?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I cannot be precise about the date of its being made public but it will be soon, and I think the assumption is a fair one, although I doubt very much if it will go so far as the Niagara area. The member's assumption is correct with respect to the Toronto-centred region.

Mr. Deans: Does the minister believe that the publication of the government's intention in regard to which of the goals plans it will be adhering to will be soon enough that it will have an effect on the decision as to the Peel - Halton - Wentworth - Hamilton - Burlington region determination?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, I think that is a fair assumption, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Health.

In his department, are the medical officers of health under his direction responsible for the enforcement of the ban on the use of cyclamates in Canada and specifically in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not that I am aware of; they are not, Mr. Speaker. I think that ban was enacted by the food and drug directorate and it has its own policing procedures.

Mr. Nixon: As a supplementary question, is the minister aware that the cyclamates are still available in the containers at some of the major hotels run by railways downtown? I just wonder who is responsible for enforcing that ban. Maybe the Attorney General would be able to add something to that?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. J. Renwick: A supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary question?

Mr. J. Renwick: To the Minister of Health:

Is the minister aware that the minister of agriculture has under him a food council which is diametrically opposed to the policy in Ottawa, and is the Minister of Health doing anything to reconcile the difference between the provincial government and the federal government on the precipitate ban by the federal government of cyclamates?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not aware, Mr. Speaker, that there is a group in the minister

of agriculture's department that is diametrically opposed to the federal government's policy—

Mr. Sopha: The right hand does not know what the left hand is doing.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —but if that is so, this could quite possibly be so.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Riverdale a further supplementary?

Mr. J. Renwick: To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: Is the Minister of Agriculture and Food aware that the food council—

Mr. Speaker: I asked the hon. member if he was asking a supplementary. Did he say yes, because if so, it should be directed to the original minister.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, forgive me, I assumed that a supplementary question could be directed to a minister other than—

Mr. Speaker: I think not, in our practice. Has the hon. Leader of the Opposition a supplementary question?

Mr. Nixon: I have a new question on the same subject.

Mr. Speaker: I think the member for Windsor-Walkerville has the floor.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Trade and Development.

Can the minister report any progress with the federal government concerning a more realistic rent scale in Ontario Housing?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Yes, at my last meeting a few weeks ago with the Hon. Robert Andras, he advised me that very shortly they would have a programme to discuss with us on this change in rent scale, so I expect within the next month we will hear from him.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask of the minister, is he aware that a similar answer was given to me approximately two years ago?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that, but I cannot make up their minds in Ottawa; they have to make them up themselves and they are responsible for 50 per cent of the subsidy—

Mr. Nixon: That is right, this government is not responsible for anything.

Hon. Mr. Randall: —50 per cent of the subsidy, and when they decide what they are going to do about the rent scale we will abide by it.

Mr. B. Newman: And they tell me the minister is responsible.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I am not.

Mr. Speaker: The oral question period has now expired.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson, from the standing orders and procedures committee, presented the committee's first report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee has carefully examined the following petitions and finds the notices, as published in each case, sufficient:

Of the corporation of the city of Peterborough praying that an Act may pass permitting tax credits to elderly persons.

Of the synod of the diocese of Ontario and the rectors and wardens of St. Thomas' Church, Christ Church and St. Margaret's-on-the-Hill, Belleville, praying that an Act may pass to amend 39 Vic., c. 109, to provide for payment to the rector of St. Thomas' Church (Anglican), Belleville, the sum of $2,500 annually in lieu of $2,000 as provided by the original statute.

Of the corporation of the city of Niagara Falls praying that an Act may pass enabling the corporation by bylaw, to grant the sum of $125,000 toward costs of construction of a family recreation centre to YMCA of greater Niagara.

Of the corporation of the city of Hamilton praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to make grants to the Hamilton Transit Commission to provide reduced fares to recipients of benefits under The Family Benefits Act and to students.

Of the Haldimand-Norfolk Roman Catholic Separate School Board praying that an Act may pass approving the creation of additional school premises.

Of the county of Peterborough praying that an Act may pass extending the time for taking the assessment for the townships of Burleigh and Anstruther for the year 1969.

Of the city of Orillia praying that an Act may pass to establish the Orillia Parks, Community Centre and Recreation Commission.

Of Lubbert Van Dellen and others praying that an Act may revive the charter of Springdale Christian Reformed Church.

Of the St. Catharines General Hospital praying that an Act may pass to extend powers of investment of the board of governors from 35 per cent to 50 per cent in common shares.

Of the incorporated synod of the diocese of Huron praying that an Act may pass to authorize investments of trust assets up to 20 per cent in companies registered under Part III of the Canadian and British Insurance Companies Act, RSC 1952, c.31.

Of the Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital praying that an Act may pass to change the corporate name, and to vest property assets and powers in the new corporation.

Of Association des Traducteurs et Interpretes de L'Ontario—the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario praying that an Act may pass to regulate the standards of the practice of translation and interpretation of the English and French language in Ontario.

Of the Canadian National Exhibition Association praying that an Act may pass to consolidate The Canadian National Exhibition Act, 1948 and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the town of Georgetown praying that an Act may pass to empower the corporation to provide for the carrying on by the Georgetown Recreation. Parks and Community Centres Committee, the recreation programme formerly carried on by the Board of Park Management.

Of the board of trustees of the Charlotte Eleanor Englehard Hospital and others praying that an Act may pass to provide for an increase of the membership of the board of trustees and for their mode of election or appointment.

Of the corporation of the city of Ottawa praying that an Act may pass to authorize and treat moneys advanced to owners of properties as municipal taxes and for the licensing of health studios.

Your committee recommends that copies of the "Canadian Parliamentary Guide," "Canadian Almanac" and "Canada Year Book" be purchased for distribution to the members of the assembly, and that the stationery and publications allowance to members for the current session of the assembly be fixed at $400.

Mrs. Pritchard, from the select committee appointed to prepare the lists of members to compose the standing committees of the House, presented the committee's report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee recommends that the lists of standing committees ordered by the House be composed of the following members:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD: Messrs. Belanger, Bolton, Burr, Carruthers, Connell, Downer, Dymond, Edighoffer, Evans, Farquhar, Gaunt, Gilbertson, Gisborn, Haggerty, Hamilton, Henderson, Hodgson (York North), Innes, Johnston (Carleton), Kennedy, MacDonald, Makarchuk, Morningstar, McNeil, Newman (Ontario South), Paterson, Renwick (Mrs.) (Scarborough Centre), Root, Ruston, Smith (Simcoe East), Snow, Spence, Villeneuve, Whitney—34. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS: Messrs. Breithaupt, Brown, Bullbrook, Carruthers, Good, Henderson, Johnston (Parry Sound), Johnston (Carleton), MacDonald, Meen, Morrow, Newman (Windsor-Walkerville), Newman (Ontario South), Pitman, Potter, Price, Pritchard (Mrs.), Reid (Scarborough East), Renwick (Riverdale), Rollins, Smith (Hamilton Mountain), Villeneuve—22. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONS: Messrs. Allan, Apps, Boyer, Bukator, Carton, Deans, Demers, Downer, Dymond, Evans, Ferrier, Good, Hodgson (York North), Jessiman, Johnston (Parry Sound), Lewis, Meen, Morningstar, McNeil, Newman (Ontario South), Paterson, Price, Reilly, Renwick (Riverdale), Ruston, Sargent, Shulman, Singer, Smith (Hamilton Mountain), Smith (Nipissing), Snow, Stokes, Trotter, Winkler—34. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

HEALTH: Messrs. Belanger, Ben, Carruthers, Demers, DeMonte, Dunlop, Ferrier, Gilbertson, Johnston (St. Catharines), Morrow, Newman (Ontario South), Potter, Pritchard (Mrs.) Reilly, Renwick (Mrs.) (Scarborough Centre), Ruston, Shulman, Smith (Hamilton Mountain), Smith (Nipissing), Trotter, Winkler—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT: Messrs. Allan, Belanger, Ben, Bernier, Boyer, Burr, Carton, Connell, Davison, Deacon, Edighoffer, Gaunt, Gilbertson, Hamilton, Henderson, Hodgson (York North), Innes, Jackson, Johnston (Carleton), Lawlor, MacKenzie, Martel, Morin, Morningstar, McNeil, Reid (Rainy River), Rollins, Root, Snow, Spence, Villeneuve, Whitney, Yakabuski, Young—34. The quorum

of the said committee to consist of seven members.

LABOUR: Messrs. Apps, Bernier, Boyer, Braithwaite, Deacon, Demers, DeMonte, Gisborn, Haggerty, Hodgson (York North), Johnston (Parry Sound), Johnston (St. Catharines), Lewis, Morin, Morningstar, Newman (Ontario South), Pilkey, Reilly, Smith (Simcoe East), Smith (Hamilton Mountain), Sopha—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

LEGAL AND MUNICIPAL: Messrs. Boyer, Bullbrook, Carton, Deans, Demers, Downer, Dunlop, Good, Hamilton, Johnston (St. Catharines), Lawlor, Meen, Morin, Price, Renwick (Riverdale), Reilly, Singer, Sopha, Trotter, Winkler, Yakabuski—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND TOURISM: Messrs. Allan, Apps, Bernier, Boyer, Breithaupt, Davison, Demers, Edighoffer, Evans, Gilbertson, Gisborn, Haggerty, Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton), Innes, Jackson, Jessiman, Johnston (Parry Sound), Johnston (St. Catharines), Johnston (Carleton), MacKenzie, Makarchuk, Martel, Morin, Newman (Ontario South), Paterson, Potter, Reid (Rainy River), Rollins, Root, Smith (Simcoe East), Spence, Stokes, Whitney, Yakabuski—34. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

PRIVATE BILLS: Messrs. Apps, Belanger, Bolton, Braithwaite, Bukator, Bullbrook, Carruthers, Carton, Connell, Deans, DeMonte, Dunlop, Dymond, Evans, Ferrier, Gaunt, Gilbertson, Hamilton, Henderson, Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton), Hodgson (York North), Jessiman, Johnston (Parry Sound), Johnston (St. Catharines), MacDonald, MacKenzie, Meen, Morin, McNeil, Newman (Windsor-Walkerville), Paterson, Pilkey, Pitman, Potter, Price, Pritchard (Mrs.), Renwick (Riverdale), Rollins, Root, Sargent, Singer, Smith (Simcoe East), Smith (Hamilton Mountain), Sopha, Villeneuve, Whitney, Winkler, Worton, Yakabuski, Young—50. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS: Messrs. Allan, Belanger, Braithwaite, Carruthers, Connell, Downer, Dunlop, Hamilton, Johnston (Carleton), Kennedy, Lawlor, Meen, Newman (Windsor-Walkerville), Potter, Price, Renwick (Riverdale), Rollins, Shulman, Singer, Smith (Nipissing), Worton—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: Messrs. Allan, Apps, Breithaupt, Deacon, Dymond, Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton), Lawlor, Morrow, Newman (Windsor-Walkerville), Peacock, Smith (Simcoe East), Snow—12. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

SOCIAL, FAMILY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES: Messrs. Ben, Bolton, Braithwaite, Bukator, Connell, Dunlop, Dymond, Henderson, Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton), Jessiman, Morningstar, Morrow, Newman (Windsor-Walkerville), Pritchard (Mrs.), Reilly, Renwick (Mrs.), (Scarborough Centre), Shulman, Smith, (Simcoe East), Villeneuve, Whitney, Worton—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE GUN CONTROL ACT, 1970

Mr. DeMonte moves first reading of bill intituled, The Gun Control Act, 1970.

Mr. Speaker: May I ask when notice was given of this?

Mr. D. M. DeMonte (Dovercourt): Friday, Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. DeMonte: Mr. Speaker, the bill provides for the licensing of all manufacturers, importers and retailers of firearms in Ontario. No person may possess a firearm unless he is the holder of a permit for it issued by the director of firearms, who must be satisfied there is a good reason for its possession. No permit may be issued for a pistol, revolver or similar handgun. A central registry for all firearms in Ontario is established and the onus is placed on the person transferring possession of a firearm to notify the director. Penalties are provided, Mr. Speaker.

THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION ACT, 1965

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Act, 1965.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to ensure that the results of any experiment or research programme or study conducted or participated in by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, shall be made available to the public, and any product protected by patent

or copyright arising from such a research programme shall be made public immediately upon completion without charge.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have had the opportunity to listen to perhaps 20 throne speeches in this Legislature, in special and regular sessions, and at one time or another I suppose I have read a few score throne speeches from the House of Commons or the Legislature reaching back into the history of our country, but I must say that this year's Speech from the Throne represents the blandest version of that historic document that I have ever had the opportunity to hear.

What it omits is almost every one of the problems that are worrying the people of the province of Ontario at the present time. What it reflects is an all pervasive smugness and complacency, and what it includes is a weary exercise of self praise with no real guide to the government's legislative programme. The document provides the most convincing proof we have had so far that this government has simply run out of steam. On the basis of this document the government simply does not want to govern. The time has come, obviously for the people of Ontario to seek a new government.

What I want to do, in the course of my remarks over the next period—how long it will be I have no power to predict because it will depend on the assistance I get from various quarters of the House; "assistance" in quotes, for the benefit of the hon. Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman) there—is to take a series of issues, a broad range of issues in the scope of this government's activities, and to analyse them, not completely, not exhaustively, not in depth in every instance, but to extract from them the political thrust to show that the comment I have made that this government just refuses to govern and to grapple with the problems of the people, is accurate. Therefore I think it is time that not only we in this Legislature, but the people in the province of Ontario should examine the implications that flow from that.

In reading through some of the editorial comment that has been made in recent months with regard to the decline and imminent fall of the Tory regime in the province of Ontario, my attention was rather captured by what I thought was a highly appropriate one. Indeed, it aroused some nostalgic memories from my days as a student back at Queen's, where we often felt that we had to sort of abide by the gospel according to the *Whig Standard*. This is a quotation from the *Whig Standard* of December 10, shortly after the government party had held its provincial association meeting. I am going to quote a paragraph or so here:

> Premier Robarts obviously detests the idea of a publicly sponsored medical plan, so much that he loses his customary poise when forced even to discuss it. The other day, for instance, he told startled delegates to the Progressive Conservative Association annual meeting that paying only 90 per cent of doctors' fees was adopted because of its deterrent effect.
>
> "We could pay 100 per cent but then we would have no deterrent." The Premier said that many people are "sort of professional doctor-goers" and added that without this deterrent the cost of the medical service would become impossible.
>
> Now, the man who should know most—

The editorial continues; they are rather taking a lot for granted.

> —the man who should know most about the government's medical care philosophy, the Minister of Health, Thomas Wells, admitted frankly that Mr. Robarts did not know what he was talking about. Interviewed after the Premier's statement, Mr. Wells said, "If it is a deterrent it is a good reason for reviewing the plan".
>
> The minister, of course, could not take any other line because he had just finished accusing the doctors of Ontario of trying to destroy the medical care programme. He recently told delegates of the party that, "The doctors are just knocking this plan to hell".

Mr. Speaker, I pause right there. Here is one example—and there are legion—of the kind of confusion we have right in the cabinet so that the Prime Minister does not know what other cabinet ministers are doing, and in public we have this contradiction emerging periodically. For example, the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) announced last year, in his budget speech, that there was going to be a provincial income tax. The Prime Minister

went before the TV studios a few weeks ago and said that there was going to be no provincial income tax.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): I did not say that.

Mr. MacDonald: The Prime Minister was certain that there was no firm commitment. Well, the Prime Minister is getting a little touchy on this issue—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I just want the facts correct. One of the interviewers—if the member will go and listen to the tape—said, "Are you going to implement a provincial tax reform"—I believe he said—"in 1971 or 1972?" And I said that would be impossible. That is what I said. Both the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) and the member for York South choose to interpret this as meaning that I contradicted what the Treasurer said in the white paper. I do not think, in fact, that is it.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that the member of the press gallery who reported it in full, namely Geoff Stevens of the *Globe and Mail*—at least I think it was Geoff Stevens; it was in the *Globe and Mail* in a front-page story—indicated that the Prime Minister said that he did not think there had been that kind of a firm commitment.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I have been through this enough times. I think some place I have a tape of it, actually.

Mr. MacDonald: It would be interesting to get the tape because the suggestion that there was no firm commitment was followed in the *Globe and Mail* front-page story with two or three parenthetical paragraphs just quoting the situation as the provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) gave it a year ago. Clearly, there was a contradiction.

Well the Prime Minister argues the point, so let us go to another example.

A year ago we fought out the whole Medicare legislation in this House, and one of the areas of greatest controversy in Medicare legislation was the payment of only 90 per cent of the OMA schedule of fees and the government's move to preclude insurance companies from providing insurance to cover the remaining ten per cent of the OMA schedule of fees, or any overcharge in the OMA schedule of fees.

One would have thought that issue would have been threshed out in painful detail in the cabinet, and that the Prime Minister would have been thoroughly familiar with it. But what happens?

He goes down to Windsor, and in Windsor he makes some comment to the effect that he finds this exclusion of the private insurance companies from providing coverage for the remaining 10 per cent was "repugnant" to him and he was going to come back and do something about it.

Well he did come back; and according to news reports they had a cabinet meeting the next day and the cabinet discovered that they could not do anything about it because it was precluded by the regulations, or the requirements, in connection with the grants from the federal government.

But the important thing is that the Prime Minister did not even know a very key, and a very controversial, issue in his own legislation that we had threshed out.

You see we talk in this Legislature, and it does not register. The Prime Minister does not hear it from his own ranks; and he does not hear it when we say anything from this side of the House.

Let me give you another example.

Various government spokesmen indicated last year that the government was considering ending the basic shelter exemption. Indeed the Prime Minister confirmed that this was emerging; if not as a firm decision at least it was in the government's mind, because he assured the municipalities that there would be an equivalent amount of money, presumably made available in grants.

Then what happened? This spring along comes the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) to announce that the residential rebate system is going to be extended for another year.

What goes on in the cabinet? Do they not talk to each other? Do they not listen to each other? Are there no collective decisions at all?

Mr. Speaker, the confusion is just beyond description; it taxes credulity.

The editorial head in the *Whig Standard* says: "Get Together Gentlemen!"

And it is right! Do get together gentlemen, because unfortunately they are the people responsible for the conduct of the business of Ontario, the people's business.

So we come to the final paragraph of the remarks of the *Whig Standard*. They are, almost, a text that I think might appropriately be taken for consideration in this Legislature. I quote:

> Mr. Robarts was warned recently by members of his own party that the Ontario government is losing touch with the people.

> The Ontario government lost touch with the people years ago. Its record, with few exceptions, is a calamitous succession of arrogant insults to the needs and feelings of the people that it is supposed to be serving. If the Prime Minister does not soon stop being so blatant on the side of vested interests he will kill himself and his party politically in the province of Ontario.

I know that every time we raise the issue of vested interests the Prime Minister gets very disturbed about it, particularly if one raises that darling of the Conservative Party, and particularly in the city of London, namely the London Life Insurance Company. But I want to cite one example, not for any exhaustive threshing of the old straw—the question of OHSIP. It is a classic example of where this government bowed to vested interests, and the result is that we have got a very inferior plan to live with.

In the first week of the month of February, the headlines emerged first in the *Globe and Mail,* and then followed with spates of stories that were carried all across the province of Ontario, the gist of which was, "There is chaos in OHSIP."

Well what else is new, Mr. Speaker?

There is no news in that revelation; OHSIP has been in chaos since birth. Indeed since its inception, because of the unholy marriage of the Robarts' government and the insurance companies.

This government was so determined to protect the interest of the insurance companies and to maintain the interest of the insurance companies in the picture of medical insurance that they were willing to forego over $200 million in federal grants before they would institute Medicare in the province of Ontario.

The Minister of Correctional Services may shake his head, but that is a fact. It is an historical fact that we did forego those grants from July of 1968 until October of 1969; and there was no difference in the agreement that you got from Ottawa in 1969 other than the fact that Ottawa, too, had capitulated to the insurance lobby and permitted their inclusion.

The result, Mr. Speaker, is that administratively this government has created a Frankenstein monster which is strangling even the government.

Now I am not going to waste any tears over that, but unfortunately the people of the province of Ontario are suffering while it goes on. One of the unnamed officials who was quoted in one of the news stories said that the quickest single solution to the problem is that the 31 private insurance companies, the so-called "designated agents", should be phased out.

Well we in the New Democratic Party say they should not have been there at all. They should not have been there to begin with, to be phased out later as the Liberals suggest; they should have been out to begin with!

But the problem in OHSIP is more widespread, Mr. Speaker. The other significant thing that emerged in these news stories was that there was no effective communication between the government and those responsible for the OHSIP operation. There is a magnificent quote from some official to the effect that, "The new minister is just never around and we have no meaningful communication with him." That is what one official was quoted as saying. Well—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Another unnamed one?

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, he is unnamed. Would the minister not expect him to be unnamed when he made a comment like that?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I like to hear named officials.

Mr. MacDonald: This is the very minister who likes to hear them named when they are critical of the government—for what purpose?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Let me return to the throne speech, Mr. Speaker.

It is so bereft of substance that the two most mentioned items in it happen to be in reference to departmental shifts. Now departmental shifts are not going to do very much for the people of the province of Ontario. It is part of the game of musical chairs and administrative rearrangements that does not really solve any immediate problem. It just raises the prospect that it might solve them. These shifts were, first, in the expansion of The Department of Mines to include northern development; let me deal with that one first.

That is really just an institutionalizing of what went on last year, because everybody is very much aware that the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), self-appointed or otherwise, became the quarterback for a very elaborate effort on the part of the government to try to repair its tattered image throughout northern Ontario. And now the action is going to be formally instituted within his department. Indeed, I thought it was

just a little bit presumptuous that literally an hour after the throne speech had been read by the Queen's representative—and he must have been affronted by the innocuousness of the words that were put in his mouth this year—there was a release from the minister's department spelling out what the department was going to do and saying that the department was in effect becoming ombudsman of the north.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Never dreaming of bringing it into the House.

Mr. MacDonald: All I can say to the minister is, he has a lot of "ombudsing" to do. If he has not heard of that word, perhaps he will find it in the course of his activities.

Let me give the House a couple of examples, again not attempting to be exhaustive: During the past year when we were up at the northern development conference, we had repeated reminders—if we needed them, and God knows, we did not—of the fact that municipalities in northern Ontario have extra costs because of the expense of municipal services. Sewage services are fantastically more expensive in Kenora or Sudbury as compared with the plains of London or Chatham.

Well, what happens? The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs comes in with his extended residential tax rebate and indicates it is going to be provided on a new formula. In explaining the new formula he gave details of how the new formula would have worked in the year 1969 compared with the formula we have been living with during the last year. I was rather intrigued as I glanced through the changes that took place in a number of the northern districts.

The House might be interested to know, Mr. Speaker, that for example in Algoma district, five municipalities will be better off, have a larger residential tax rebate as a result of the new formula, and 10 of them will have smaller tax rebates. In Kenora, three of them will have larger tax rebates, four of them will have smaller. In Sudbury, eight municipalities will have increases, 12 municipalities will have decreases. In Manitoulin, nine will have increases and 12 will have decreases. In Rainy River, three will have increases and 10 municipalities will have decreases. In short, in spite of this elaborate effort on the part of our master ombudsman about what the government was going to do, one of his own colleagues comes in with a new programme which is going to discriminate against northern Ontario.

Mr. J. Renwick: No wonder they moved him down beside the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Let me come to another example. For years we in the New Democratic Party have been challenging some of the basics of the government administration of the most important industry in northern Ontario, namely, forestry. I say "most important" because forestry is a renewable resource, and therefore if handled correctly, it is there for future generations. Unfortunately, in mining the day you start to mine, your mine starts to disappear because when the ore has been mined, the mine is gone. Therefore, I repeat, forestry is the most important industry in northern Ontario.

We have been challenging some of the basics in the administration as to whether or not, for example, there were not far too many resources handed out in great empires to certain licence holders, whether or not there were adequate regeneration programmes, whether or not there had been any followup in the recommendations of the Kennedy report back in the late 1940s about an integration of the pulp and paper and the lumbering or sawmill industries, so that we can maximize our production of that very costly lumber.

There are many other points—I will not take the time to elaborate on them—that have always been dismissed by this government. I can remember Kelso Roberts would get up and in his inimitable way he would flail the air about what had been done and how everything was in fine shape.

How this new report came into being really mystifies me, but according to the news reports the Minister himself asked the Ontario Economic Council to do a study, and that organization, which almost invariably produces a most reactionary document, must have slipped up on this occasion. I do not happen to know the person who did the study; I do not even know what his position is. In any case, it is rather interesting, if I can just refer briefly to some of the key points in this study. I quote from page 6:

> In the exploitable areas today, on an annual allowable cut basis, there are some 8.5 million cords of wood surplus, some 60 per cent conifers and 40 per cent hardwoods. To put it more succinctly—

And grasp this, Mr. Speaker—when we had been told by a previous minister that virtu-

ally all of the allowable cut in Ontario had been used—grasp this:

> To put it more succinctly, 67 per cent of the annual allowable cut in Ontario's exploitable forests is going unused.

Mr. J. Renwick: Shame.

Mr. MacDonald: It just shatters the whole defence that the government has put up.

I will go on:

> The figures become much more significant when it is realized that in surplus conifers alone, some 500 million cords are in excess of the total current annual consumption of pulpwood and could perpetually sustain the operation of several new pulp mills as large or larger than any now in operation in the province of Ontario.

They point out, for example, that British Columbia, at this time, has projected outlays for the building of 15 new mills, Quebec, seven mills; Newfoundland and New Brunswick, three each; Nova Scotia and Alberta, two each; Manitoba, one. Then they have this comment:

> No new paper mills, other than converters, have been built in Ontario since 1948. Expansion, which increased capacity by some 25 per cent in 1965 to 1967, has done little more than maintain the relative position.

In short, we are simply not maximizing the production and wealth that is available because of the failures in administration of this government.

I go on to page 11. They harken back to the Kennedy report of 1945, and they comment:

> The same report also said that unless vigorous or remedial measures are soon taken, the lumber industry will continue to diminish in importance to such an extent that before 25 years it will be classified as a minor industry which would be a major tragedy.

Their observation is that in the intervening 22 years "limited remedial action has been taken"—again, an abrogation of the government's responsibilities.

I turn to the next chapter in the report on forest management entitled, "Too Little Was Done". They acknowledge the fact that the lumbering process for many years in the province of Ontario was considered a sort of mining operation, and they go on to point out that there has been no efficient forest management. Let me quote it to the House so that it will have their own words:

> Efficient forest management means first, the use of present stocks of mature timber to best advantage by satisfying the demands of established industry, and incurring new industry to use up mature forests before they are lost through decay. The second and equally vital responsibility of forest management is the regeneration of the second crop, as good as, or better than the first, and its maintenance of maximum growth to maturity.

Then, note this, Mr. Speaker:

> Unfortunately, over the longer term, little has been done in these two regards by many of the operators, both pulpwood and sawmill, cutting on crown licensed areas.

After all of the effort that has been expended in this House to try to get a government to implement effective forest management and effective regeneration, here is an up-to-date comment of what we have, and have not, achieved. Another little note in the next column says, "Moreover, reforestation under the department is undertaken—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): It is the only good work the economic council ever did.

Mr. MacDonald: —is undertaken on a shared cost basis with taxpayers meeting the larger share." So once again, while the government lets the companies involved in the exploitation of our resources get away without paying their full share, the taxpayer has to pick it up.

Mr. Speaker, I can go on and on. I will not.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): What else is new from that government?

Mr. MacDonald: I can go on and on but I will not because, quite frankly, the report is a condemnation. It is a documentation of the deficiency of the government policies in one of its major departments in reference to the north. If this new "ombudsing" minister is going to do something about the north, he will have to sit down with that giant department of Lands and Forests and get it into action in facing some of the basic realities.

Mr. Lawlor: If they criticized his department, you would think the minister would come up there thick and fast.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Who is the leader over there?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: As usual, from the hon. member for Lakeshore, very wise words, very much to the point.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Anyone else want to buttress these arguments?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Let me move on to that other departmental shift that took place, namely, the suggestion that The Department of Citizenship is going to be expanded. We got into an interesting game. The newspapers all reported that the expansion was going to include a switch of the branch of Indian development from Social and Family Services to the provincial Treasurer or the Minister of Citizenship. To clarify this speculation, I thought it might be wise to ask the Prime Minister but he would not confirm it. "In the fullness of time" we will find out what is going to happen.

Well, I hope this shift is going to happen because the credibility of the Minister of Social and Family Services has been destroyed in the minds, not only of the Indians, but of most of those white people, and organizations in the white community who are interested in moving into a new chapter in Indian affairs in the province of Ontario. We have been treated to a spectacle in the last few months—the same minister going around the province like a Victorian lady bountiful, handing out grants for this and for that; presumably now making available some of that $1 million that was appropriated two years ago for Indian development, which he did not act upon in the appropriate time. It becomes even more ludicrous if he does that on the eve of the branch being switched to a new minister.

However, the reason that I raise it is not that I want to explore the full ramifications of the policy, but in the hope that now that it is going to come under a new minister we might move into a new chapter.

What disturbs me, Mr. Chairman, is the attitude of this government, and the unexpected manifestation of that attitude sometimes from the most unexpected sources, which is going to cripple our effort of getting a better approach to Indian affairs.

I want to review an episode that I raised in the Legislature before Christmas with reference to that assault charge in the town of Hearst when two Indians, Paul Bird and Elizabeth Steven, were attacked by a hotel manager. They took the details of the case to the local police and could get no action. When no action was forthcoming they subsequently, through the Union of Ontario Indians, hired their own lawyer. They prosecuted the case and they got a conviction.

Now Mr. Speaker, I drew this to the attention of the Attorney General, asking why the crown attorney had not accepted his responsibilities for these Indians, as he does for any other citizen in northern Ontario. The Attorney General said that he had checked with the crown attorney and the senior advisory attorney in northern Ontario and they said they were always available.

Indeed, allegedly they were available up until the day that the trial opened in the latter part of May, and the assault had actually taken place on April 5. Because they had not accepted their responsibilities, I raised the question, and did it again yesterday, as to whether it would not have been at least a wise gesture for public relations purposes, if nothing else, for the government to underwrite the cost that had to be borne by the Union of Ontario Indians for fighting this case.

The minister dismissed the whole thing. Well Mr. Speaker, you know the interesting point is that the minister has in his files a letter from James Karswick, the Toronto lawyer who was retained by the Union of Ontario Indians. That letter in his files is dated last September, some three months before I had an opportunity to raise this matter in the House. Let me quote just two paragraphs from it. Said Mr. Karswick:

> I was advised also that after inquiries were made at the local court office, that this matter was regarded as a private complaint and therefore the crown attorney would not be prosecuting.
>
> On April 28, 1969, I telephoned the senior advisory crown council in Timmins and confirmed that the crown attorney would not be prosecuting, and that accordingly I would be handling this prosecution.

In short, Mr. Speaker, in the Attorney General's own files he has the details from the lawyer who was involved, and yet he had the effrontery, in this House, to suggest that the lawyer had almost gone running up to northern Ontario in search of business.

However, that is not the end of it, Mr. Speaker. Ten days after that assault took place, two other officers of this government were involved and made reports to their chiefs back in this government that the crown attorneys were not going to do their duty. Therefore it was they who advised that the Union of Ontario Indians should retain a solicitor on behalf of Paul Bird and Elizabeth Steven.

One of those persons was a gentleman by the name of McClellan, who was a community development officer of the Indian development branch of The Department of Social and Family Services. If the Attorney General would like, he can go to the files of his colleague's department and find a letter that was written about the middle of April indicating the Union of Ontario Indians had been advised to get a lawyer, otherwise the Indians were not going to get justice.

Furthermore, because there was no action on the part of the normal law enforcement machinery in the local area, the chief of the band in the area got in touch with the human rights commission which sent an officer up there who also recommended that they should get a lawyer otherwise they were not going to get justice.

The Attorney General should know all this. If he did not when it was first drawn to his attention, he presumably has reviewed the files. But I repeat, when I raised it in the House about mid-December he came out with this excuse that he had checked with his crown attorneys and he was confident that everything had been done, there had been no neglect of duty, and indeed he reiterated it two days ago.

An interesting thing happened, and we will let those who were on the scene speak and let their words reveal the shocking neglect and attitude of this government. That is what terrifies me in its whole approach to Indian affairs, because when the news stories were carried of the debate in this House on December 15, or thereabouts, Ross McClellan, master of social work, who had been a community development officer and was one of those 10 who resigned in protest because of the policies of this government, and now holds a position in Parry Sound in the social work field, wrote a letter to the Attorney General. I am going to take the time of the House, Mr. Speaker, to put two or three letters on the record, because they speak for themselves. The Attorney General cannot dismiss them, as he is prone to do when some of us on this side raise the matters.

18 William Street,
Parry Sound, Ontario,
December 17, 1969.

The Hon. Arthur Wishart,
Attorney General,
Province of Ontario,
Queen's Park.

Dear Sir:

In the matter of your investigation of the trial of M. Claude Comeau in Hearst, Ontario, the following information may be useful to you.

At the time of the assault upon Mr. Paul Bird and Miss E. Steven (April 5), I was stationed in Hearst as a community development officer with the Ontario Indian development branch. In this capacity I was directly involved with Mr. Bird, Miss Steven, Chief Bert Sutherland, Councillor Edgar Sutherland, and Mr. Peter Bird, in their successful prosecution of this case. The case was of considerable importance—

And I draw this to your attention, Mr. Speaker. This is the reason why I plead with this government not to dismiss this as an inconsequential event.

The case was of considerable importance. Despite the high frequency of assaults against Indian people in the Hearst area, this was the first time that the local Indian person attempted to obtain redress and protection from the law by pressing charges against his assailants.

Immediately following the assault, Mr. Bird went to the Ontario Provincial Police station in Hearst to inform them of the incident. He was interviewed by officer T. Coad, who advised him that if he wanted to lay charges he would have to go to the justice of the peace. Mr. Bird, who was still bleeding from the facial wounds inflicted during the assault, then left the OPP station and proceeded to the office of the justice of the peace. This was the total extent of the assistance which Mr. Bird received from the provincial police.

You may wish to investigate, sir, why the assault was not even investigated by the OPP, why Mr. Comeau was not even interviewed by the OPP. Let me assure you that if Mr. Bird had committed the assault and Mr. Comeau had laid the charges, Mr. Bird would have been arrested. There was no police investigation on the incident between the day of the assault, April 5, and the first day of the trial, May 26. The pretrial report from the prosecutor was not even prepared until one half hour prior to the commencement of the trial and this consisted only in the interview with Mr. Bird at the police station.

Proceeding to the justice of the peace, Mr. Bird and Miss Steven each laid a charge of common assault. When I interviewed the justice of the peace on April 8, he informed me that the charges were registered as private citizens' complaints. He

expressed uncertainty regarding the role, if any, which the Crown would play in the prosecution.

By this time the chief of the Constance Lake Band was sufficiently concerned about developments in the case that he called in a representative of the Ontario Human Rights Commission. The human rights officer investigated the situation and agreed with my opinion that the Crown was not prepared to perform any more than a perfunctory prosecution, if even that.

It was difficult to imagine the crown attorney prosecuting the case when he had no police investigation to go by, and he made no effort himself to locate the witnesses, let alone interview them.

Please remember that the witnesses were Indian people who spoke only Cree.

In fact, it was apparent that Mr. Bird was in the position of having to prepare the prosecution's case himself.

In view of this situation, Chief Sutherland, Mr. Edgar Sutherland, and Mr. Peter Bird, all directors of the Union of Ontario Indians, contacted the union and requested assistance in the form of legal advice. Mr. James D. Karswick was retained by the union and he took over prosecution of the case from the Crown, which had indicated its reluctance to deal adequately with the matter.

Mr. Karswick and the human rights officer spent innumerable hours interviewing witnesses, gathering evidence and encouraging the Indian people that they would be granted a fair hearing in the white man's court. It is outrageous that these services had to be provided privately; that they were not provided by the agents of your department.

At the trial, the Indian people were given a fair hearing, thanks to their own inspiring courage and the hard work of Mr. Karswick and the human rights officer. Provincial Judge Leger must be commended on his absolute fairness. The case was successfully prosecuted on both counts.

I have written the above because of the significance of this case to the people of Constance Lake and because of the performance of the OPP and the Crown in the prosecution of this case.

The services of the Ontario Provincial Police were extended to Indian reserves as a result of unilateral decision taken by government, without consultation with Indian leaders. The Indian advisory committee was informed long after the OPP began policing reserves. The least you can do is to ensure that the agents of your department perceive their services to the Indian people as one of extending the protection of the law. Too often this service is associated with the recent incidents in Moosonee and Beardmore.

It was the failure of the agents of your department in Hearst to offer the full protection of the law to Mr. Paul Bird and Miss E. Steven which necessitated the expenditure of funds by the Union of Ontario Indians. I respectfully suggest that your department now reimburse the union for the expenses incurred. I respectfully suggest that you instruct the agents of your department of the nature of the service which they are supposed to provide.

Yours sincerely,
Ross McClellan, M.SW.

Five days later, on December 22, Mr. Speaker, the Attorney General replied to that letter. I want to put it on the record.

Dear Mr. McClellan:
Re: Regina vs. Comeau
(Bird and Steven)

I received your letter of December 17 and there are certain matters which you raised that I consider to be most important. At the same time, I wish to ascertain completely and accurately the truth of the inference which you make, that the crown attorney at Hearst was in fact consulted by you or those persons whom you know, and that he refused to act in this particular matter.

Your allegations appear to be based upon inferences which you drew from circumstances which do not, in my mind, provide a proper basis upon which to make such serious allegations.

I will be pursuing your allegations that the Ontario Provincial Police did not properly perform their duties in this particular case, and your reference in this respect will be certainly followed up.

If I may interject, Mr. Speaker, that was two months ago. It was pursued with such vigour and the matter has assumed such importance in the mind of the Attorney General that when I raised it in a question before the

orders of the day yesterday he had forgotten completely about it, and no report has been made to anybody. Indeed, I doubt whether he knows what the report of the OPP is. However, I pick up from the letter:

> Your allegations against the crown attorney appear to be based upon gratituous comment made by the justice of the peace and upon an inference drawn from the attitude of the Ontario Provincial Police constable who spoke to the complainants. It does not appear, however, that you ever spoke directly to the crown attorney or that you ever actively sought his participation, nor that any other person actually attempted to bring the matter to his attention in an effective manner. If you did have some direct contact with the crown attorney and if he did, in fact, indicate that he would not be available to take this prosecution, I would appreciate it if you would advise me right away as to the approximate date and the nature of such a discussion, so that I may follow it up.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, may I interject, that three months earlier, the Attorney General had on his file a letter from the lawyer, dated September 5, indicating that he had raised the matter one month before the trial took place with the senior crown attorney in northern Ontario who intimated that he would not be prosecuting. How completely out of touch can the Attorney General be with the matter, when it has been drawn to his attention and he examines the facts in the files? Let me continue:

> In the meantime, I would again point out that when I reviewed this matter, both with the crown attorney and the senior advisory crown attorney, I was advised that there was no such direct contact and that, indeed, the crown attorney was available to take the prosecution, but that at the trial the complainant produced his own private solicitor who indicated that he was going to proceed with the matter.
>
> I will await your advice as to the specific facts upon which you have made your suggestions as to the refusal of the crown attorney to appear on this matter. As a result of your contact—

And here is a final point which gets us into the broad picture so disturbing with regard to this government's approach:

> As a result of your contact in this case, it appears that you have presumed the crown attorneys throughout the province refuse to provide the services which they are obligated to provide in the course of discharging their duties as my agents throughout Ontario. This is the first instance in which anybody has made such an allegation and, indeed, there have been many comments to the contrary in the province, where the assistance of the crown attorney and the Ontario Provincial Police force have been specifically complimented by individuals who have been called upon to seek advice and assistance.
>
> I find it difficult to accept readily that there is some all-pervading lack of attention being given to these matters, because of this one specific instance in which I have not yet been able to isolate any one specific fact which supports the suggestion that the crown attorney refused to prosecute this complaint. It is for this reason that I am most anxious to establish the facts so that we may deal with it on that basis, rather than upon the basis of innuendo and inference.
>
> I wait your advice.
>
> Yours very truly,
> A. A. Wishart.

Mr. Speaker, he got the advice within 10 days. On December 31, Mr. McClellan wrote a third, and I assume, a final letter in this correspondence to the Attorney General.

> Dear Sir:
>
> I am pleased to reply to your request of December 22 for further information regarding the role of the Crown in the above case.
>
> I did not speak directly to the crown attorney prior to the trial. It is my recollection that the officer of the human rights commission attempted to interview the crown attorney but was unable to locate him; however, I am not certain on this point.
>
> At no time in my letter of December 17 did I allege that the crown attorney refused to act as the prosecutor in the case. My allegation was and is, that the Crown failed to deal adequately with the matter, that he was not prepared to provide more than a perfunctory prosecution of an important and difficult case. The crown attorney had made no attempt to acquaint himself with the facts of the case prior to the commencement of the trial. He had not interviewed any of the prosecution witnesses. He had made no arrangements to locate the prosecution witnesses and to bring them to Hearst from their homes in Toronto.

There was no police investigation or pre-trial report upon which to base a prosecution.

These, sir, are facts; they are not innuendo or inference. The mere fact that the crown attorney showed upon the court on the day of the trial was inconsequential in the light of the above. It is beyond comprehension how he could expect to prosecut the case successfully from a position of complete ignorance.

Mr. James Karswick was not retained by the complainants for the purpose of prosecuting the case. He was retained to provide legal advice to the complainants as a result of the irregularities referred to in my previous letter. When it became clear that the successful prosecution of the case was in jeopardy, Mr. Karswick assumed the prosecution himself.

The case involved 11 hours of testimony; much of this was intensive questioning of defence witnesses. Mr. Karswick's questioning was based on thorough knowledge of the facts of the case. Without this knowledge he could not have been successful.

Equally important, Mr. Karswick spent considerable time gaining the confidence of the Indian people who testified for the prosecution. Without that trust it is doubtful that the prosecution witnesses would have been able to testify effectively.

I am not raising this issue for the purpose of engaging in vendettas of political dispute. There is a basic principle at stake in this case. Despite your assurance to the contrary, all is not well in Ontario between Indians and the law. Anybody who is familiar with the situation of Indian people in northern Ontario is aware of the bigotry and discrimination encountered daily. This bigotry erupts into violence and assault with appalling frequency. It is very rare that an Indian victim will undertake to lay charges against an assailant.

Only a person of exceptional courage will dare to take the consequences of seeking police protection. You are aware of the pressures which can be brought against such an individual in a small, isolated northern town.

It is essential that the Indian people of northern Ontario have the full protection of the law. The situation at present is that the Indian people are afraid to lay charges or else do not trust that the police or the courts will act upon their complaints.

In Hearst last spring Paul Bird and Elizabeth Steven had the courage to charge their assailant with assault. You are now aware of the response of the OPP and of the crown attorney. I doubt whether you are satisfied with the services which your agents, the OPP and the crown attorney provided in this case. As a citizen of this province, I was profoundly ashamed.

Nor should you pretend that your agents throughout the rest of northern Ontario are more sensitive to the special situation of Indian people and are more vigorous in extending the protection of the law. They will become more sensitive and vigorous only inasmuch as they are instructed to do so.

I hope now that the issue is clear: Whether your agents provide nominal service or whether intensive effort is made to guarantee Indian citizens of Ontario the full protection of the law? If I failed to specify this in my previous letter, I apologize.

I conclude again by respectfully suggesting that you reimburse the Union of Ontario Indians for the legal expenses incurred in the prosecution of this case.

Now Mr. Speaker, the things that I want to emphasize in reading this matter for the record—and I trust that finally the Attorney General will study his own file and not reply to questions in the House that show an ignorance of what is on his own file—can be summed up in two or three questions, just to sharpen and focus the issue.

Does the Attorney General still believe that there was no negligence on the part of the law officers of the Crown?

Secondly, what were the Attorney General's findings with regard to the OPP and the non-performance of their duties? That investigation, he was going to make.

Thirdly, how, conceivably, can the Attorney General make the fatuous assertion that this is the first time he has had any criticism of law enforcement in regard to Indians? There have been authoritative tomes written by the law society and people prestigious in the law society on the kind of injustice that is meted out to Indians in the uneven application of the law.

And finally, why does this department, in view of all this, not accept the legal cost sustained by the Union of Ontario Indians by way of compensation, because the tragedy, Mr. Speaker is this: that for once Indians have had the courage to fight back. They did not get what they were entitled to in terms of protection under the law, but through the

Union of Ontario Indians they got the necessary legal assistance. They not only fought back, but they won, and now what is the Attorney General doing?

When finally he had a case where he at least half proved, if not wholly proved, to Indians that they could get justice before the law, he is frittering away all the advantage from it by an ungracious, stingy approach to the whole matter of refusing to acknowledge facts when the facts are on his files. I call this to the attention of the Attorney General, indeed to the Prime Minister, because if he is going to switch the Indian affairs branch to a new minister where we can move into a new chapter, I hope it is going to be accompanied by a new attitude on the part of the whole government—otherwise the new chapter will be no more fruitful in terms of solving problems of the Indian community.

I move on, Mr. Speaker, to two major issues that are going to be facing this session—tax reform, with the related sideshow that this government is conducting, its frenzied vendetta against the white paper, and the whole prices and income policy with Ontario's role in that anti-inflation. The interesting thing, just to show the members how irrelevant was the throne speech, is that it was virtually silent on these two major issues, which inevitably are going to dominate the first two or three months, at least, of this session of the Ontario Legislature.

If it was silent, at least the two stalwarts on the government side, the mover and seconder, came storming in to compensate—two trumpeters in the government's noisy battle against Ottawa. Most of their contributions in moving and seconding the reply to the Speech from the Throne dealt with these issues, well furbished from that apparently bottomless arsenal of ammunition that the downtown office of the Tory government has for this battle.

Let me deal with each of these in turn. First, on tax reform and the white paper, and I want to go back to the beginning, Mr. Speaker, because there is some strange ignorance of facts with regard to events at that time. The white paper was released on November 7. The first New Democratic Party reaction to the white paper preceded the government's reaction. It was made on the morning of November 10, in a press conference, the record of which is likely available in the files of the TV room here at Queen's Park. Certainly it is available in the papers. Yet for the last two or three weeks somebody, with appalling ignorance, in the Tory organization has sent out a missive, obviously to everybody, to the effect that the NDP has been silent on this issue. Yes, even the Minister of Mines interjected that we had not spoken on it. Well, we spoke on it, ahead of the government's reaction—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. Renwick: Yes, we read the Carter report before it, so we had the benefit of that work.

Mr. MacDonald: I will tell the members with regard to the interjection that we are aware enough of the contents of the white paper that when we made a statement we are still sticking with that statement. We don't have to change it.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Has he not got the tense wrong? Does he not mean he is stuck with it?

Mr. MacDonald: We are not stuck with it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: We updated it, in view of continuing public discussion, a couple of weeks or so ago in what might be called a "balanced reaction" to this set of proposals, namely that there were portions of them that we were in support of, there were portions of them we are obviously opposed to, and there are other portions which required a great deal more study. However, Mr. Speaker, the interesting thing is—and the Leader of the Opposition put this on the record yesterday so I do not need to go to any great lengths in quotations—that five or six hours after we went on the record, the provincial Treasurer came into the House and read a lengthy statement, some six or eight pages, and one paragraph read as follows:

> Our initial assessment of the federal programme indicates that Ontario can support with enthusiasm a number of the proposals advanced by Ottawa.

He had read "the proposals advanced by Ottawa", in other words specifics, and supported them. But he went further, Mr. Speaker:

> The principles underlying the recommended changes conform largely to those advocated by Ontario in its own reform paper.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, they not only accept specific proposals, but more significant, they accepted the underlying principles—

Mr. J. Renwick: And with enthusiasm.

Mr. MacDonald: In short, Mr. Speaker, the initial reaction of this government—

Mr. J. Renwick: Before the member for Eglinton set them straight.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: The initial reaction of this government was in many respects similar to the reaction of the New Democratic Party. The government had its reservations, but it accepted certain proposals, and in view of all of the current hullabaloo that has been raised, it is most important to bear in mind that the underlying principles were accepted by this government.

Why the reversal? Well, it is obvious—and we are back to the *Whig Standard's* comment that this government is so abject in its submission to the vested interests—that once the pressures of all those who had enjoyed tax favouritism began to be put on the Tories both at Ottawa and here, they started to repudiate that endorsation of principles. You cannot protect these interests and implement tax reform. It cannot be done. You cannot have tax equity without redistribution of the tax burden. This is what the government is attempting to do.

I know the Prime Minister had a pretty constant theme for about a week or 10 days during the February version of the vendetta. He said that he was disturbed by the federal government's pre-empting more of the tax field—raising more revenue under the guise of tax reform. I agree with the Prime Minister; that is a valid point. The federal government presumes to be introducing tax reform but is gobbling up another $660 million or $1.3 billion—let us not argue about the figure for the moment—more revenue that the provinces need. A very valid point.

But I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, there was a simple solution, if solutions were what the Prime Minister was looking for: lower the tax rebate to bring in the same revenue, but do not scuttle the tax reform programme in the process. But not once have I heard the Prime Minister make the obvious suggestion that if Ottawa is going to be raising more revenues, it should use the simple expedient of lowering their rates, so that it comes up with the same revenue through a reformed tax structure.

Of course, this government is engaged in an all-out attack on the federal tax reform programme because it is opposed to tax reform. The Prime Minister has gone before the TV cameras in our studio in this building here and, you know, it almost begins to be laughable, and one has the impression that every Victorian virtue was threatened by the Benson white paper. It was going to destroy thrift, and savings, and integrity. It was going to cripple the future economic development of the country, and then he came in with that real shocker: It was going to change the social face of the nation. If you have got about 20—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Now we get the line right—socialist party by his own admission.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, what the Prime Minister has unwittingly revealed is that the whole approach of the Tories during this current episode is that of a bunch of hypocrites.

If this government is really interested in the great percentage of our people who receive so little income that they do not pay income tax; and if this government is really interested in another group of our people who submit tax returns but are earning less than $3,000; if their Tory counterparts in Ottawa are going around weeping crocodile tears about poverty and how something should be done about it, then they really want to change the social face of the nation, because they cannot meet the needs of some 40 to 50 per cent of the people who are getting so little that they pay no tax at all or earn below $3,000 without changing the social face of the nation.

So they should quit being hypocrites if they want to intervene in that fashion.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): That is economic heresy.

Mr. MacDonald: The Leader of the Opposition yesterday made the comment that what this government is doing is scuttling the federal government's tax reform programme. Undoubtedly that is what they are trying to do, because it had the same underlying principles of theirs and obviously they have forsaken theirs.

However, just let me interject this one point: I am not certain they are going to succeed in postponing some sort of a tax reform programme in Ottawa. It will be watered down, it will be a pale shadow of the original Carter commission proposals—it will have all the rhetoric but none of the substance. But I am not sure they are going to succeed, because quite frankly I think that

Benson, in the eye of the storm, has got to do something.

He has got to jettison some of his proposals and he has got to get out of a rather vague set of generalities with regard to all his tax reforms and into the specifics on which he is going to operate; and I suspect maybe sooner than this government thinks. For their own good, if not necessarily for the good of the people of this province, Ottawa is going to move.

So I do not know that this government will succeed in frustrating the efforts of the Liberal government in coming in with some watered down version of tax reform.

However, let us leave Ottawa alone, because the major point that should not be missed, Mr. Speaker, is that Ontario's noisy attack on federal tax reform is being used as a smokescreen to obscure the fact that the Robarts' government is in the process of postponing—which for the moment adds up to scuttling—its own tax reform programme.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is exactly what has happened as a result of Ottawa's action.

Mr. MacDonald: There is an old adage of the legal world which says justice postponed is justice denied; and the same thing is true of tax reform. What is the evidence for this?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is right!

Mr. MacDonald: What is the evidence?

Let me remind the government, since they might have forgotten. The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs was in the TV studios once again to get before the people of the province, and the announced continuation of the residential tax rebate until the next election. "Likely beyond it," said he; likely beyond it until the government comes in with its tax reform programme they are going to stick with this monstrosity, which the government last year was considering getting rid of.

Mr. J. Renwick: The Social Credit handout.

Mr. MacDonald: That represents, as I indicated, a reversal of their policy.

The Prime Minister comes in and denies their commitment to the provincial income tax. Now he is denying that he denied it, so we get more confused all the while.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am not.

Mr. MacDonald: The point, Mr. Speaker, is this: after 10 years of the Smith committee we get a report. We set up a select committee to study the report; we get the report of the select committee. The government brought in its tax reform programme in the budget last spring; and now we are in the process of postponing it.

Ten long years! This is why I say this government refuses to govern. This is why I say that its proposition that it is going to do something to meet the needs of the people is so much window dressing. They are not willing to move.

Any government that is ready to scuttle its own tax reform programme in favour of all-out political warfare with Ottawa proves two things: first, how desperate is its need in seeking an issue to distract and arouse public attention; and second, how tenuous, at best, its original commitment to its own tax programme was.

And let the voters of the province of Ontario note that!

Tax reform, despite all the government's emphasis on it, despite the anguished years of delay until the situation has reached crisis proportions, is something that this government turns off and on as the political tactics of the hour demand; and that is not good enough. That is an abrogation of responsibility, and indeed they are failing the people of the province of Ontario after all their fine promises.

Now let me go on to Ontario's role in the anti-inflation programme.

Well, somebody behind me says: "What role?" That is really the point I want to make.

But let us take it in context. At Ottawa we have the federal prices and incomes commission. Hitherto, Ottawa, like Queen's Park, has laid the whole blame for inflation on wage and salary earners. These were the whipping boys who were always subjected to public pillorying. These were the people who had to bear the whole burden. But at least in Ottawa we now have a commission which is recognizing that there are other sources of inflation.

They have called their conferences and they are sticking with their voluntary restraints approach, though they are now bolstering it by moving within selected areas, to penalties if there is any breach with a new kind of formula which will tolerate certain increases.

But the whole thing is falling flat on its face, Mr. Speaker. It may be that is a premature judgment, but there is evidence to suggest that it is going to fall flat on its face.

If companies are free to increase their prices and only after they have increased

their prices there may be some sort of an investigation, just consider for a moment the whole chain of events in the economy.

Take for example the freight rate increases that went into effect yesterday, or the day before yesterday. As soon as the freight rate increases go into effect, they are going to be picked up and passed on by all of those who have significant freight rate factors in their costs. So you will have new increases.

Suppose there were some examination and some enforced reversal of the freight rate increase—or some comparable action on price increases in any other sector of the economy—how are you going to roll it back all across the boards? This is obviously an ineffective approach.

Again I am not interested so much in berating Ottawa for what I think is going to be a very ineffectual action. What I am interested in is the role of this government.

This government offers nothing more than moral support in spite of many loud professions of concern about inflation. Last fall in the Legislature if there was one thing that was driven home very convincingly it was the fact that this government simply refuses to accept the responsibility for rolling back, or even examining, exorbitant price increases.

In the instance of Hydro, they had no alternative but to permit an investigation in the standing committee. But when they have the evidence, they will not move. The significant thing is that in the larger private sector of the economy, whether it was in reference to steel or nickel prices, whether it was in reference to gasoline prices or farm fertilizers, the government simply said it was none of their business. It is not their right to investigate what is going on.

In short, in the private sector of the economy, they can do as they damn well please!

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Falconbridge had 86 per cent increase in profit last year.

Mr. MacDonald: That being the case, Mr. Speaker, what conclusion is one going to come to with regard to the convictions of this government in providing even moral support for what is going on in Ottawa.

They still want the whole burden to be placed on wages and on the public sector of the economy. Something is fundamentally wrong, something is very fundamentally wrong; because the action is not solving inflation. There is plenty of evidence on record to indicate a continued rise in prices—this has created unemployment. The Prime Minister deplores this, but he pursues policies which create it.

I was fascinated in reading that most interesting tome—we will have to get back to portions of it later in the session—that he presented to the federal-provincial conference in February 16 and 17.

It was vintage-something, but not vintage Robarts.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): An heirloom!

Mr. MacDonald: Oh no, no; not an heirloom! Good heavens, it was far ahead of an heirloom; it was 30 years ahead of this government, not 30 years behind this government. I will give the House something of the tenor it . . .

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): What does the member say about holding down taxes?

Mr. MacDonald: Holding down taxes? We will get to that some time later.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Much later!

Mr. MacDonald: If the Minister had been here and heard all the things of relevance to his department, he would be busy contemplating them and getting back to work—not interrupting me at this point.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): The minister would have been learning more about justice.

Mr. MacDonald: Exactly!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Answer the question.

Mr. MacDonald: It is evident that this government is paralyzed by the confusion and indecision in its own analysis and programme. Here is a summary of the thrust of what the Prime Minister presented at Ottawa.

He warns of the downtrend in economic activity. He asserts that we are really in a no-growth situation. He deplores policies which operate to reduce our national capacity for real growth. He contends that there has been undue reliance on monetary and fiscal restraints. He argues that there has been an overkill in the moves against inflation and therefore he regrets that unemployment rates will be reached, in 1970, of over four per cent in Ontario and 5.5 to six per cent nationally.

With the general tenor of that analysis, Mr. Speaker, the New Democratic Party would agree. Certainly we see truth in the contentions that the Trudeau government is classi-

cally conservative in its economic policies; that in the anti-inflation battle, it is fighting this war with the weapons of the last war.

It is fascinating to hear this government argue that the Liberals are more Tory than the Tories, and in the next breath propagandizing that the Liberal policies are socialistic. How confused and mixed up can you get?

Mr. Lawlor: Lancelot Smith is a socialist. What do you know about that, eh? Boy, our ranks are swelling day by day.

Carry on gentlemen!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Did the member say smelling?

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): That is unparliamentary.

Mr. Martel: When we look over the fat calves over there, we cannot see one skinny one.

Mr. MacDonald: The important point to be noted, Mr. Speaker, is that while the Robarts' government enunciates fine progressive principles in coping with inflation, as in tax reform, its action is painfully old and conservative.

It refuses to interfere with prices in the private sector. It continues to lay emphasis on wages and salaries. It calls for cutbacks in the public sector in order to leave the private field open to private enterprise; and this is reiterated by the mover and seconder of the reply to the speech.

Then the Prime Minister prates, as he did in the postscript to his presentation to the federal-provincial conference, and I quote:

> The first and foremost concern of the government must be for people and their needs.

Now Mr. Speaker, most of these unmet needs of the people can be met, and certainly can be most efficiently fulfilled, only through greater activity of the public sector of the economy.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Hear, hear. That is what it is all about.

Mr. MacDonald: Perhaps we have found the answer to that basic contradiction that has always puzzled me in the name of the party, Progressive Conservative. Progressive in principle; but conservative, out of date, unimaginative, in action.

Let me say this Mr. Speaker, the people of Ontario have lived long enough, too long, with the consequences of this government and its conservative action; they are no longer fooled by the prating of progressive principles.

Said the Prime Minister:

> I am concerned first and foremost for people and their needs.

Let us go back to the budget of last year, when we examined the $300 million to $400 million that were cut out of the budget. The overwhelming portion of the $300 million to $400 million represented a cutback in services to people. This is what the government is refusing to face up to.

I just want to illustrate it by way of documentation. The cases again are legion, but let me only state one, that of the therapeutic community centre in the London Psychiatric Hospital. It is penny-wise and pound-foolish, typical of what happens with this government and its twisted priorities.

Here was a therapeutic community, a highly successful treatment programme, involving some 50 people, 35 of whom were working on an outpatient basis. Most of them were young people and they were developed under the direction of Dr. Harold Mountain.

For four years, the superintendent of the London Psychiatric Hospital refused to authorize the hiring of two more much-needed professional staff, and the excuse given was always that there were higher priorities in the rest of the psychiatric hospital.

Since the new year there has been a critical squeeze because funds inadequate even for the operation of this therapeutic community were not available; and so it was gradually phased out of existence until, some week or ten days ago, it disappeared altogether.

Now the second feature of this, Mr. Speaker, is that the minister revealed when a number of questions were put to him by perhaps half a dozen members on this side of the Legislature last week, that he has accepted all of the excuses for the collapse of the therapeutic community.

Obviously, he refuses to give any real leadership in resolving the situation. That Dr. Mountain's resignation was tendered last fall and was not implemented until the last few weeks is a symptom of the conditions which led to the collapse, and not the reason for it as the Minister advanced.

This government, I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, is culpable on two major points. First, at a time when half of the hospital beds in the province of Ontario are occupied by people who have some kind of mental illness, what folly it is to destroy a programme which has manifested such promise by way of a new

approach, a more effective approach, to treatment.

The folly is compounded, Mr. Speaker, indeed the situation becomes ludicrous, when in the London Psychiatric Hospital you have three wards empty, and with the closing of the therapeutic community centre a fourth empty ward is added. It is even more ludicrous when you realize they have just built a new hospital in London, it just opened in the last year or so.

How can this government justify capital outlays that are left idle for want of adequate operational budgets? How can it prate about meeting human needs—human needs that are desperate, and have been obvious for years, are not being met because even though facilities are available the government will not permit them to get into operation?

However, there is a second point Mr. Speaker, and this becomes even sadder. The therapeutic community is the victim of an old conflict between the medical and the non-medical approach to the treatment of emotionally disturbed persons.

We have gone into all of this before in this House in the issue of Warrendale, in the issue of Brown camps. The previous Minister of Health accepted for a time the medical approach, and there were investigations and harassment of an institution that was doing more for meeting the needs of emotionally disturbed children than all the government's facilities, and is still doing that. But finally when the minister was driven to the wall because of the conflict both in this Legislature and outside in the community, he had an investigation by objective, impartial experts. What was the report?

The report that the minister brought into the House was that one could not choose between one or the other model. At this stage in this uncertain game of devising effective treatment for emotionally disturbed human beings, both models have their place. And if the minister came to that conclusion as a doctor, why cannot his successor, a layman, benefit from that experience? Why does he sit idly by when a most promising, dynamic treatment programme has been destroyed, partly because of the failure to provide operational funds, but partly also by permitting the resurrection of this old conflict once again so that those who are in charge of the institution are able to destroy a successful programme to protect and to document their own approach rather than accepting anyone else's.

Once again it is an example of how this government bows to the vested interests—in this instance, the vested interests of the medical establishment. It makes a mockery of the government's claim that it is providing services to people.

Another of the areas in which this government, as I move on to a completely different topic, in recent years has moved is to try to repair some of the damage of neglect over the first century of Canadian Confederation and the tensions that have arisen between English and French Canada. The government has moved with a programme to develop bilingualism in the province of Ontario.

Pendant ces dernières années j'ai eu l'occasion plusieurs fois de féliciter le gouvernement de M. Robarts de la sympathie qu'il démontrait envers les aspirations du Canada français et des propos qu'il préconisait à mesure d'assister le développement du bilinguisme dans notre province.

Mais je regrette de devoir dire maintenant que ses actions ne confirment pas ses promesses, que le bilinguisme ne se développe pas et que nous entendons de plus en plus les voix antagonistes au Canada français se lever au sein du parti conservateur.

L'an dernier, à la fin du débat sur le budget, l'honorable député de Northumberland s'est prononcé sur ce qu'il appela "le problème du Québec". Il a évoqué tous les préjugés contre le Canada français qu'on connaissait si bien dans le temps du régime de George Drew. Son analyse était remplie d'inexactitudes et de fausses conceptions, et en dépit du fait qu'il se prononçait adhérant de la politique du gouvernement, il nous permettait d'inférer maintes critiques.

Nous avons aussi entendu le Ministre des Mines, qui devrait mieux comprendre ces choses, transformer une critique du programme du gouvernement fédéral pour le développement régional en une attaque contre la province de Québec. Il a fait une allusion sarcastique à Monsieur Marchand, citant son titre en français dans une allocution anglaise. On a pu constater l'ironie du fait que sa critique—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: What is French for nonsense?

Mr. MacDonald: —de la politique fédérale qu'il accusa de discriminer contre le nord de l'Ontario, pouvait s'appliquer avec autant de force contre le programme de développement régional du gouvernement Robarts. Cette boutade n'était pas digne d'un ministre de la Couronne, et on ne doit pas s'étonner que le *Globe and Mail* la prononça intempérée.

Qu'est-ce qui a été réalisé du programme annoncé par le gouvernement suivant la publication du rapport de la Commission sur le Bilinguisme et le Biculturalisme?

Nous avons formulé une résolution établissant le français comme seconde langue officielle de ce parlement, mais à date, le gouvernement n'a rien fait pour encourager son emploi. De fait, en refusant de faire provenir un système de traduction simultanée, il ne fait de cette résolution que geste vide. Au fait, il a simplement légiféré ce qui était une tradition déjà bien établie. C'est à constater que le français n'est pas plus employé ici qu'auparavant, même par ceux dont c'est la langue maternelle ou par ceux qui cherchent sérieusement à l'apprendre.

Le gouvernement a monté quatre groupes d'étude pour étudier ce problème dans les quatre domaines importants du service public: la législature, le service public, les gouvernements municipaux et les cours. Ces groupes ont complété leurs travaux avec célérité à l'automne de 1968, mais à date le gouvernement n'a rien fait, il n'a même pas publié les rapports, afin que cette législature puisse les étudier et évaluer les difficultés à surmonter dans l'établissement d'un plus grand bilinguisme.

Il y a quelques mois j'ai eu l'occasion d'assister à un séminar au Collège Glendon avec l'honorable député de Stormont, ministre sans portefeuille. Voulant excuser le retard du gouvernement, l'honorable ministre rappela aux étudiants que les Franco-ontariens ne formaient que dix pourcent de la population de cette province, et il suggéra que le gouvernement ne pouvait pas risquer de fâcher la majorité de 90% qui n'était pas de langue française.

En tout respect, monsieur l'orateur, c'est une faible excuse; le gouvernement savait que les Franco-ontariens formaient seulement 10% de la population quand il annonça son programme. Il était bien content à ce temps de lire les grandes manchettes qui annonçaient ses bonnes intentions, mais il a apparemment perdu courage maintenant qu'il est temps de transformer les bonnes intentions en réalités concrètes. On peut se demander si les ptérodactiles dans les rangs du parti conservateur ont maintenant pris le dessus?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Il parle le français mieux de Diefenbaker.

Mr. MacDonald: In case, Mr. Speaker, you missed any of that, just let me sum up briefly, that in the province of Ontario the good ship "Bilingualism" has become becalmed. All the high promise of the government's original announcement has faded away into very limited achievements. This is precisely the kind of performance which characterizes the first 100 years in Canada, and created the tensions between French and English Canada which now plague Confederation. If there is anything worse than doing nothing at all, it is to give promise of doing so much and then end up with so little. Many will feel, and indeed many do feel, that this is how the Ontario record is shaping up. So in another area of meeting not only particular human needs, but basic national needs in this country, the government has failed.

I want to turn now, Mr. Speaker, to an area that is rapidly claiming more and more public attention in the province of Ontario—namely, the question of pollution. I think the time has come to examine critically exactly what this government is doing in its much publicized efforts. I want to do so in two areas, again not getting into all of the details, which certainly are worthy of exploration in this Legislature and later in the session will be. Let us take, for example, on the question of enforcement or the penalties after there has been enforcement, the classic case of Domtar at the Lakehead. Domtar pleaded guilty, there was no dispute about it, and they paid their $1,000 fine. I have here an editorial from the Thunder Bay *News Chronicle,* and let me read the first paragraph:

> This was an unusual day in Thunder Bay north courtroom last week when the presiding judge, the prosecuting counsel and the defence counsel all agreed that a penalty being handed out to an accused was not stiff enough but they were powerless to do anything about it.

With the proposition that even defence counsel admit that the penalty is so small as to be ineffectual, surely we have reached a new day. As that ombudsman of the north will recall when we had our northern conference at Thunder Bay, the spokesman on behalf of the citizens' anti-pollution committee said that to fine a pulp and paper company $1,000 was about the equivalent of flogging a man with a wet noodle.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Yes, and the member will recall that in this case that the firm is now under a ministerial order.

Mr. MacDonald: Is that right? Well, that raises a rather interesting point. I do not

know how many pulp and paper companies there are in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Martel: Forty-three.

Mr. MacDonald: Somebody says "43". I am a little curious as to why Domtar has been singled out for such a public display.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): A good question!

Mr. MacDonald: As was pointed out in the Legislature yesterday, we were told four years ago by that most ineffectual minister, the previous Minister of Energy and Resources Management, that we were going to move so that in 1970 pollution would be cured, there would be no more of it in the province of Ontario; that would be the end. The fact of the matter is that with most of the pulp and paper companies the government has not even started to move, and I am just a little curious, I am just a little puzzled as to why Domtar was singled out.

I remember a year ago in Kenora when a charge was laid against a pulp and paper company in a constituency that is represented by a government member. Once they gave some display of action, albeit belated; then they withdrew the charge. Newspaper accounts claim that there have been threats of action and what not behind the scenes in Sault Ste. Marie, but I am told that the local member has sat down and discussed the thing and nothing has happened.

I ask again, why is Domtar, interestingly enough a Canadian company—in an opposition member's riding, my colleague from Thunder Bay points out—the one that is singled out? I am not excusing Domtar, make no mistake about it, but I think it is a bit ludicrous that the government should lay charges and get a $1,000 fine at the time when another department of the government is giving a forgiveness loan for $484,000 to Domtar down in Cornwall. A company can handle a lot of fines if it receives $484,000 and the fines are coming at the rate of $1,000 apiece.

An hon. member: What has that got to do with pollution?

Mr. MacDonald: That has got nothing to do with handouts from the public treasury at the same time as the government is taking action.

It reminds me of the comment in a basic text on criminology that is used in university —Barnes and Teeter. In discussing white collar crime they note the rather astounding fact that 60 per cent of the corporations in the United States are habitual criminals, and the definition of a habitual criminal is one that has been charged and convicted three times. Here we have the spectacle of a company which is charged—and does not even try to fight the case because it admits its guilt—but at the same time that this is going on in one part of the province, the government is handing it $484,000 in another part of the province. It is rather interesting; but I repeat, why this selection?

A few weeks ago a rather well known conservationist who sort of got off the rails in the last federal election by becoming a Liberal candidate in the city of Hamilton—Tom Beckett, made the statement that one of the reasons why we have not had as vigorous prosecution and how the picking and choosing process goes on, is related rather directly to the fact that these companies are contributing to the slush funds at election time of both the Liberal and Conservative parties. Indeed, he said that one of the steel companies in Hamilton has contributed in six figures, which is at least $100,000, and 60 per cent had gone to the government of the Liberals, and 40 per cent had gone to the Tories. He raised the question—indeed, he did not raise it, he asserted—that one of the reasons why the Tory and Liberal governments have not moved with the kind of vigour that is necessary is because of the relationship of slush funds.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Nonsense.

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister of Mines whispers "nonsense". It is interesting that to my knowledge—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Nonsense!

Mr. MacDonald: Okay. It is interesting that to my knowledge neither the government, any spokesman for it, nor the steel company in Hamilton raised their voice after this public charge was made. So that is one aspect—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He is back in his old form of 10 years ago. It did not do him any good then and it will not do him any good now.

Mr. MacDonald: I remind the government that it is operating on slush funds which come from companies who are carrying out contracts for the government and are getting favours from the government. It may well do me a lot of good now that the people of the province of Ontario have caught up to this government.

Here is the smug complacency of a government that is sitting on top of the pile and taking illegal contributions and not being willing even to take cases into the courts. To confirm whether or not I am right, this government and this Prime Minister have deliberately refused, for example, to move and clarify the whole Melcher situation. It has nothing to do with whether there is a civil case before the courts.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, this is quite erroneous. I made a statement in this House that still stands about the whole Melcher case, but because it did not suit the member he has chosen to disregard it. He is right back where he was—accusing us of being dishonest. I do not think the people of the province like it and I do not think they like it any more now than they did 10 years ago—

Mr. MacDonald: We will find out.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —because somehow we keep winning elections.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, has the Premier heard about Middlesex South?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Was Melcher an issue in Middlesex South?

Mr. MacDonald: I imagine the smug arrogance of these people who are sitting on top, getting funds in a clandestine fashion that they cannot defend and then the Prime Minister gets up and says, "I explained it all." He did not explain it at all.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Certainly he did.

Mr. MacDonald: He said that he would not investigate the thing because it was before the courts.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I did not say anything like that. Go back and read the statement. I will correct the member. I said that there was no evidence whatsoever that there had been any favouritism shown to Melchers. This whole thing came out in a statement made by a plaintiff in a lawsuit which he did not have to justify, and I said if any time the member could bring any evidence to indicate that in any way influence had been used in the liquor control board, I would be happy to investigate it, and nobody brought that evidence.

Mr. Stokes: What about the Ontario-Minnesota Pulp and Paper Company?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: What about eight others? It is all the same. It does not do the members opposite any good to make these accusations of dishonesty.

Mr. MacDonald: It is rather interesting that the unflappable Prime Minister becomes exercised on the point where he is most vulnerable. And it is rather interesting that he becomes exercised when one relates it to the important issue of pollution, and that just adds further significance to the whole matter, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will have my chance tomorrow.

Mr. MacDonald: Sure he will have his chance tomorrow. He has had his chance for years and he has blown it, that is why he is getting into more and more trouble.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It has worked pretty well—

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I was dealing a moment ago with the toothless kind of legislation we have, under which we get prosecutions that are spotty and fragmentary and in their selection. I want to go to another aspect of it, and that is with regard to the actual regulations and how the OWRC operates. When we were in Barrie for a mini-caucus meeting about two or three weeks ago—

Mr. Sopha: Mini?

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, cheer up, the Tories have emulated it and there was a news story from Welland saying that they were going to have a mini-conference over in Welland. I do not know the difference between a min-conference and a mini-caucus, but they picked up a good idea. However, do not let me get distracted.

When we were in Barrie we had among the representations a brief presented by the citizens' anti-pollution committee with regard to the whole question of the establishment in that community of the Formosa brewery. This is a very complex situation and there are many details which I think merit the consideration of this House. Some of them do not have direct relationship to the pollution issue and the points that I want to make now, so I will leave them for a later date.

In essence the Formosa Brewing Company was unwilling to meet the sewage bylaw requirements because it would cost too much to install the proper treatment facilities, so the

city of Barrie signed a special agreement permitting Formosa to discharge into the sewage system effluent with a BOD and suspended solid content of 750 parts per million. This was more than double the pollutant content permitted in the city's own bylaw, which fixed in 1966 levels of 300 parts per million of BOD and 350 parts per million of suspended solids. Interestingly enough, Mr. Speaker, it did so on the recommendation of experts from the OWRC.

Now, the first question arises. How did this lowering of standards come about at this time in this pollution-conscious age when, if anything, we are tightening up on our standards? There is a key document which I think this Legislature is entitled to. I asked the minister earlier this afternoon in the questions before the orders of the day, and he said he would have to take it under advisement. That is a document that was written to the corporation of Barrie on November 10 by an OWRC engineer by the name of Shikaze indicating that the city could circumvent its own bylaw by a special agreement whereby overstrength effluent could be accepted and discharged into the sewage system in return for the levying of a surcharge. The amount of that special surcharge in the instance of the Formosa brewery is $12,000 a year.

So we come to another question. Is the cost of coping with pollution which Formosa refused to accept *in toto* being transferred to the taxpayers of the community? Let us take a look. Present innovations to the sewage treatment facilities are being made at a cost of $350,000.

The file report of Gore and Storrie, consulting engineers, was received only a week ago with regard to the new cost that the city of Barrie would have to face, and interestingly enough, weeks after they had signed the agreement. In short, the council signed the agreement in ignorance of what the cost would be to the community, because the agreement was signed in the latter part of January or early February and the council did not get the report from Gore and Storrie until about February 23. Now we discover that the expansion and the modification of the sewage plant is going to be a further $715,000 over a five-year period.

In connection with this question of whether Barrie needs expanded sewage treatment facilities, and when it would need them, there are some fascinating contradictions which I draw to your attention from experts, from the engineers, Mr. Speaker.

The key question, of course, is the capacity of the sewage plant and how long it is going to be able to cope with the prospective load. Mr. Yarabe, of Gore and Storrie, reported on January 13 that the plant could handle the sewage until the year 1975. In contrast, last November Mr. Neil Embree, an OWRC engineer, was quoted as saying that Barrie would soon need a sewage treatment plant expansion.

This is further borne out in representations from Mr. Missingham of OWRC in a letter of December 17, that OWRC could not look with favour on any further future development of the city until they knew what plans the city had for more secondary treatment.

Now who is right; Mr. Yarabe of Gore and Storrie, or the two engineers from OWRC? One is saying it must be immediate, the other is saying that it is good until 1975. In my view, representations from the OWRC seem clearly to indicate that Barrie will need more treatment facilities soon.

The Formosa load on the sewage system, for example, will be equivalent to 5,000 population. So it seems clear that Barrie's future development capacity is being significantly absorbed by the Formosa plant and that as a result, if Barrie is going to continue with residential developments now contemplated, there will have to be an immediate expenditure of $715,000 underwritten by the taxpayers who are going to get from Formosa, as its share, only $12,000 a year.

When this whole question was before the municipal board last week, this is a point I would like to raise with the minister, why was it that OWRC engineers were not on hand to speak to this key question of the plant capacity and to make their recommendations as to what should be done? Because the time when it has to be done has a pretty direct relationship as to who is going to bear the cost; and whether or not the present special agreement with Formosa is a fair and a just agreement or whether it is just shifting the burden to the taxpayers of the city as a whole.

That is one question that I would like the minister to answer. Why were the officials of OWRC not either there or called so that they could give key testimony and try to reconcile the conflict among the experts?

Further, when OWRC reported to the city of Barrie on December 17, a letter from the district engineer, Mr. Missingham, stated, and I quote:

> During inspection, the flow meter did not give reliable flow readings, and until the

flow meter has been repaired the loading to the plant cannot be determined. With the loading from the proposed brewery and the proposed sub-divisions, which have been commented on to Municipal Affairs, the plant can soon be above its secondary capacity.

Now here is a remarkable proposition. They could not even report accurately as to what the flow readings were because the meters were not operating. Yet I am told by people who are making representations to the council that there has been no subsequent survey by OWRC.

How, conceivably, can OWRC tolerate a situation in which the basic information that they are responsible to give is not available either to themselves or to the local council when they are making a fundamental decision? In short Mr. Speaker, the role of OWRC in breaching pollution levels which its experts recommended in 1966 and in recommending special privileges to a new industry, for surcharge which cannot hope to meet the added cost to the community in sewage treatment, raises the basic question of whether OWRC is taking vigorous enough action to cope with pollution. And if it is, whether the cost is not being loaded on the taxpayer, with industry not paying its fair share.

And if you want further documentation of that point, let me raise another fascinating development in the same community of Barrie.

In the report to the city of Barrie by J. F. Orgill, an OWRC engineer, last October 7—a copy of which I have in my hand here—it was stated with regard to an existing industry, namely the Barrie tannery, that waste being discharged into the sanitary sewer had a five-day BOD content of 2,200 parts per million and a solid substance content, an SS content, of 1,700 parts per million. These levels are respectively seven and five times the levels permitted under the existing bylaw in the city of Barrie.

Will the hon. member who sits on the OWRC, or the minister who is responsible for this, explain to me how in heaven's name OWRC goes into a community and reveals the situation in which an existing industry is seven times above the legal pollution limit and nothing is done about it? What sort of a mockery are we making of the whole proposition; particularly when the whole thing is part and parcel of a special agreement which I think we have to take a good, solid look at in this Legislature—indeed rather quickly, before the OMB makes a final decision clearing the way on this special agreement that is being made with Formosa.

We have legislation without teeth in it. We have objectives for halting pollution and cleaning up the kind of pollution that has accumulated down through the years; and that is being jeopardized by what is euphemistically known as "accommodation" for each new industry that comes into the situation.

I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, that as it has been traditionally down through the decades, the load is once again being loaded on the citizens; that the pious incantations of the minister that henceforth corporations are going to have to pay their costs, that if necessary it is going to be a cost of production and it will be put on the price of their product; that it is nothing but a pious incantation! Because in fact the OWRC and this government, through its agencies, is shifting the load now, as it has in the past, to the citizens themselves.

I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, it is not good enough. It is still another example of the manner in which this government is not playing its role in serving the needs of people and is bowing to vested interests.

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): The member is against local government.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. Renwick: We want the local government to be able to deal with it.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Does the hon. member know if the city engineer was present?

Mr. MacDonald: I assume he was; yes, he was.

Now I move on to another topic, Mr. Speaker.

For years the government has proclaimed equality of educational opportunity as one of the slogans which guide its administration of educational matters in this province. I want to suggest that once again in this area it is time we lived up to this slogan instead of just enunciating it.

When the Ontario Separate School Trustees Association presented its brief on equality of education last May, the government indicated they would carefully consider these representations and respond.

Mr. Sopha: So; where do the member's people stand?

Mr. MacDonald: Ten months have now passed and there has been no response. Instead there has been a frantic effort on the

government spokesmen, including the Minister of Education, to avoid saying anything that would betray a position.

I suggest to the government that this issue cannot be evaded any longer, the problem is just not going to go away and disappear.

The Minister of Education, the Prime Minister and all cabinet preach endlessly about the desirability of equality in education, but all the preaching in the world will not be believed as long as the government permits the inequities that presently exist between the two systems of publicly supported schools.

Let us go back to basics for a moment. Whatever one's personal views may be regarding the validity of a separate school system, the political reality is that it exists. It was granted years before Confederation, and as part of the Confederation agreement it was reconfirmed as a constitutional right for Protestants in Quebec and Catholics in Ontario. Throughout our first 100 years it has become an integral part of our publicly-supported school system. It has not withered away; on the contrary when one considers the Catholic high schools which have not received tax support, the whole system has shown a marked survival capacity.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, it is inconceivable that any government in Ontario would attempt to legislate the separate school system out of existence. If ever there was a question of this point, this government resolved that point with the introduction of the foundation programme in 1963 which assured that all children, whether in public schools or separate schools, would have something approaching equality in terms of money available for their education.

Therefore the pros and cons of the question of the existence or the desirability of the separate school system have become irrelevant. I acknowledge that some people feel so strongly on this point that the argument will perhaps never end, but for practical purposes the question is resolved.

The issue becomes, therefore, not a religious one but on educational one. Are the children, or the parents of those children who have exercised their constitutional right to opt for the separate school system, going to be assured of equality of educational opportunity? To put this another way: in a province which boasts of its legislative achievements in the field of human rights, are we going to discriminate against children on the basis of their religion or the religion of their parents?

As a Legislature, with all parties speaking in unison, we said "no" to that question in 1963. The foundation programme received unanimous support. It did so, I suggest, because we were disturbed by the inequities involved in the varying amounts of money available for children in different schools of this province. These inequities existed within the public school system as between rural schools, with their limited assessment base as compared with urban schools. And they existed as between separate schools and public schools, because generally speaking the assessment base of separate schools was more limited, particularly since they were denied their share of the educational levies on corporations.

In one stroke we wiped out all of those inequities. Through the foundation programme, which I am proud to recall was first introduced into Ontario politics by the New Democratic Party, this Legislature created the grant mechanism that would ensure equal treatment for both school systems in every section of the province. Insofar as money can assure equality of educational opportunity, we determined that every child in Ontario will have equality of educational opportunity.

Now in introducing the foundation plan on February 23, 1963, the Prime Minister said at one point:

> We must be meticulous about absorbing, and indeed safeguarding, the rights and privileges conferred by section 93 of The British North America Act in letter, and as well in spirit.

Mr. Speaker, I submit that we have not always done that in the province of Ontario. In fact, our record over the last 100 years, when compared with the treatment accorded Protestant schools in the province of Quebec, is not very good. In Quebec the Protestant separate school system has always been accorded full equality in the receipt of educational grants. Moreover, I should like the House to know, that as someone who received a secondary schooling in the Protestant system of that province and as someone who taught in the system for five years and then reported on educational matters in Quebec for the Montreal *Gazette* for another two years, I am personally grateful, for that measure of equality.

Indeed, surely all of us in this House are pleased about the equality that has existed in the Quebec system down through the years and that continues to exist today, even though the question is becoming sadly confused with the language issue.

Thus it is with some feeling that I urge this government of our province to re-examine the Prime Minister's own assertion of 1963 about safeguarding not only the letter, but also the spirit, of the constitutional right for separate schools granted to Catholics in Ontario as to Protestants in Quebec.

In practice what does this safeguarding mean? Well it clearly means that immediate action must be taken in a number of areas. We should remove those relatively inconsequential but extremely irksome features of our legislation which serve chiefly to suggest that the separate school system is a second-rate system.

For example, the law which denies parents in a mixed marriage the opportunity to direct their school taxes to the separate school system must be changed. When my colleague, the hon. member for Sudbury East, introduced a private bill on this question speakers from all parties acknowledged the justice of this. I would urge the government to remove this "burr under the saddle" of relations between our two systems in Ontario.

And then we taken another example, somewhat more important, the law which permits public schools to sell services to separate schools but denies separate schools the right to sell services to public schools. It is a one-way street.

This is quite obviously unjust. This kind of discrimination simply perpetuates a sense of grievance. Moreover, it is not only unjust but it becomes absurd in those communities, particularly in the north, where the majority of children are in the separate schools yet the smaller public school system is denied the right to buy services from them.

This law stands as a major road block in the way of developing the fullest possible sharing of services between the two school systems in order to avoid any unnecessary duplication of our mounting education costs.

Furthermore, if we are going to live up to the spirit as well as the letter of the constitutional right to separate schools in Ontario, in all justice we cannot starve the system in Grades 9 and 10 and chop it off from that point forward through to Grade 13. There are educational arguments to justify the establishment of a separate system on a K to 13 basis, centred in the whole continuum of modern education, but for the moment I want to deal only with the cost and financing involved.

The argument that we simply cannot afford the cost of extending the separate school system beyond Grade 10 ignores, I submit, two important points. First, if all students attending private Catholic high schools were to turn up at the public secondary schools tomorrow morning they would be legally entitled to an education that costs the public purse an average of $925 per pupil in grants now, and soon to rise to $1,000 a pupil. Hitherto the parents, or the parish, or other source, have borne the cost; even though the parents paid their taxes to the secondary school system.

So it is not a question of whether the public money is going to be spent, rather it is a question of how.

Is it going to be spent through the public secondary schools by forcing students to switch from the separate school system after Grade 10? Or is it going to be spent through extending the separate schools through to Grade 13, permitting children to complete their education in the system of their choice?

And incidentally, Mr. Speaker, if all the children from private Catholic high schools were to turn at a public secondary school there would be an added capital as well as operational cost, because obviously we have not got the basic plant facilities to accommodate them. With most private Catholic high schools coming under the publicly elected separate school boards, tens of millions of dollars in capital outlay will be saved.

But there is a second cost consideration. There is a grave injustice, I submit, to Catholic parents with children going to secondary schools who have to pay for it and then are forced to pay a second time for the kind of school system which they were granted as a constitutional right under The BNA Act.

One can argue, and some do, that the legal commitment of 1867 was only for "common schools" ending with Grade 8. But it is significant that in 1896 the Legislature passed The Continuation Schools Act. And again in 1899 there was an extension of the same principle, which acknowledged the spirit of the constitution right to separate schools. In the face of the greater educational needs of that day as compared with 1867, they extended the elementary grants to Grade 9 and Grade 10 in separate schools.

Just as the fulfillment of the rights and privileges of section 93 of The BNA Act, "in letter, and as well, in spirit", resulted in the extension of the separate schools to Grade 10 in 1896, so its fulfillment today requires that the separate school system should be extended to Grade 13.

We shall then be in a position to move to a much more extensive sharing of facilities between the two systems. The Hall-Dennis

report listed some 29 areas where such sharing could take place. The separate school trustees have expressed their complete willingness to implement such sharing wherever circumstances will permit. But those areas are all relatively peripheral—bussing, heating, administrative buildings, special services, etc. There are even more important areas, such as the common use of vocational facilities, that have generally speaking been built with sufficient capacity to meet the needs of both public and separate school students for the foreseeable future.

In short, with the removal of the legislative barriers to fuller sharing of services and facilities between the two systems, public and separate schools can each retain the integrity of their own system but eliminate costly duplication of expenditures and thereby increase the level of educational opportunity available to all children.

Increasingly, the children of the two systems can travel, work and play together. The segregation of children which disturbs many, will for practical purposes be removed, or at least reduced. I can think of nothing that will be a greater fulfillment of the spirit of ecumenism which characterizes our day than bringing together the two systems.

Now why does the government hesitate in complete fulfillment of the letter and the spirit of the constitutional right to separate schools? After introducing the foundation plan, it cannot be that they intend to destroy the separate school system through attrition, because the foundation programme has put it on a sound financial basis. Such attrition is the object, or hope, of some; but the government by its own action has repudiated that.

If the government accepts the separate school system as far as it goes, and has every intention of respecting that right, on what grounds can it rationally oppose the extension of the system to Grade 13?

If the grounds, as often suggested, are that the costs would be so much greater than now and therefore beyond our financial capacity, how does the government document that contention? If the Catholic high schools were to close, we would be legally obligated, I remind the government, to provide education for all those children—

Mr. Sopha: Yes, but they will not close.

Mr. MacDonald: Why is it financially impossible to provide the same education by an extension of the publicly supported separate schools through the incorporation of Catholic high schools?

Mr. Sopha: We put our argument on a much higher plane than that.

Mr. MacDonald: I suggest Mr. Speaker that the time has come for some answers to such questions as these.

Mr. Sopha: We put our arguments on a much higher plane than that.

Mr. MacDonald: A continued silence is not good enough.

Mr. Sopha: Welcome aboard. Is that party policy?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South has the floor. The member for Sudbury might please conduct the debate in Sudbury.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, the member for Sudbury is like Allan Eagleson—he is ignorant on the basic facts.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Another example of the failure of this government to deal adequately with vital human needs is in the housing issue, Mr. Speaker. There is a growing credibility gap between the Tory propaganda claims and the realities of Ontario's needs. The Minister of Trade and Development, the Minister responsible for housing, has said that Ontario built more houses than any other jurisdiction. That claim is beginning to wear rather thin. However, let the government go on playing its broken record because quite frankly nobody is going to listen to it except the Tory partisans.

What are the facts? In Metropolitan Toronto alone, the latest figures reveal 17,730 families waiting for public housing. Heaven knows what the full potential needs are because they are never registered—people recognize the futility of even registering. Toronto has the highest level of doubled-up households in Canada: 16 per cent. Housing costs, already beyond the reach of a majority of our people, are rising faster than the cost of living. Lost costs in the metropolitan area range anywhere from $17,000 to $24,000 and they are rapidly rising around every growing city in the province of Ontario. These, Mr. Speaker, are facts and they contradict the propaganda claims of the minister. They are facts that make a mockery of the Prime Minister's pretensions that first and foremost,

the concern of the government is the needs of the people.

What goes on in the Ontario Housing Corporation? Interestingly enough, a couple of weeks or so ago, a group of tenants who happened to be constituents of mine came down and presented a case to the minister. He appointed a special committee made up of two directors of the Ontario Housing Corporation, worthy individuals—Dr. Albert Rose, director of the school of social work, and William Ladyman, international vice-president of the electrical workers—and Dr. Dan Hill of the human rights commission, along with myself, to look into the series of complaints that have been made, at least within the Porter Avenue OHC housing complex. I am not going to say any more on that because the committee is in the process of holding meetings, which incidentally are going to make it necessary for me to be out of the House on occasions. But it will be a useful exercise and I welcome the opportunity to find out exactly what are the basic problems and how possibly we can best solve them.

But, for example, the Minister the other day, when he was queried from this side of the House with regard to certain obligations on any landlord in this province, including OHC—obligations that are now spelled out in the new Landlord and Tenant Act—engaged in almost unbelievable excuse-making. He said that the security deposit money that OHC holds is tied up in certain investment portfolios, and if OHC were to liquidate it immediately there would be a loss.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, OHC is a big enough institution that it can pay these people what they are entitled to both under the letter and the spirit of that new legislation, and handle the portfolio as it wishes. Indeed, I would hope, I would expect, that if any private landlord across the province of Ontario came up with that kind of feeble excuse, the minister would dismiss it and the Attorney General would move to see that the obligations under The Landlord and Tenant Act were lived up to. I suggest to the minister in charge of this that Ontario Housing Corporation shall live up to it immediately.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Is the member aware that the Act says that if we have a security deposit it does not have to be given back, but we cannot take it after January 1, and after January 1 you pay six per cent on any security deposit you have? So if we have a security deposit of $25, six per cent of $1.50 a year, which is due annually, means that by the end of 1970 the tenant would be paid back 12.5 cents a month.

What we are trying to do, and what we said we are going to do, is that instead of fooling around with that bookkeeping, we are going to give the people back their $25 in the way of a rent reduction, just as soon as the computer can be worked out to make sure that $25 goes back to the people who put it in.

As far as we are concerned, we do not have to give it back; we can hang on to it because we are taking interest money and we are giving it to the tenants in the form of other things that they require for their projects. We have always used this money for that purpose. So let us make one thing clear; we do not have to give it back, but we are going to give it back in rent reductions. That is easier than paying six per cent interest and paying it out in 12.5 cents a month or $1.50 a year.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: There has been some elaboration which many will think is something of a shift in the added information that the minister has given us today, but the spirit and the whole thrust of the legislation was that security deposits were not necessary, they were an unjust demand on tenants and they should be returned. And it is characteristic of the compromising kind of legislation that this government passed that they find a loophole in their own legislation through which they can hang on to it.

A few years ago, for example, when this government introduced a minimum wage, they had the colossal gall to introduce a minimum wage that pays less to women than men for a period of a year and a half and two years, even though their own law under the human rights commission makes that illegal. This government can operate so that the right hand does not know what the left hand is doing.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: Hold it Mr. Speaker, let me go on!

Last spring, on the question of what is going on in OHC and our entitlement to know what is going on in OHC when the corporation came before the standing committee on government commissions, we in the New Democratic Party put in a very great series of questions; because we had been seeking,

without avail, to get the full answers. Ultimately, I will acknowledge, those answers came back.

We attempted, then, to have an opportunity to discuss the answers with OHC because discussion of the answers would be fully as fruitful as getting the particular reply that we got. But the chairman of the committee of the day was not willing to call OHC and we never got into it.

The government has become almost pathological in this proposition that people are persecuting OHC. As we try to get the information the minister argues that we are just persecuting OHC.

"You just want to conduct political vendettas"; this is the frequent allusion the minister makes.

The other day my colleague from Windsor West introduced an amendment to the motion before the House to introduce a committee on housing and urban affairs. And what was the response of the Prime Minister? This was just another NDP political attempt to get at the OHC!

Please, Mr. Minister, this is not a witch hunt! The OHC is a public corporation. We in this Legislature, and the people in the province of Ontario, are entitled to know what is going on in the OHC.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Ask the questions, we will be glad to give the information.

Mr. Lewis: Submit your brief.

Mr. MacDonald: Indeed, Mr. Speaker, just to show you how much need there is for getting a fuller explanation and some more facts, I want to pick up with just one added quotation from the Bramalea situation, which was documented in considerable detail by the hon. member for Windsor West (Mr. Peacock) when he was advancing the suggestion of the committee on housing and urban affairs.

Mr. Nixon: Out of order!

Mr. MacDonald: What is out of order?

Mr. Nixon: His documentation on that motion.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, if I may quote the hon. member for Sarnia: does the Leader of the Opposition presume to instruct the Speaker as to what he should do?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Anyway, my colleague ended his quotation by reviewing some of the events in which this government is engaged in business relationships with Bramalea, resulting in increases in stock prices and making it possible for two key officers of Bramalea to clean up $600,000 and $550,000 respectively; a very interesting point.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Are stock options illegal in this province?

Mr. MacDonald: They are not.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I just wanted to make sure the member knew that it was legal.

Mr. MacDonald: I am aware of it. There are a few other people who have at least some remote connection with this, other than their minister who once operated one in the eastern part of the city for a time. I am quite aware of that. I am also aware that there have been allegations that nobody has answered with regard to the possible leakage of this deal, because nobody has explained the increases in the stocks from which they benefitted prior to the announcement of the HOME deal with Bramalea.

Now let me proceed, because this was discussed the other day and is from the record, and let us not thrash that straw.

As Walter Stewart said in his article:

> Such trading is not illegal in stock deals. But it is well to remember these enormous profits as a guide to what is really in the developer's mind when he sets out to solve Canada's housing problems.
>
> The transaction Taylor referred to was a second HOME purchase signed last April, which will more than double the size of Bramalea over the next five years.
>
> The Ontario Housing Corporation bought 4,602 lots for town houses at $4,000 a lot for a total of $18.4 million. These 4,602 houses will be crammed, 18 to the acre, on land that originally sold for $1,100 an acre. Servicing the lots cost about $1,000 each, so that Bramalea's investment was; well let's be generous, $20,000 for every acre of land that sold for $72,000. All that is one reason why housing costs so much.
>
> Until this deal was made, Bramalea Consolidated was required to balance every house brought into the development with industrial assessment.

And this, Mr. Speaker, becomes even more important, because I suppose one can slough off rising costs as part of our day and age, and a good business deal and a fast buck is proof of a good operator and all the rest

of it; but here is an involvement of a government agency in a very interesting, and in the long run important change that was made in the Bramalea set up.

Until this deal was made Bramalea Consolidated was required to balance every house brought into the development with industrial assessment. That is the essential purpose of the satellite town; to provide a balanced community, not just a dormitory. For every $67 of residential assessment, Bramalea had to provide $43 worth of industrial assessment or make up the difference in cash. In 1968 the last full year for which a figure is available, the company paid $225,000 in penalties under the arrangements. But with the second HOME purchase, this provision was scrapped. Bramalea could hardly provide enough industrial assessment to cover 4,602 houses, so the Ontario government struck a bargain with the township to pay $11 million in cash, for which it was discharged from responsibility not only for the HOME lots, but for 1,400 single and semi-detached lots the township released at the same time for the developer's own use. The sweet aspect of this arrangement for the company was that it could use the Ontario government's $18.4 million to pay off its responsibility, pocket a handsome profit, make a further profit on 1,400 of its own lots—they will sell for more than $10 million—and yet another profit by building and selling all the houses on Bramalea land and half the town houses on OHC land. Bramalea has its own building subsidiary to handle this end. What is more, this huge development will swell the value of more than 4,000 acres of undeveloped land the company is still holding for yet a fourth profit.

One more point: The $11 million lump sum is designed to cover development costs for the township until 1974, but the company's responsibility has been lifted forever. What happens if, at the end of 1974, not enough new industry has been brought in to balance the houses, and taxes begin to soar? "God knows," said Councillor Aldo Ferri. "That is a good question," said Reeve Bob Williams.

In short, the HOME deal was profitable for the company but it does not make sense for the taxpayer or the home buyer. The Ontario taxpayer is shelling out, through huge speculative profits, for housing lots in a development run by private enterprise. The home buyer is paying a monthly land lease based on this inflated price with a profit to the province tacked on top.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that there is an area where investigation is required as far as Ontario Housing Corporation and the HOME arrangements with Bramalea are concerned. If any company can make a series of four profits over the course of the next few years, through any arrangement which in effect absolves that company of one of the basic features of this whole satellite town—so that from 1974 on they are completely free of any obligation to keep a balance between industrial and residential assessment—there is going to be a penalty. The cost of which will be paid by the local people very, very heavily in years to come. The $11 million is going to be some compensation for the time being—and I suppose a township council takes a look at $11 million and thinks this is quite a bonanza, but beyond the $11 million the company is into the clear with no balanced assessment and with rising costs.

We have had no opportunity in this House to debate this kind of thing. We have no opportunity to investigate this kind of thing, and I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that it is time that the government stopped this rather pathological contention that the OHC is being politically persecuted when we are looking for facts to which the people of the province of Ontario are entitled. Quite frankly, those facts are indefensible.

There is a final all-encompassing area in which the Ontario government has failed to meet the collective needs of our people. It is abrogated any role in the fight to maintain Canadian independence. In fact, faced by the Randalls in our midst, this government is even more continentalist than the federal Liberals, and that is no mean feat. The Minister of Trade and Development gives the impression, and it is not altogether false, that he would sell his soul for still another branch plant in the province of Ontario.

The relentless erosion of Canada's control over its own economic destiny is a matter of deep and growing concern among all our people. That concern is to be found in the rank-and-file of every political party. Walter Gordon made a valiant effort to voice it in the Liberal Party but he was shunned, even scorned, and ultimately gave up. At the PC conference in Niagara Falls, Eddie Goodman made some attempt to express the feelings in Tory ranks, but that effort was snuffed out rather quickly. The New Democratic Party

is the only party free to express the deep concern of most Canadians.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: We are free to express this collective need of our people because we are the only party which is not dominated by business interests, that are increasingly American owned or controlled. It is all very well for the provincial satellites of the Liberal Party to think that their voice really means anything.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Without exploring fully this vital issue today, there is one important point which I would like to make.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Could I get the floor, Mr. Speaker?

Did anybody notice that meeting of young Progressive Conservatives a week or so ago? They ended up by incorporating in their version of the Tory programme, the Waffle Manifesto. Watch out, the grass roots are going to get you.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Without exploring fully this vital issue today, there is one important point that I want to make. It is obvious that the federal Liberals cannot and will not act vigorously to protect Canadian economic independence. That leadership can and must come from Ontario.

Why? Let me explain.

Nowhere are the proportions of the problems so great as here in Ontario. We have the greatest number of branch plants and they do not necessarily produce the maximum development of our potential. For years we have sought greater disclosure of corporate activities as legitimate public information. Old party governments have maintained much of the veil of secrecy which corporations seek for their own purposes.

Incidentally, we are getting some more information now in the province of Ontario in one sector of our economy through the back door. Applications for exemptions from the new processing-in-Canada regulation of The Department of Mines have revealed that 75 to 80 per cent of equity capital in the mining industry is American. With that information, the government is at least in a position to act. Obviously that experience has broader implication for what might be done throughout the whole of the economy, if we only had the basic information on which to act.

The U.S. is greedily eyeing Canadian resources, particularly energy resources. News reports indicate that the Nixon administration, under the influence of powerful lobbies, is going to squeeze-play us into access to those resources, using the threat of placing quotas on our present exports. Washington is tough and ruthless. Experience indicates that our business-dominated governments, whether of the C. D. Howe variety in the past or their counterparts today, have not been free to be equally tough in the bargaining. Many of these resources are in Ontario. Ontario must, therefore, be tough. We must stand up not only for ourselves but for Canada.

At present, more than any other province, Ontario is being subjected to what Charles Taylor has called "the colonization of the mind" because of our close proximity to the United States and because of our imports of American TV, road shows, entertainers, films, textbooks, magazines and other forms of print. Here, too, we require a new toughness of mind.

In short, there is compelling cause for Ontario to act in its own interests, and indirectly in the interests of all of Canada. Our position in the Canadian economy is such a dominant one that if we were to lead, Ottawa would have no alternative but to follow, at least in some measure. Moreover, Mr. Speaker, we have the power to act. We do not need to sit helplessly on the sidelines because Ottawa is unwilling to act in the interests of our survival as a sovereign economic and political entity.

Ontario's jurisdiction over the Toronto Stock Exchange may be an anomaly; but it is also a fact. We have jurisdiction over mergers and business practices; the property and civil rights head of the constitution fall under provincial jurisdiction. All of this gives Ontario important legislative powers that can be used to protect Canadian independence through regulating the activities of foreign corporations.

Canada is the only country in the world in which foreign capital is given *carte blanche* to do as it pleases. It is not being restrictive, nor is it unwarranted intervention in foreign corporate activity to lay down the ground rules within which foreign corporations must

operate. It is a legitimate and a very necessary exercise of our own national sovereignty. And let no one say that this cannot be done without crippling economic development. Many of the countries across the world have developed with such requirements imposed on foreign capital; in fact Japan is the classic example of one which had the most stringent requirements and has achieved a phenomenal economic development.

The Minister of Trade and Development's approach of complete freedom of action for foreign capital, sweetened even further with forgivable loans, is tantamount to a sellout of our economic interests. We believe, however, that you do not have to sacrifice economic sovereignty on the altar of economic development. You do not have to sell your soul to maintain a growing provincial product. The irony of this, Mr. Speaker, is that the once proud Tory party was originally the architect of Canadian economic and political independence. Sir John A. Macdonald must be turning over in his grave.

The Tory party—indeed, the Liberal Party too—have forsaken these traditions. The New Democratic Party proudly accepts them. We shall champion them, not in the narrow national sense, but on the simple propostion that Canadians are entitled to be masters in their own house. On this fundamental issue, fundamental to the survival of this nation, the Tory party is drifting into history. It has served its purpose, it is increasingly irrelevant, its day is done.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Would the member permit a question?

Mr. MacDonald: No.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Will he permit an observation?

Mr. MacDonald: No.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I rise on a point of order, sir.

Mr. Speaker: The minister will state his point of order.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Tell us what the socialist Premier of Manitoba did—

Mr. Speaker: Point of order.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Come on, tell us what he did. Tell us what Schreyer did.

Mr. MacDonald: I would like to tangle with the minister at any time but I would like to attempt to finish this before 6 o'clock.

If it does not arouse the minister unduly, even in this province of Ontario where the Tory party has been dominant for so long, the end is nigh at hand. The political trends of the last seven years in this province, revealed in the provincial election of 1967 and confirmed anew in the Middlesex South by-election, are that the Tories are slipping badly, the Liberals at best are drifting, and the New Democratic Party has risen sharply, increasingly accepted as a credible alternative.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: "I can only say that I know who the enemy is and I will fight". Do the members know whose those words were? The Prime Minister's. Those were the words of the Prime Minister in concluding the budget debate in December when he dismissed the Liberals and then he wagged an accusing finger at members of this group.

Mr. Speaker, I can only say that I look forward to the fight. The sooner the better. I accept the Conservative leader's challenge.

A funny thing has happened in Ontario since 1967. Its full significance has only since become evident when the trend of that election of 1967 projected with uncanny accuracy and persistence into Middlesex South. Politics in this province is being reborn. During the 1950s and the early 1960s the Tory party in Ontario did not have much to worry about; there was no major opposition party that provided any different or challenging philosophy of government. Consequently the Frosts and the present Premier were able to carry on as though the province was a giant corporation and the Tory cabinet was a board of directors.

That changed in 1967 with the election of 20 NDPs to this Legislature, and the change was underlined when two years later a 21st was added. It is now sure that the New Democratic Party is a major force in the life of this province, and nobody knows it better than the Tories sitting over there. The very real and fundamental criticisms which we have with Tory philosophy are being listened to with greater respect, for increasingly the people see the consequences of Tory philosophy in policies which have aroused widespread unrest all across the province of Ontario.

The Tory party has finally recognized the new situation in recent months. Conservative spokesmen are traveling the length and

breath of the province, sometimes welcoming and usually bemoaning the return to politics in Ontario. Cabinet ministers, including the newest addition, have warned of impending electoral disasters. Constituency leaders from ridings as—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Constituency leaders from ridings around Oshawa have uttered the anguished cry, "We need help". We have NDP members, both federal and provincial, they said. Tories from the cabinet to the grass roots have read the handwriting on the wall.

Mr. Speaker, I want to assure you that I, and the whole New Democratic Party, do not accept the challenge to fight lightly, nor do I accept it for the simple love of the political game. Despite what some people obviously believe after being cloistered for too long in this chamber—or preoccupied with cynicism like my friend from Sarnia—politics is not a game.

We face in this province and this country problems of great magnitude. I have dealt with some of them briefly in my earlier remarks. My colleagues will deal with them in greater depth throughout the throne speech debate. But even a mere roll call of the problems gives an idea of the proportions of our task as legislators and politicians: education, regional government, municipal taxes, urban renewal, housing shortages, traffic congestion, the exorbitant cost and confusion of our medical and hospital insurance, rural and urban poverty, farm income, drugs, the cost of living and the government's refusal to accept its responsibility for exorbitant price increases, long-postponed tax reform, pollution—one can go on and on.

Today these problems have reached proportions that threaten to overwhelm us because this government has been unwilling and unable to grapple with them. In short, Mr. Speaker, the quality of our lives in this province is slowly but certainly deteriorating, while the government of the day, and of yesterday—in fact of 27 years of yesterdays—flees from its collective shadow.

There is no energy on those benches. There is no vision of a better world, or even of a better Ontario. The unending self-adulation of the throne speech is not good enough any more. The Prime Minister may be a consummate actor but the people know a charade when they see one.

So, Mr. Speaker, I accept the Prime Minister's challenge, I accept it as we did in Middlesex South, and am confident that the same results will emerge. I accept gladly the opportunity to fight for a different philosophy of government. The New Democratic Party is not afraid to use the instrumentalities of government. We are not afraid to lay down our economy. We are not afraid to do what is necessary to ensure that every citizen of this province get a full share of the heritage that is Ontario.

If the Prime Minister thinks he can wipe out the sorry record of this government by attempting to distract public attention in a frenzied vendetta against the federal government, he can go ahead and try it. The people of Ontario are not going to forgive and forget. They have a growing feeling of "a plague on both of your houses", here and in Ottawa. It is time to have a government that will work in the interests of people and quit blaming somebody else for its own failures.

The New Democratic Party is not only prepared to form a government, we are prepared to be a government. And it is for that reason, Mr. Speaker, that I beg to submit for your careful consideration a sub-amendment.

I move, seconded by the member for Riverdale, that the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, now before this House, be amended by deleting all words after the words "housing for the people of Ontario", and substituting:

> And further, this House regrets the failure of the government to provide in the Speech from the Throne any significant proposals to deal with the real social and economic problems faced by the people of Ontario, and therefore, since the present government has lost the will to govern, this House calls upon the Prime Minister to advise his Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, to dissolve this legislative assembly and to issue forthwith the writs for a general election of members to serve in a new legislative assembly.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. MacDonald moves, seconded by Mr. J. Renwick, that the amendment to the motion from the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, now before this House, be amended by deleting all words after the words "housing for the people of Ontario," and substituting therefor:

> And further, this House regrets the failure of the government to provide in

the Speech from the Throne any significant proposals to deal with the real social and economic problems faced by the people of Ontario, and therefore, since the present government has lost the will to govern, this House calls upon the Prime Minister to advise His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, to dissolve this legislative assembly, and to issue forthwith the writs for a general election of the members to serve in a new legislative assembly.

Mr. MacDonald: Sounds even better on second hearing.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. J. Renwick: Afraid to call for a vote?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue with this debate and no doubt we will hear another point of view.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.

No. 7

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Wednesday, March 4, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Wednesday, March 4, 1970

Meadows Land Development Company, statement by Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence 215
Roman Corporation and Denison Mines Limited stocks, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Shulman, Mr. Singer 216
Ban on use of cyclamates, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 217
Proposed takeover of Denison Mines, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Ben 217
Formosa Brewery pollution problem, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald 218
Correspondence with Meadows Land Development Company, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Singer 219
Whiterock development company, question to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Singer 219
Damage by sulphur fumes to standing timber on White Fish Reserve, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Martel 220
Indiscriminate issuing of credit cards, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Trotter 220
Eddy Match Company pollution at Espanola, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Martel 220
Rezoning land in the line of a highway extension, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Ben 221
Financial assistance for proposed Grand River dams, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Makarchuk 221
Grants to municipalities, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Good 221
Mohawk institute, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Nixon 222
Presenting report, Ontario energy board, Mr. Kerr 222
Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital of the town of Petrolia, bill respecting, Mr. Henderson, first reading 222
Appointment of a commissioner to investigate administrative decisions and acts of officials of the government of Ontario and its agencies, and to define the commissioner's powers and duties, bill to provide for, Mr. Singer, first reading 222
City of Orillia, bill respecting, Mr. G. E. Smith 223
Public Schools Act, bill to amend, Mr. Martel, first reading 223
Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Ontario, bill respecting, Mr. Henderson, first reading 223
University of Toronto Act, 1947, bill to amend, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 223
Springdale Christian Reformed Church, bill respecting, Mr. Evans, first reading 223
City of Peterborough, bill respecting, Mr. Pitman, first reading 223
County of Peterborough, bill respecting, Mr. Pitman, first reading 223
Education Transportation Authority Act, 1970, bill intituled, Mr. Pitman, first reading 223
Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital, bill respecting, Mr. G. E. Smith, first reading 224
Theatres Act, bill to amend, Mr. Ben, first reading 224
City of Hamilton, bill respecting, Mrs. Pritchard, first reading 224
St. Catharines General Hospital, bill respecting, Mr. R. M. Johnston, first reading 224
Town of Georgetown, bill respecting, Mr. Snow, first reading 224
City of Niagara Falls, bill respecting, Mr. Bukator, first reading 224
Society of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario – Societe des Traducteurs et Interpretes de l'Ontario, bill respecting, Mr. Morin, first reading 224
City of Ottawa, bill respecting, Mr. Morningstar, first reading 224
Haldimand-Norfolk county Roman Catholic separate school board, bill respecting, Mr. Allan, first reading 224
Canadian National Exhibition Association, bill respecting, Mr. Price, first reading 224
Planning Act, bill to amend, Mr. Apps, first reading 224
Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron, bill respecting, Mr. McNeil, first reading 224
Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Robarts, Mr. Deacon 225
Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Grossman, agreed to 253
Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 253

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Today our guests in the east gallery are students from Essex senior public school in Toronto, and in the west gallery from Woodside public school in Oakville and St. Lucy's senior school in Toronto.

Statements by the ministry.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

On Monday I addressed a question to the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs in relation to investigations that his predecessor had initiated and into certain actions concerning Meadows Land Development Company Limited and Whiterock Developments. The minister, in reply, stated the matter was still under review and that in due course he anticipated he would make a statement. That is the minister's right.

However, sir, in last night's Toronto *Telegram* and again in this morning's *Globe and Mail*, a report was carried apparently answering substantially the question as it related to Meadows Land Development Company Limited, and quoting at some length the letter purported to have been written by the minister's deputy.

My point of order is this, sir. How much longer are the members of this Legislature going to be treated as second-rate citizens who apparently have no right to know anything, but the newspapers can know, the public can know—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Singer: —but we cannot know anything.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member was not stating a point of order, he was asking a question. If the hon. member has a point of order, and I presume his point of order is that he feels that communications are issued to the press first and not to this House, then I agree that it is a point of order, and I certainly do not know exactly what Mr. Speaker can do about it, but it is something, I am sure, that those sitting on the Treasury benches will bear in mind.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, is the minister making a reply?

Mr. Speaker: If the minister wishes to make a reply he may do so.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): I might say, Mr. Speaker, that it would be the last of my intentions to be discourteous to the House or to the particular member. What actually happened was that the deputy minister's letter to this particular firm went out on February 23, before the member's question was raised in the House. I had not known that the deputy minister had written to this particular firm stating the conditions under which it would be permitted to resume its operations.

It was only yesterday that I learned of the existence of this letter and I would like to assure the hon. member and the House that there was no discourtesy intended, that there was no suggestion that I would, in any case, ever myself see information going to the press in answer to a member's question prior to its being answered directly, and I think properly, to the member who was asking. As I say, the letter that was concerned in yesterday's report was sent by my deputy to the party in question on February 23.

Mr. Speaker, I have prepared, because of the details involved here, a statement which I might make as either a formal statement, or an answer to the question raised by the member earlier.

Mr. Speaker: I would think that the proper place for that would be ministerial statements, and that is the order in which we still are. The question period follows it, and the hon. members may then question the minister on his statement. Would he be prepared to go on that basis?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That would be fine, Mr. Speaker.

The matter of Meadows Land Development Company Limited was raised in this House on November 6, 1969, by the hon. member for Downsview, when reference was made to a

complaint from a citizen who had leased property from that company.

Based on this information and a cursory examination of this operation, and to ensure that all the facts concerning the operation were made available, the then Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs issued an investigation order under section 1(a) of section 24, of The Real Estate and Business Brokers Act on November 6, 1969. The operation was investigated by officers of the consumer protection division of the department and their findings have been discussed with officials of The Department of Justice and The Department of Municipal Affairs.

The original complainant has been satisfied by an exchange of lots arranged by the company. Since the company was selling and leasing its own property, licensing under The Real Estate and Business Brokers Act is not required. The leasing of lots carried out by the company is within the provisions of The Planning Act.

The information circular used by the company was, to some extent, misleading. However, in the opinion of the law officers of the Crown, it did not warrant the laying of charges. The company has provided the department with undertakings that will ensure that full, true and plain disclosure is made to all persons receiving information with a view toward obtaining an interest in land owned by the company.

The deputy minister's letter dated February 23, 1970, was for the purpose of permitting the company to resume its financial arrangements with its bankers so that the commitments given could be carried out. Failure to do so would have resulted in hardship for the purchasers who were already using their property.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Is the minister investigating the actions of the Ontario Securities Commission during the last few days while the stock of Denison Mines Limited and Roman Corporation Limited fluctuated under the circumstances that we are familiar with? If not, has he undertaken or will he undertake such an investigation?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have undertaken an investigation. Again in view of the significance of the question, Mr. Speaker, may I be permitted to briefly run through the significant points?

Since February 20, 1970, the Toronto Stock Exchange, because of rumoured sales of Roman Corporation stock, had exercised special surveillance over all trades. Trading on February 25 indicated some possible professional activity. Trading was stopped at 10 a.m., Thursday, February 26, and a statement requested from the executive. A brief statement was made by Mr. Stephen Roman —and I have a copy of it here—stating that negotiations were underway. Trading was resumed at 2 p.m., February 26, after Dow Jones had carried the Roman statement.

Mr. Nixon: Excuse me. It was stopped?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It was resumed at 2 p.m., February 26.

Mr. Nixon: That is the same day it was stopped?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, after Mr. Roman's statement was issued and carried on Dow Jones' information service.

Mr. Trudeau indicated on the evening of March 2 the deal might not be permitted. The stock exchange halted trading again on March 3 until the effect of the Trudeau statement had been assessed by the market. Trading was resumed with the concurrence of the commission in the afternoon of March 3.

To sum up, adequate surveillance was maintained during this time by the Toronto Stock Exchange and trading was halted on two occasions. The commission was kept informed, and did not feel and does not now feel that a suspension by the commission was or would be in the public interest.

Mr. Nixon: As a supplementary question, I presume that part of the investigation or the surveillance by the Ontario Securities Commission was to determine if, in fact, there was insider trading activity. Can the minister assure us from his questioning of the commission that no such trading occurred?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There was one particular transaction, as I understand it a grouping of interests, that triggered the original surveillance procedure. Insofar as insider trading after the event is concerned, my understanding of the law is that it is on the tenth day of the next following month that the details must be given by those who fall within the definition of being insiders.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary: The minister used a phrase in his original answer, something like, "There was some professional activity". What is that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I assume by this that here we are discussing activity not by isolated people in the market holding isolated blocks, but by those who as brokers or otherwise—and I think this is again quite properly what triggered the commission's activity—possibly have reflected broker level, expert or inside activity.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has a supplementary?

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Mr. Speaker, if this first large trade which triggered the investigation involved a purchase of stock by insiders, is it the intention of the minister's department to take any action against those insiders?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think, Mr. Speaker, I can prejudge the operation by the securities commission under its statute so far as the rights and liabilities of insiders or the public are concerned at this stage.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary. Would the minister undertake to advise the House, not the newspapers, as soon as possible what the result of the investigation is in this matter?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have advised the House, I think, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Singer: Not so far as insider trading is concerned. That is a continuing investigation, the minister told us.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a statutory requirement that insiders declare what insider trading has taken place and that this be made available, not only to the public but, of course, to the commission. I do not accept the suggestion that I would give any information to the press, rather than to the member asking a question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Attorney General. Can he tell the House whose responsibility it is to enforce the federal ban on the use of cyclamates?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): I do not know if I can at this moment. It is a federal ban. I would think if they pass a restrictive law, they must surely, at the same time, provide some authority for the enforcement of it.

If it were in the code, certainly it would be the function of the Attorney General and the administration of justice. It could very well fall within one department or other of the provincial government, but at the moment I have not studied the matter. I think I could get the hon. member an answer very quickly.

Mr. Nixon: As a supplementary question, is the minister aware that cyclamates are, I understand, still being used in restaurants in Toronto and that if there is some responsibility at the provincial level for the enforcement of the ban, perhaps it is this minister's responsibility to know about it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I doubt if it is my responsibility, Mr. Speaker, but I shall check the matter and find an answer for the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): The Attorney General is responsible for the enforcement of all laws.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, my first question is to the Prime Minister.

In view of the statement that the Prime Minister of Canada has made with regard to the federal government's action in connection with the proposed takeover of Denison Mines, would the Prime Minister indicate what the position of the province of Ontario is on this?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the action taken, or indicated as about to be taken, by the Prime Minister of Canada lies within the purview of the federal government and therefore it really does not call for any response and action from this government.

On the other hand, I would say this. We share with him, and, I think, with a great many other Canadians, the apprehension that flows from the continual takeover of the natural resources of this country by foreign nationals.

I spend a lot of my time—and I will later on this afternoon—correcting misstatements. I am not talking about the establishment of secondary industry in this province by subsidiaries of foreign companies, or with foreign capital from wherever it may come. I am talking about control of our natural resources.

We, in this government, share the apprehension that is obviously felt by the government of Canada and the Prime Minister in making this statement. I must say that I appreciate the difficulties of his position, because undoubtedly it is a difficult situation for the individuals who are involved.

I must say I have some sympathy for the position of Mr. Roman and his associates, because—

Mr. MacDonald: If the Prime Minister has sympathy for both, where does he stand?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Just a minute, until I have finished. I have sympathy for them because the rules have been changed in the middle of the ballgame. But I might point out that this Legislature changed the rules in the middle of the ballgame in the takeover only a few months ago of two gas companies.

We have these apprehensions, and when we feel that it is necessary, we will act on them. I would point out to the member, too, that is was just recently that this government initiated legislation which was approved on all sides of this House by which we could control the ultimate destination of raw material from our mines in this province. So, this is a matter that is troubling a great many Canadians.

Perhaps it could be stated and argued that uranium, because of the rather peculiar nature of the substance itself, may even fall into a different category. This makes Mr. Roman's position even more difficult. We recognize that.

But nonetheless I point out the steps we have taken to control what happens to raw material coming out of the mines of this province. A company cannot export it out of the province now without a licence from the government, which permits us to examine each individual case and decide whether it is in the best interests of Ontario and of Canada that this be done. I think we are facing up to a problem we have to meet, regardless of the difficulties there may be involved in it.

That is the position of this government in this particular instance.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for York South a supplementary?

Mr. MacDonald: No.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Humber a supplementary question?

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Yes.

Arising out of the minister's statement that it is a federal matter, is the minister aware that what is involved here is the sale by the Roman Corporation Limited—a company incorporated under the laws of the province of Ontario and having its head office in the province of Ontario—the sale of its shares in Denison Mines Limited, a company incorporated under the laws of the province of Ontario and having its head office in the province of Ontario, to another Canadian corporation? I am not sure where Hudson's Bay was incorporated; perhaps the minister can help me.

How, in the light of that, can the minister say it does not involve Ontario, when it is a deliberate infringement on the rights of the province to pass laws governing companies?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): What does the hon. member want us to do?

Mr. Ben: This government can still restrict the export—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked his question.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The only answer I can give to that question is that as far as I am concerned I do not think there is any question of the federal government's constitutional power to do what it is proposing to do.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my second question is to the Minister of Social and Family Services.

Would the minister table in this House a copy of the memorandum which was submitted to the head of the Indian development branch of his department by the community development officer, Mr. McClellan, in the Hearst area last April with regard to the Bird-Steven assault case?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, I will take notice of that question.

Mr. MacDonald: My final question is to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Why were OWRC engineers, or other officials, not in attendance at the OMB hearing last week on Barrie's application for annexation of a portion of Innisfil township for land to meet the needs of the new Formosa brewery?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure of the exact reason. I do know that officials of OWRC have been working with the city of Barrie in its arrangements with Formosa whereby the brewery will treat its waste in the Barrie sewage treatment plant. We have laid down the guidelines and the

regulations we expect the municipality to require of the company. I am not just sure why officials of OWRC should attend an OMB hearing.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of supplementary question then, may I put my question in another way?

Since the special agreement of the city of the corporation of Barrie with Formosa was signed on the advice of and with the involvement of the OWRC, why would OWRC not be before the OMB when all the ramifications of that special agreement were under consideration?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I will get that information for the hon. member. However, I think if there is an agreement, the OMB would be apprised of that agreement, and I do not know why anybody from the commission should have to attend unless required as a witness, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Parkdale a supplementary?

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Downsview has the floor.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the minister's statement, I have some questions I want to address to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Will the minister table the exchange of correspondence between his deputy and Meadows Land Development so that the members of the House can determine whether the exchange of undertakings was satisfactory or not?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I can certainly consider it; I think at the moment there would be nothing harmful in giving the member a copy of my deputy's letter to the Meadows company. I would like to consider the situation insofar as it involves correspondence coming into my department. I will have to consider that aspect of it.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary:

Can the minister explain, when he makes a statement saying that there has been an exchange of understanding and undertakings between the government and a company, and he says that he is satisfied, or his department is satisfied, why the House is not entitled to know the basis on which he and the individuals of the company involved have arrived at this understanding? Surely, we are entitled to know something here, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked a question.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, certainly, on the basis of the understanding, I will be very pleased to put that forward if it was not satisfactorily covered in the statement which I made. I can expand upon that. At the moment, I certainly cannot undertake to open a file involving an exchange of correspondence between a member of the public and my department.

I think the overriding thing here is that this is not a criminal prosecution matter we are concerned with. It is an exercise of judgement. The people in my department are required to exercise their judgement. So there is no 100 per cent test of the exercise of judgement, when you feel on the basis of individual undertakings that certain commitments are going to be acceptable.

However, to come back to the first point. I will be glad to expand for the member on the nature of the kind of commitments which made this department feel that the Meadows thing was not in a position of damaging or potentially damaging purchasers.

Mr. Singer: A second question arising—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is entitled to ask a question in his turn and not to ask a series of questions, unless he asks them all at one time as part of the original question.

Mr. Singer: Well, then, a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, arising again out of the minister's statement.

What happened to Whiterock, or are we going to have to find that out from the newspapers as well?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that contains an innuendo or an inference which I answered.

Mr. Singer: Yes it does, a deliberate innuendo.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The letter which was written, as I pointed out earlier, was written prior to the member's question to me. I would feel that he would have accepted the fact that—

Mr. Singer: It was an insult to the members of this House. Arrogance!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Singer: Give us such key points.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot; nor can I understand, Mr. Speaker, how there can be arrogance involved in the release of a letter that was written long before the member asked me the question.

Mr. Singer: Well, then, the minister does not know what his deputy does. It is about time he found out.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Can the minister advise me what action may be taken by the White Fish Reserve No. 6 band at Naughton, which is south of Sudbury, for a claim against the adverse effect of sulphur fumes on the standing timber of 40,000 acres on the reserve, in view of the statement made yesterday by the Minister of Lands and Forest (Mr. Brunelle) with regard to damage to the ecology of the area by sulphur fumes emitted by International Nickel and Falconbridge Mines?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I am having members of my department discuss the statement that the hon. minister gave to the House yesterday regarding the effect of sulphur fumes around Sudbury. If it is found or established that the inhabitants of the White Fish Reserve were, in fact, injured as a result of this fallout from the two big companies in Sudbury, they would have a claim against those companies. However, if the member will recall the hon. minister's statement yesterday, it did not necessarily pinpoint the areas which the companies had contaminated, although it did mention certain areas and certain bodies of water.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Well who else would do it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In any event, I would think that if the White Fish Reserve Indians could, in fact, establish that they were, in fact, injured by these companies, they would have a claim, and I think that it is quite possible that the government, and certain departments of the government, could carry out investigations just to see what the extent of that injury was.

Mr. Stokes: Would the minister advise the members of the band council the results of any findings as a result of the investigations?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Speaker, but I would like to have the chief or somebody in authority from the band council write to me the extent of the injuries they have suffered.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Parkdale.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

In view of the fact that Mr. Basford, the Minister of Consumer Affairs, was concerned about the indiscriminate issuing of credit cards, and also in view of the fact that the government of British Columbia is introducing legislation to control the same, has the minister any suggestion what his policy will be in an attempt to control the issue of credit cards?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, not yet.

Mr. Trotter: By way of a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that this is a very serious problem in—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will ask the question.

Mr. Trotter: Is it not about time we did have some policy with regard to credit cards? Does the minister have an answer? No policy, no—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is asking questions on policy which are neither askable nor answerable. The member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: A question of the minister of Energy and Resources Management.

When the Eddy Match Company failed to make the improvements necessary to curb pollution at Espanola, did the OWRC initiate the action on its own initiative, or was it again necessary for Mr. Falkowski to start to go after OWRC to make this move?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I understand that these charges were laid by my department.

Mr. Martel: Who was prompting the minister's department at that time once again?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Me.

Mr. Martel: I would believe—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): But who was prompting the minister, that is the point?

Mr. Martel: A supplementary question, despite the fact that I do not believe that that is answered.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member wished a supplementary question?

Mr. Martel: I thought I would get that in.

Is the minister aware that Eddy Match is now in the process of asking its employees whether they are willing to move to B.C., should they have to put in this necessary equipment, and what action will the government undertake if Eddy Match does decide to close down?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I might ask the hon. member, Mr. Speaker, whether he is for or against the action we have taken against this company. I am not quite sure of the implications of the member's question. These are some of the results or some of the effects of our regulations that we have to expect or we have to put up with. Frankly, I do not think the company will move to B.C.

Mr. Martel: This is the minister's opinion, but will there be any action should it close down?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is asking an entirely theoretical question.

Mr. Martel: Oh, no, it is not theoretical, they are asking their employees to move to B.C. now.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Humber has the floor.

Mr. Ben: To the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Is the minister's department contemplating instituting a judicial inquiry into the conduct of the past and present councils of the borough of Etobicoke regarding their action in deliberately rezoning the piece of land in the line of a highway extension which will cost Etobicoke taxpayers about $200,000, and the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) probably an equally large sum because of the contribution it will make to the highway cost?

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I suppose my answer on this would be exactly the same as the answer to a question about a different municipality yesterday. I have confidence in local government; I am not contemplating any such judicial inquiry.

Mr. Ben: Never heard of the borough of York?

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Can the minister indicate the present status of provincial financial assistance for the proposed dams in the Grand River?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, we are still negotiating and discussing this project with my federal counterpart, Mr. Greene.

It is hoped that the provisions of The Canada Water Assistance Act in respect to major flood control schemes will still be in effect, and that the federal government will still participate to the extent of approximately 37.5 per cent so that this project will go ahead.

The member municipalities have indicated that they are not prepared to go along on a 50-50 basis. They will only go along if the governments' total is 75 per cent. So, until we have that decided with Ottawa, we cannot really make any plans for that project. We may have to decide whether or not this government can go ahead on the basis of 75 per cent grant.

But I am hoping that, in view of the fact that the federal government wants the cooperation of the province as far as its plans for the new proposed water bill are concerned, the federal government will feel that the whole idea embodied in that bill regarding water management requires the building of large dams such as envisaged in the Grand River.

Mr. Makarchuk: By way of supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate when these talks will come to some kind of a conclusion?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would say, certainly before the Canada water bill is given third reading, and I am hoping within the next three or four weeks.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Waterloo North has a supplementary.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Would the minister explain what he meant the other day when he said that if the municipalities were willing to expend more money on the shorter term, the government could finance them, and yet it cannot finance them for the $44 million for a longer period of time? It would seem to me that if the government cannot finance $44 million, why would it indicate that it would finance them if they were

prepared to do a bigger job in a shorter period of time?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As I indicated in the question referred to by the hon. member, we have a formula now. There are provisions under our legislation now, whereby, if the benefiting municipalities will budget, or the cost of a scheme will reach a certain amount under this formula, it is required of the province to pay a grant of up to 75 per cent. We would expect to have to meet that commitment if they want to spend the amount of money under the formula which would qualify them for the 75 per cent grant. But this is the matter to which I was referring in respect to the previous member's question: Is it a straight 75 per cent grant? We have not made up our minds whether or not we will be able to pay that amount in the event that the federal government does not go along with its commitment under The Canada Water Assistance Act.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Social and Family Services has the answer to a question asked yesterday by the Leader of the Opposition.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition directed a question in a general way to me regarding Mohawk institute. I think he is familiar with Mohawk institute, so I will not go into that background. Nothing specific has been brought to our department or to the branch. I had heard of its situation in passing.

My understanding now is, following detailed consultation between the federal government and the Six Nations council, that the decision was made to close down the institution and that will take place in September. My understanding is that the families in northern Ontario whose children were being sent to this school have welcomed this change.

I do agree with him that any institution under Indian direction would warrant a lot of consideration. The Mohawk institute is on Indian land, therefore any idea about the utilization of the land and the buildings should come from the Indian people. I may say that if such a proposition were forthcoming through the co-operation of the Indian people involved, the federal government, and I am sure, our Department of Education, I would be very pleased to see that it would go forward.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. I wonder if the minister would consider conferring with his colleague, the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis), so that perhaps the information that we might convey to the Indian council as to the availability of funds to upgrade this institution into what might be called a community college would be available, so we would know what this government would have in mind.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, it would be preferable, and it is now becoming acceptable, that the initiative come from the Indian people themselves. So far as I know, no proposition has been put forward, either to our department or to The Department of Education. If they would initiate some idea, then the matter could be pursued.

Mr. Nixon: Might I ask—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to say the oral question period has more than expired.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. Mr. Kerr begs leave to present to the House the report of the Ontario Energy Board for the year ending December 31, 1969.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

CHARLOTTE ELEANOR ENGLEHART HOSPITAL OF PETROLIA

Mr. Henderson moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Charlotte Eleanor Englehard Hospital of the town of Petrolia.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

COMMISSIONER TO INVESTIGATE ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS AND ACTS OF OFFICIALS

Mr. Singer moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to provide for the appointment of a commissioner to investigate administrative decisions and acts of officials of the government of Ontario and its agencies, and to define the commissioner's powers and duties.

Mr. Speaker: Notice of this was given when?

Mr. Singer: February 25.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, may I say that this is the sixth year in a row that I have introduced this bill before this House. The bill provides for the appointment of a parliamentary commissioner or an ombudsman. It is interesting to note that over the years the government reaction has mellowed.

Mr. Speaker: No principles of the bill!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I think in view of present attitudes that the bill should now receive very careful consideration from all members of the House as it affects the rights of the people of Ontario.

CITY OF ORILLIA

Mr. G. E. Smith moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Orillia.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT

Mr. Martel moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Public Schools Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Martel: The amendment would permit a public school board, by agreement, to use facilities of the separate school board. This is complementary to a corresponding provision in The Separate Schools Act by which a separate school board may, by agreement, use facilities of a public school board.

INCORPORATED SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF ONTARIO

Mr. Henderson, in the absence of Mr. Potter, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Ontario.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ACT, 1947

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The University of Toronto Act, 1947.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, the bill replaces the present board of governors and senate of the University of Toronto with a single-tier governing body known as the governing council, comprising lay, faculty and student representation, together with certain ex-officio academic administrators. Its powers and functions are specified, as are those of the president and the chancellor. A broadly based university assembly is created, to provide a mass communications linkage and sounding board when such is considered in the interest of the university by the governing council.

This bill incorporates the recommendations of the committee on university government of the University of Toronto.

SPRINGDALE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Mr. Evans moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Springdale Christian Reformed Church.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Peterborough.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: The member has a further bill?

COUNTY OF PETERBOROUGH

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the county of Peterborough.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY ACT, 1970

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, The Education Transportation Authority Act, 1970.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, this bill is a reaction to the frightening rise of traffic accidents involving school buses and the resulting rise in injuries to school children. Let us hope that such an authority would not only improve the safety of school buses and school bus routes and procedures, but might bring

economy to an activity which is costing Ontario some $50 million each year.

TORONTO EAST GENERAL AND ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL

Mr. W. Newman, in the absence of Mr. G. E. Smith, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE THEATRES ACT

Mr. Ben moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Theatres Act.

Mr. Speaker: Notice was given when?

Mr. Ben: The first day of the session.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Speaker, the Act now applies only to projecting moving pictures from film transparencies. The amendment would extend the application of the Act to other methods of producing moving pictures in line with modern technological developments.

CITY OF HAMILTON

Mrs. Pritchard moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Hamilton.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

ST. CATHARINES GENERAL HOSPITAL

Mr. Winkler, in the absence of Mr. R. M. Johnston, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the St. Catharines General Hospital.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWN OF GEORGETOWN

Mr. Villeneuve, in the absence of Mr. Snow, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the town of Georgetown.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS

Mr. Bukator moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Niagara Falls.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

SOCIETY OF TRANSLATORS AND INTERPRETERS–SOCIETE DES TRADUCTEURS ET INTERPRETES

Mr. W. Newman, in the absence of Mr. Morin, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Society of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario–Societe des Traducteurs et Interpretes de l'Ontario.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF OTTAWA

Mr. Morningstar, in the absence of Mr. Morrow, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Ottawa.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

HALDIMAND-NORFOLK ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Allan moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Haldimand-Norfolk county Roman Catholic separate school board.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION ASSOCIATION

Mr. Allan, in the absence of Mr. Price, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Canadian National Exhibition Association.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE PLANNING ACT

Mr. Apps moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Planning Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, as an explanation of this bill, the amendment would permit municipalities to preserve the character of historic and architectural features in the municipality.

INCORPORATED SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF HURON

Mr. McNeil moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: I think the members might like to know, in view of the bills that have just come in, that the warden of Peterborough county has been watching from Mr. Speaker's gallery to make sure that his legislation was well received.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable Lieutenant-Governor, at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to come to the spot in the procedures in this House where I have an opportunity to take part in this debate.

Before I make a few comments upon some of the remarks that have already been made in this debate, I would like to pay my respects to you, sir, and your office, and simply say that I appreciate the difficulties that you have in dealing with what might be termed a spirited group of men in a forum where issues are debated sometimes with warmth and fervour. I recognize that your tasks are not easy and you are called upon to make many decisions very rapidly.

Of course, it is impossible for you to please every member of this House, or, indeed, every group in this House, with your decisions. But as far as I am concerned personally, and as far as the government side of the House is concerned, we find your conduct of the affairs completely satisfactory. You may rest assured that you will have our continued support, even though at times I may not be in 100 per cent agreement with you, because I recognize that that is inevitable.

I would like, too, to offer my congratulations to the mover and seconder of the address which commenced this debate. It certainly is an opportunity to put points of view and I enjoyed both speeches very much, even though I may have been out of the House for some portions of each of them. That was not by choice but by the pressure of other duties. I had an opportunity to read the parts of those speeches that I did not hear and I offer my congratulations to both those members.

When I come to the next two participants in this debate I must withdraw even the vague possibility of any congratulations that I might offer to them. I will have a good deal to say about both those addresses, but I will cut it short because I want to get to the positive part of my address this afternoon. However, I really could not allow some of the comments to pass unremarked.

I can only say as far as the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) is concerned it was, to say the least, weak. What he had to say was fuzzy. I had real difficulty in understanding him.

Some things came through fairly loud and clear. One thing that came through very loud and clear was simply that he resorted to the age-old political strategy of those who have no responsibility. That was to say, "Let us not increase taxes, but let us increase spending". And, "Let us increase no more burdens in the form of taxation."

In fact, I found it completely ludicrous—and I can only use that term—that he would advocate additional spending programmes on the part of this government and, at the same time, completely reject the position that we are taking in attempting to get more elbow room to finance the things that he is proposing without increasing the burden on the taxpayers of the province.

This proposition he rejected completely, while at the same time he advocated that we increase our spending.

Once again, I think that it illustrates that men without responsibility tend to become a trifle irresponsible, and I would say that those remarks were quite irresponsible.

May I just point out to the House that he did suggest—and I only pick out four points—that the government increase its support of the local school system to 80 per cent of cost over the next five years; that we provide additional grants to municipalities; that we absorb taxes in one way or another on the installation of pollution abatement equipment; and that the government immediately extend OHSIP to pay 100 per cent of the doctors' fee schedules. These are just four spending propositions that he makes.

I do not question the worthiness of these suggestions in terms of what they might do to assist the people of this province, but how in heaven's name he can advance that proposition and in the same speech and in the same breath say: "But do not dare go near Ottawa to find any way of financing what I am proposing without increasing the tax burden on the people of Ontario". When is he going to come down to the point of working for the people of Ontario instead of those people he takes his orders from in Ottawa?

I assure you, Mr. Speaker, it does not please me to come back to this theme. I discussed this before the House adjourned, and I would not have mentioned it today except for—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Those expletives are really vigorous today, are they not?

I would not have raised this point in today's speech, Mr. Speaker, had it not been for the ridiculous positions taken in the speech that was delivered here earlier in the week, and if it were not for the fact that when the provincial Liberal association met in Ottawa, according to what I read in the press reports, it seems to me it was just completely taken over by the federal government. The whole meeting was dominated by federal members.

That happens, and then back we come into this House and we have this ridiculous situation where they will not support us when we are fighting for the taxpayers of this province. The Leader of the Opposition stands in his place and suggests that we spend more money, and the only corollary is that he is suggesting we raise taxes to pay for what he suggested here earlier this week.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): We are appalled at the government's inefficiency.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: You simply cannot have it both ways. Before I am finished here this afternoon I propose to document a few of the reasons why we take our position. When I finish I will find it very peculiar or very difficult to understand in any terms other than those in which I am explaining it now, if he does not support us. But we will wait and see what his reaction will be. Believe me, he is either going to have to go along in a fight for the taxpayer of this province, he is either going to go to bat for him or he is not. It is going to be that or nothing!

An hon. member: All done?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh I could go on. I made some arithmetic computations as to what the cost of those suggestions would be. It would run somewhere in the neighbourhood of an additional $400 million to implement what he suggested that we do forthwith.

The Leader of the Opposition did not suggest where this money was going to come from. I suppose he thinks we are going to impose a surtax on personal income or raise the sales tax or raise the cost of liquor or raise the succession duties or raise the gasoline tax, because these are the only sources of taxation open to this government with which to finance the propositions that he is putting forward unless we can get a better tax deal.

It is quite interesting to note that the federal surplus they are presently playing around with would just about equate with what he is proposing we spend in this province this year. In due course we will find out whose side he is on. I think I know, but we will find out in due course.

Mr. Speaker, I now come to a few comments concerning the remarks of the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald). I somehow detect a change in emphasis here. I detect a return to the days when this House was filled with screams of fraud and allegations of bad motives, when the hon. member almost took his party out of the picture entirely with this particular approach. Somebody gave him some advice and he shifted course for a few years, but now he seems to be heading back onto the same old course, with allegations of dishonesty and one thing or another.

But the thing that really astonished me was the final motion. I was in Owen Sound last night for a speaking engagement which was the reason I was not here to hear that motion made. Unfortunately, the engagement that I was fulfilling—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): The Prime Minister was pretty good!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well I received high words of praise from the hon. member; when we meet on that kind of ground we are pretty good friends.

But in any event, when I got back and heard what this motion had been, that this government ask the Lieutenant-Governor to dissolve the Legislature and that we have an election, I really could not believe my ears.

Then after the first shock passed away, I began to sort of think: why? Why would he happen upon this particular approach?

It is not three years since the last election. The people put this government in power in 1967, in October, and this is only March, 1970; two and a half years. I estimate that the next election will cost the taxpayers of this province about $6 million. So I began to wonder, in light of that and in light of the fact that he trumpeted around the province in 1969 that he would get 69 seats and did not even come close—no, it was 67 in 1967.

I can assure him it would not be 70 in 1970, it will not be 71 in 1971 and it will not be 72 in 1972. He was so completely wrong the last time in all his prognostications, I began to wonder why he was asking this government, in such a formal fashion—he must mean it, he simply must mean it because he makes it a motion, which is probably the most formal way.

This is not a remark dropped at a casual press conference or a remark made on the hustings in a moment of heat or excitement or enthusiasm. It is a deliberate request that the people of this province be launched into an election in the third year of a government that is doing a terrific job for the people. He wants an election that will cost $6 million, when we are being asked on all sides—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The Prime Minister is repeating himself.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I want to emphasize this. I will come to my point and I do not think he will like it—$6 million in a period when we have undertaken, in good faith with the federal government, to contain expenditures.

As I said once before in this place, I have an opportunity, sitting here, to see all the faces over there. The member for York South, in the front row, does not see what I see; but I wondered if the long knives were out behind him and I wondered, really, if this was the last pitch before the leadership goes on the block next October.

What other reason can any reasonable man find for a request that this province be thrown into a general election in the third year of a government that has a good majority, at a cost of $6 million? What other possible reason could there be other than the personal position of the man who made the motion? Perhaps this is the last desperate fling to try and retain power and control of that rather badly split organization that sits over there.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is the only conceivable reason that I would find—

Mr. MacDonald: Pretty weak!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —for such a ridiculous, such a completely ridiculous question. It is so fatuous as to make a mockery, really, of the debate.

I do not mind being criticized; I do not mind being given some good ideas. If they are good ones, of course, we will accept them. We are always waiting for some good ones; the only problem is we do not get enough. We get one once in a while which we are able to accept.

But in any event I see this change in his tactics, back to the old way of imputing as he did; I believe it was about prosecutions for pollution. I am not imputing any motive, but is it not strange, this type of approach, which simply says: "Look there is dishonesty some place. I cannot prove it, but I am saying it is there"? Back to the old matters; and then a call for election!

Well I have no intention of helping him retain his position. I can assure him there will be no election called; and whether we vote on that today or three weeks hence will make no difference in the ultimate result.

Now sir, I would like to go on, but before I do, it seems necessary to spend a certain amount of time here correcting misconceptions. In the speeches of both of the leaders of the other parties they referred to the fact that we had scrapped the idea of a personal income tax in the province. This was used as an attempt to discredit me personally, it was used as an attempt to drive a wedge between myself and my colleagues on my right.

Mr. Nixon: Paranoid!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In recent months I found it expedient and politic to have a tape recorder when I go to these off-the-cuff conferences in order that when such a situation as this arises I am able to check back and find out what in fact I had said. So I go back to a press conference that I held on January 29, 1970, when the question of the provincial income tax was discussed. I will take the trouble and the time of the House—I do not intend to do this on every occasion when I am misquoted but I think once in a while I have to do it because it is an obvious attempt to attack my credibility. Those members opposite would like the people of the province to think that I do not tell the truth—that there is some degree of incredibility in what I say.

I think it is necessary, even if it is a little boring for the members of the House, that these matters be straightened out occasionally.

Mr. Nixon: Certainly takes a lot of time.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: So I will read from a transcript which was typed from a tape of that meeting. A question was asked of me; the question:

Your own white paper on the last budget said categorically that the government intended to bring in its own provincial income tax system within two years. Do you still think that is practically true?

And I answered:

I rather doubt that it said "categorically," Mr. Greer. I mean, categorically means that we said that we are going to do it, come hell or high water. That is what categorically means. I am inclined to doubt that.

I think the white paper was a statement of certain intentions, that we saw certain courses of action that might be open to us. Now, of course, we mentioned capital gains tax there too, and of course this would have to—

And then there is a pause because this is verbatim—

Whatever we do will have to be conditioned upon what the federal government does in this area. So what we stated in our white paper will have to be looked at as it would be, in any event, in terms of tax reform as proposed by the federal government.

It is very difficult for any government to move sort of unilaterally in Canada any more—

Although, as an interjection, I might say some still try.

—particularly in these areas, in my opinion, because we are all sort of mixed up in these situations together.

Question:

Regardless of the qualifications that may or may not have been there, is it practically possible to bring in a provincial income tax system?

My answer to that:

Within two years or within a year?

Questioner:

A year from now.

Answer:

I might think, no. On the other hand, the idea and its advantages and disadvantages are still there.

Now, if you can interpret from that that I said we were going to scrap our ideas of an income tax for this province, you have got really quite a good imagination.

Mr. Nixon: The Premier is arguing with the *Globe and Mail*, not us.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am not arguing with anybody. I am simply stating what the record shows I did, in fact, say.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): If the Premier is not going to scrap it, is he going to have it? Is he going to have income tax?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I think the question of the tax direction in which this province will go will be more fully and properly dealt with during the presentation of the budget. The member will have his chance to make his remarks in some method other than interjections during that debate if he feels so inclined.

Mr. Singer: Thank you.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would like to deal now with a few matters concerning the province and what has happened in the province since we broke up before Christmas.

I would like to report on the federal-provincial conference held in Ottawa two weeks ago, where we examined certain problems of inflation and economic policy and pollution and where we examined the report of the tax structure committee. I would like, as I proceed, to table certain documents in relation to that conference, in order that all members of the House may have an opportunity to read what was in fact submitted at that meeting.

I want also to provide to the House an outline of the current economic prospects for Ontario during 1970 as we see them. I want to express a few views related to the constitutional review and I want to make a report to the House on the activities of the government in that area, of recent months.

I would like to make a few further references to certain apprehensions I have about the effect of the federal white paper on taxation. I wonder where all the objections went to that I heard expressed by certain members about the white paper? They seemed to evaporate at that meeting in Ottawa, too.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): They are up there.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I think the members will find they all disappeared shortly after that. However, you would do better to hold your meeting in Windsor or at the Lakehead—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Moosonee.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —and get out from under the gun down there.

Mr. Nixon: Would the Premier invite us to London?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, I would invite you to London; love to have you there.

I would like first to remind the House of something that I think we tend to forget. That is the very remarkable growth and prosperity which we have enjoyed in this province during the last 10 years. It is very easy to become completely wrapped up in the problems of the day and in becoming so involved in those problems we tend to forget our own capacity to solve other problems and what we have been able to accomplish.

I think our growth is evident in every place we turn. What we have done, the achievements, are the achievements of our people. They are achievements of the residents of this province. They are not the achievements of the government; they are not the achievements of this Legislature, they are the achievements of Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Ontario. They are the people who do it.

You can see new residential development, new roads, new parks and new office towers, planetariums, science centres, Centennial libraries—all those wonderful things that were done across our province in 1967 to mark Ontario. These things are there for us to see; they are on the landscape.

But there are other measurements too. For example, the population of Ontario expanded by a very remarkable 24 per cent during the 10 years between 1960, when our population was 6.1 million, and our present population, estimated to be just a little over 7.5 million. We anticipate that we will grow by another 1.2 million or 15 per cent during the '70s.

I think this growth is probably the best indicator of the esteem in which Ontario is held by people in other parts of the world. They come here and view it as one of the finest places anywhere to raise a family and I think it is our responsibility in government to ensure that we maintain an atmosphere and an environment, in all senses of that term, which will continue to make people feel that way.

Our labour force here has increased more rapidly than our population. During the '60s, for instance, the number of workers in Ontario grew by 31 per cent, as opposed to 24 per cent in the total growth of our population. And we expect it will grow by another 26 per cent during this decade.

Expenditures of this government grew from three-quarters of a billion dollars—$750 million was the budget as we entered the '60s—to something over $3 billion as we enter the 1970s.

If we turn to the statistics of goods and services produced by our people, the record there is equally dramatic. In 1960 the gross provincial product totalled $15.3 billion, or $2,500 for every man, woman and child. Ten years later, that $2,500 had grown to $4,600 for every man, woman and child. Now that has to be an enormously important achievement, and I think that it is a great credit to the province that this has happened. We expect by 1980 the $4,600 will increase to about $5,700.

So these, Mr. Speaker, are some of the things that have happened in our province, and I use these figures realizing that they are not the most interesting things in the world, but nonetheless, there is a conclusion that one can draw from them that has got to be of great interest to us and should give us a basis for confidence and optimism as we approach what lies ahead. Too often we preoccupy ourselves with doom and gloom and worries, not realizing, really, the inherent strength that we have and that will inevitably be brought to bear upon whatever problems may present themselves as we move into the 1970s.

I would like to turn to the constitutional review and deal with it for a few moments. The decade of the 1970s, I think, will be decisive for Canada with respect to the form of federalism which is best suited for this complex and challenging country of ours—and let us be under no misapprehensions as we head into a discussion of our constitution, this whole question of federalism and centralism is really at the key and at the root of the problem.

We need to understand it very thoroughly. It needs to be widely debated so that there is complete understanding, because with constitutional review, once it is done, you can tie yourself into a situation you may not necessarily like when you fully realize what you have done. Canada itself is composed of five main regions, each with its own history and traditions, each with its own way of doing things, each with its own economic resources and each with its own level of development. It always has been a very difficult task for government in this country to achieve the proper balance between the needs of each of these regions as opposed to the needs of the entire country taken as a whole.

If we move too far in the direction of excessively strong regions, we run the risk of Balkanization and the loss of national interest and purpose. Of course, if we move too far in the direction of an excessively

strong federal or central government then we run the risk of a very stultifying centralism. One can give example to this because national policies do not always have the same effect in each area of the country upon which they are imposed. Underlying all this is the basic situation of Quebec and its inhabitants, with their traditional and constitutional rights and historical rights and privileges.

So, these are the matters we are trying to bring into balance, and the task before us in the 1970s will be to design a federation which will ensure that there will be an equilibrium between the federation as a whole and its regions. In other words, what we seek is a balanced federalism and the achievement of a balanced federalism is the fundamental aim of the government of the province of Ontario in the present constitutional review.

Balanced federalism means that we must have a strong Canada, made up of strong regions and strong provinces. Any new or revised constitution which follows this review, which is presently going on, must set out clearly the responsibilities of each level of government. Each level of government must be provided with the revenues necessary to carry out its responsibilities.

The constitution must be flexible enough to adapt to fundamental social and economic change. On the other hand, it must be firm enough to be respected by all governments and by all Canadians, so that every future problem will not become the occasion for inter-governmental bickering and for constitutional dispute. Balanced federalism requires strong provinces. In order to achieve this aim, the government of Ontario intends to ensure that Ontario will continue to be strong and prosperous.

We are the economic heartland of Canada and this is something we, in my opinion, should accept humbly. It is a gift of God; it is a circumstance of geography and it is a responsibility that we bear, and I do not think that we need puff out our chest with any great pride—because it is there not because of us, but for other reasons. Nonetheless, the fact remains that Ontario is the economic heartland of Canada and we will continue as a government to promote the economic development of this province and to raise the living standards of our people here.

We recognize fully the need to share with our fellow Canadians in other parts of the country. We recognize fully that in Canada, if we want it as Canada, from British Columbia to the Atlantic Ocean, then we must share what we have with other parts of Canada. We believe that the aim of reducing regional disparities should be included in the preamble to our constitution so that it can be formally recognized as part of the great Canadian scene, and we believe that the federal government must have the power to redistribute income among regions in the form of clearly defined equalization grants. I intend to speak about equalization grants later on and how we think they should be handled.

It will be our aim during the constitutional discussions, and at intergovernmental meetings, to seek this balanced federalism, the balance between the needs of Canada and its provinces, between Ontario and the other regions and between the revenues to us and our responsibilities. Only in this way will we be able to ensure that the needs of all Canadians will be met in the years that lie ahead.

The federal-provincial conference two weeks ago was a most necessary and a most valuable event. For the last two years the constitutional review has been the major object of intergovernmental meetings at this level. During this period, the government of Ontario has been urging that a conference of first ministers should be held to consider the pressing operational issues which face our government as opposed to our constitutional positions.

The last such meeting, that is a meeting to deal with operational issues, had been held in the fall of 1966 and it is the view of this government that further conferences on functional issues should be held on an annual basis and in such a manner that they usefully complement the constitutional review. We recognize that there is an urgent need for all provincial governments and the federal government, to establish co-ordinated and complementary policies to deal with many of our current and pressing problems.

Such an approach is needed, in fact I would say without it we will never solve the problems in such areas as housing, urban renewal, the question of the Indians in Canada, and questions of pollution, securities regulations, communications and transportation in our country. We must deal with these on a co-ordinated basis and with complementary policies if we are to deal with these problems in an effective way.

I would like to point out that there is a great deal more going on in these areas than may be apparent. Maybe it is only natural that the areas of disagreement are the ones that receive the greatest attention, and come

to the attention of our people, but in this forum, and for the hon. members' benefit, I would like to point out that it is very encouraging that during the last year, intergovernmental consultation and co-operation, at both the federal-provincial level, and at the interprovincial level, has been given very positive meaning indeed.

During 1969, for instance, ministerial meetings were held on a large variety of issues, to name a few: health, welfare, tourism, labour, agriculture, finance, trade and industry, transport, natural resources, education and justice. These are working meetings dealing with operating policies and perhaps they do not get the same publicity as some other meetings where we may take opposite points of view or where there may be some area of disagreement. But I mention these to indicate to the House that there is a very large degree of intergovernment co-operation going on in Canada today, and I think that our people generally should be aware of this.

The list that I gave does not take into account the very numerous meetings of officials; I am referring only to ministerial meetings. Our officials here are in touch with the other governments in Canada on a day-to-day basis, on a multitude of questions.

In addition, the Premiers' conference examined such specific topics as pollution, urban development, Indian affairs, and interprovincial co-operation.

The willingness of the government of Canada to meet with Ontario representatives in matters of joint concern has also shown a marked improvement during the last year. For example, discussions are being held on the site for a second Toronto airport; discussions are being held to consider the proposed changes in federal transportation policy, the Canada water bill and the establishment of further national parks in Ontario.

We welcome as a government these very positive steps. They are indicative of the joint approach that is necessary if the interests of the people of Ontario are to be fully considered. While insisting that the jurisdiction of each level of government be respected, Ontario intends to do all it can to promote full discussion of these matters and to develop constructive policies in conjunction with the federal government and the governments of the other Canadian provinces.

The government of Ontario believes that intergovernmental co-operation generally can be improved by introducing more continuity and co-ordination into existing federal-provincial and interprovincial relations. To this extent we are in agreement with the basic principles of the report on intergovernmental liaison and fiscal and economic matters which was published in the fall of last year.

During the coming months the government of this province will continue to advance its earlier proposals that federal-provincial fiscal policy co-ordination be made much more meaningful through a ministerial committee with responsibility for the complete range of intergovernmental economic and fiscal policy co-ordination. The Minister of Finance and the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) have agreed to meet quarterly, and with that agreement I should say our objective comes closer to fulfillment.

To complement this body we have also suggested the creation of a federal-provincial tax commission to ensure a high degree of continuous co-operation in the administration of the tax systems of this country. This is inevitable, in our view, but how long it takes to accomplish the inevitable I really do not know.

In addition, we intend to encourage the development of a permanent and independent intergovernmental affairs secretariat, an annual federal-provincial conference of ministers based on functional rather than departmental lines.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Premier would permit a question?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes.

Mr. Nixon: I wonder if he might explain what the difference between the tax commission he has recommended would be as compared with the tax structure committee that already represents the provinces?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In my view, the tax structure committee really had very limited terms of reference. It was set up to project revenues and expenditures. It did not have the function that this commission I am speaking about would have—of co-ordinating, for instance, duplicate fields of taxation, eliminating the number of returns the taxpayer has to make because of shared areas of taxation, and a whole host of areas in which we can evolve a more efficient tax system by co-operating instead of everybody going their own way. That is what we mean.

The tax structure committee's terms of reference were simply to forecast revenues and expenditures over a period of time, in order

to provide a background upon which certain decisions could be made as to what the fiscal position of various levels of government was going to be in the years that lie ahead, and that, I think, it illustrated very clearly.

Mr. Nixon: With the figures it had at its disposal.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Pardon?

Mr. Nixon: With the figures it had at its disposal.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: With the figures it had at its disposal. You could debate that for some time too.

I would like to direct a few remarks specifically to the constitutional review. At the conclusion of the fourth meeting of the constitutional conference in December, suggestions were made that the constitutional review was a waste of time; that it was deflecting political energies away from more important contemporary problems. I can only say that the government of Ontario does not share this view.

Perhaps this is an appropriate moment to reconsider the aim of the constitutional review and the method by which it is proceeding to accomplish that aim.

The hon. members will recall that the need for a review of Canada's constitution was recognized as early as the Confederation of Tomorrow Conference in November, 1967, when the provinces met to discuss the problems of Confederation. I point out that that was the purpose of that conference—not a constitutional review, but to consider the problems of Confederation.

It was also clear that the time had come for the whole country to involve itself in a re-examination of the relationship between its English-speaking and French-speaking members. It was clear to those of us who sat around the table in Toronto in November, 1967, and at the first constitutional conference in Ottawa in February, 1968, that it was time to assess as objectively as possible, the issues that were troubling the country and to ascertain our future needs. This was the rationale behind the federal-provincial decision of February, 1968, to undertake a comprehensive review of the constitution.

In order to determine the long-term development of our federal state, the government of Ontario believes today, as strongly as it did in 1967, in the necessity of conducting an intergovernmental review of Canadian federalism. We recognized then, and we recognize now, that this is a complex and time-consuming process. The Canadian federation contains many regional and many cultural elements. Each of these elements brings to the conference table its own experiences and its own desire for the structure of the future constitution. Time is needed to find the common pattern to our experience as Canadians and to agree on the type of constitutional revision that will ensure that their aspirations will be met in the future.

At present the government of Canada and the provincial governments have undertaken —and I underline this—to review the working of our federation and the constitutional provisions which must govern. Only after this stage has been completed will we be in a position to make sensible recommendations about the changes which should be made to the constitution. Thus, for those who are disappointed out of this very brief series of meetings, I point out that what we are in fact doing is reviewing the working of our federation. At this stage of the game we are not thinking in terms of absolute changes.

I would suggest that a constitution has to be viewed as a system, with each part contributing to and fitting in to the whole. I cannot overemphasize this point. It explains the willingness of this government to put forward positions which can, in the course of reasoned discussion, be subsequently altered. It is neither realistic nor practical to reach premature agreements about the distribution of governmental responsibilities before we have looked at the totality of these responsibilities.

The government of Canada recognized the preliminary nature of this stage of the review. For example, in its paper entitled "Federal-Provincial Grants and the Spending Power of Parliament", it stated:

> It will be evident that a firm proposal for defining a federal spending power is impossible until the revised distribution of legislative powers is known.

Similarly, it is incorrect to conclude that Ontario is being obstructionist, or is losing interest in a process that we did so much to get under way. We, too, wish to know the proposed revised distribution of legislative powers before deciding what will be the best course of action. And we have no illusions about the difficulties of the review or the effort that will be required of us to bring it to a successful conclusion.

As an illustration of the magnitude of that effort it should be noted that in 1969

Ontario participated actively in two public constitutional conferences in February and December, and in one working session of first ministers in June. Other cabinet ministers of Ontario contributed to the meetings in May and November of four committees of ministers examining such particular aspects of the constitution as the Senate, the judiciary, fundamental rights and the official languages. In addition, Ontario officials took part in four meetings of the continuing committee of officials, and in the meetings of three technical subcommittees on sales taxes, death duties and official languages.

Two Ontario civil servants were seconded to the intergovernmental secretariat of the conference for periods which totalled five months. In addition to this contribution of manpower, Ontario made a financial contribution of $47,000 towards the cost of maintaining this unique secretariat. And we shall continue to contribute both personnel and funds to this organization as tangible evidence of our belief in the intergovernmental nature, not only of the secretariat, but also of the entire constitutional review process.

In the process of preparing for these many meetings, Ontario has recognized the necessity for calling upon all the expertise available to it within the public service and from groups of outside advisers. The government has continued to draw on and benefit from the advice of the members of the advisory committee on Confederation, as it has since the committee's appointment in 1965.

Representatives of the municipalities of the province were included in our delegation as observers to the December conference and because so many of the problems in the provincial-municipal field have their source in the area of federal-provincial relations, the government of Ontario believes that it is vital to seek the counsel of these municipal representatives and to include them in an advisory capacity in the constitutional review.

As was indicated in the Speech from the Throne, we intend to establish a standing committee of the Legislature on the constitution. This committee will consider the submissions of all governments to the constitutional conference, and it will give members from all sides of the House an opportunity to participate in the process of the constitutional review. The review is not a part of that exercise, but one to which all hon. members can make a positive contribution, in order to ensure a strong and prosperous Ontario in a strong and prosperous Canada.

I would like to make one final and, perhaps, personal observation, on this matter of a constitutional review. I believe it is quite misplaced to assess the review as a futile and unimportant endeavour. To brush it off in that fashion, I think, is extremely detrimental. There is no question that priorities do change. All one needs to do is to go over one's own speeches in this House over any period of time. He will find that the priorities of interest change here and we do tend to have to concentrate on the issues as they arise in our day-to-day lives.

But this does not negate the importance of the review, which has been successfully launched and which I am confident will be successfully concluded, however long it may take. Moreover, I am positive that many of the ideas generated by the review will find their way into our future policies and practices.

It is, I would suggest, an immensely stimulating experience wherein those who participate are given a rare opportunity to sit down, and ponder, and discuss some very deeply held beliefs about our society, about our country—what we think it should be, what we think it is, and what we would like to do. I am satisfied in my own mind that these discussions overflow into all areas of governmental activity apart from the specific discussions that are held and the specific words that are said and listened to and the results that flow from the actual meetings themselves.

In the area of bilingualism and biculturalism, the government of Ontario signed an agreement for co-operation and exchange in educational and cultural matters with the government of Quebec last June. A permanent commission has now been appointed to implement the provisions of this agreement. It will meet at least twice a year, alternating between Toronto and Quebec City and I believe it will be here that I will be meeting with this commission tomorrow.

Its purpose, of course, is to promote exchanges in the areas of education, cultural affairs, and government administration. It is made up of representatives from both the government of Ontario and the government of Quebec. The first meeting will take place in Toronto at the science centre on March 5 and 6, and this has already been announced in this House by the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch).

One of the articles in the agreement stipulates that the government of Ontario "will provide within the areas under our

jurisdiction and wherever feasible, public services in Eng'ish and French languages." Members will recall that at the 1968 federal-provincial constitutional conference, the government of Ontario enunciated this principle.

We have undertaken to implement the principal recommendations contained in four government-sponsored task force reports, which I believe were referred to in this House yesterday. These deal with the provincial public service, the Legislature and provincial statutes, municipal administration and the administration of justice.

The implementation of these recommendations will be the administrative responsibility of the Ontario co-chairman of the permanent commission which I have mentioned, who, in turn, reports to the Provincial Secretary. I hope to be able to tell the House further about what we propose to do in the near future.

In order to carry out our commitments in the area of French-language education for both French- and English-speaking residents of the province, the government of Ontario submitted its detailed request for financial assistance to the government of Canada, at its request, last October. In November the government of Canada announced that it was prepared to make $50 million available to the provinces, beginning January 1, 1970, for the purpose of implementing the recommendations contained in volume two of the report of the royal commission on bilingualism and biculturalism. We hope to receive our portion of federal money in the very near future because our French-language educational programmes have been in operation now for almost two years.

Ontario has not only initiated primary, secondary and university programmes for providing French-language education both to its French- and English-speaking residents. It has also increased its teacher training programmes and established a French-language training programme for those of its civil servants who need the two languages in the effective performance of their duties.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think any report to the Legislature on government activities, which is as broad as I hope this will be, would be complete without some mention of the economy of this province. This is a matter of great concern and, of course, underlies all our activities, whatever they may be.

It is fashionable in the early days of any new decade to speak of the challenges that lie in the time ahead. Perhaps it is an appropriate topic in Ontario at this time. Many decisions will be made in the next 10 years which will be very crucial to the life of this province for a long time to come.

We live in an era of very rapid change, as witnessed by the figures I quoted earlier for growth and development here. It is the duty and responsibility and the job of those in responsible positions to make many decisions these days very quickly—I think more quickly than our forefathers had to do—simply because the rate of change is so immense. And it is not going to stop. We will have decisions to make in the next 10 years that will be very profound and which will have very profound effects on the social and economic life of Ontario and therefore of Canada as a whole.

I would suggest to the members that there can be no question at all but that the province of Ontario should be heard when new policies and programmes are being formulated by the federal government, or being fashioned jointly with the other provinces. Ontario cannot afford to leave to others the decisions that will affect its destiny.

And please do not think that because we happen to disagree with another level of government, be it one of the provinces or be it the federal government, that this indicates on our part any lack of willingness to co-operate. It is just simply that you will never get agreement on all points and we accept the responsibility of representing the people of this province in these discussions. It would be less than our duty and less than the discharge of our responsibilities if, for the sake of peace in the House, we were simply to agree when in fact we disagree.

Let me tell the members that, in my view, the stakes are much too high for us to ignore our responsibilities to the people of this province and to let others make decisions for us by default, because believe me this is what happens. If you do not speak up and if you do not put your point of view, if you do not put it as firmly as you can, then it will be considered either that you are a pushover, or that you do not care. Either way, the people of this province will suffer and those of us who have been elected by them to come here and represent them will have failed in discharging our responsibilities.

I make this point very clear because I am becoming just a little weary of having every idea we put forward, which may not agree precisely with somebody else's, interpreted as obstructionism, or as—and I think the term was used in one speech in this House in the last two days—a "nefarious plot." Was that the term used?

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): Perhaps a Machiavellian scheme?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, not Machiavellian. I waited for that but it was not forthcoming. Maybe I have a copyright on that.

But in any event, I do not consider it to be nefarious when we put forward the point of view of the people of Ontario, who put us here to represent their interests. I am simply going to say that, as we proceed along these paths that have been already charted, we do not know what will happen as we go down them. But I make a pledge right here and now that the needs and requirements of the people of Ontario will be given first and foremost consideration by this government.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Do the members opposite not agree with that?

Hon. M. Robarts: I think we all realize, if we take any—

Mr. Nixon: That is all right.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I think we realize, if we take any broad view of our country whatsoever and of our province and of its position in the totality of Canada, that Ontario must remain strong, must remain economically healthy, if we are to maintain the Canadian federation. Sap the strength of Ontario and you will do irreparable harm to the total which is Canada. This applies to other parts of Canada as well.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): That is a platitude.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is not a platitude. I must be reaching home, Mr. Speaker. I must be reaching home.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: They look to us for leadership.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He does not agree with it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is the Liberal philosophy. If you do not agree, do not bother.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We are referring to somebody else that I can see behind the hon. leader but he cannot see.

Mr. Nixon: I can see behind the Premier and it is nothing but empty seats.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, that is all right. I do not worry. They will be there when the time comes.

Mr. Nixon: Better to send out telegrams so they can be here when the Premier is speaking.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would say to you that I detect a certain lack of appreciation by many Canadians of the role that the people of Ontario play in the Canadian federation. And you will note that I refer to the people of Ontario. There is a very real ignorance of the financial load which Ontario has carried for the people of other regions of Canada.

Now, this does not mean that they do not bear it gladly. It does not mean that they object to it. It does not mean that they want to get out from under it. It simply means that people do not really understand or know what the total load is that is carried by the people of this province. But I think, in these debates and discussions and as background for an understanding of what is going on today and the positions being taken by people and governments, this is knowledge that people should have.

There is an equally real ignorance of the backlog of work which is building up in Ontario because the economy of Ontario is being systematically tapped both over and under the table for the benefit of other parts of Canada. And I think these are facts that the people are entitled to know.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Bennett always puts that in.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We are vigorous supporters of the principle of equalization. Members can go back to the earliest speeches that I ever made as leader of this government and we have supported increased equalization. We have recognized the necessity for it. And let us understand fully, all of us, what it is.

I might say that we have objected pretty continuously, too, to other programmes which embody what is called implicit equalization—using revenue raised in Ontario to meet the needs of other parts of Canada in other guises. Equalization is one thing; implicit equalization, that is, unseen equalization, is something else again. Our argument is that it should be all put together where we can be aware of the total and what it is.

Mr. Nixon: Does that occur other than in Medicare?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Oh, yes.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, for example, during the 1969-1970 fiscal year, the total explicit —by explicit I mean direct—explicit revenue equalization payments made by the federal

government to other provinces will be $711,-700,000. Of this amount, the people of Ontario contributed 41.5 per cent, or $295 million. And I would add that these equalization payments escalate rapidly.

For the next fiscal year, we anticipate that the total equalization payments will move from $711 million to $791 million, an increase of $80 million, and the share paid by Ontario taxpayers will be $328 million. So our share of the $80 million increase will be $33 million; we will pay $33 million of the increase of $80 million in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Nixon: And the Premier says we do not mind doing that?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I do not think we mind. It is done according to a formula to which we agreed.

Mr. Nixon: And the taxpayers are citizens of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is quite correct. But does the hon. leader not think they are entitled to know what they are paying?

Mr. Nixon: Payments from Ottawa to Ontario are more than $1 billion.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: And the difference between what is taken from Ontario and transferred back here is well over $1 billion.

Mr. Nixon: Does the Premier object to the richest province paying the most tax?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Perhaps I am not making it very clear, but I think it is fair that these figures should be known. I would suggest that there are quite a few members in this House who were not aware of these amounts and what they are.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): He does not understand them even when he hears them.

Mr. Nixon: There are people in this House who are not aware that we get over $1 billion in the transfer—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, do they realize that the greatest deflationary thing in Ontario is the difference between what the federal government takes out of this province and what it puts back?

Mr. Nixon: We have half the wealth of the nation.

Mr. MacDonald: Why does the Prime Minister not get on with the business of the House?

Mr. Nixon: Let us not be puffed up about that.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I anticipate that the Treasurer will go into more detail about the burden of explicit and implicit equalization during his budget address. But I would refer to Medicare, where there is another example of equalization which is implicit and not explicit, where we are contributing. Much, much use has been made of this by those who oppose Medicare in their attacks on this government. That is one reason we have to speak about some of these things, I might say.

But, in any event, we estimate that if the Medicare programme had been based on an equal federal-provincial sharing of provincial costs, rather than a sharing on the basis of national costs, the taxpayers of Ontario would have received an additional $37 million. The net effect of that implicit equalization is that that $37 million is paid to other parts of Canada, rather than here.

I use these figures for two purposes:

1. To demonstrate the importance of a healthy Ontario in Canadian federation. Surely our major objective in life in this province in the total of Canada is to be certain that we can carry these burdens. That is the greatest contribution we can make to Canadian unity, and that is a burden we accept and an objective that we are after.

2. I use the figures to illustrate to the people of Ontario the enormous sums which are being taken from this province for use elsewhere, thereby reducing our capacity to meet our own needs and the demands of our people here. It is an illustration, in some respects in any event, of the federal government's interference with the ability of Ontario to make decisions about our own priorities.

Mr. Nixon: It sounds like fiscal separatism.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I have never suggested such a thing and that is a vast—

Mr. Nixon: It is a very narrow-minded conservative attitude.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will get to the point once again. Care must be taken not to injure the economy of Ontario. The momentum of economic growth is a finely balanced mechanism. Any economic slowdown in Ontario would undoubtedly have serious repercussions throughout the rest of Canada. It would retard growth, not only in Ontario, but also in those areas where so much effort is being made to promote growth. Of course we have

supported these objectives pretty thoroughly over the years as well.

Mr. Nixon: The Premier is afraid there are going to be special economic retarding programmes directed this way?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, the arguments that we have made in regard to some of the efforts to curb inflation were simply this. If efforts were taken to deflate Ontario, and thus—

Mr. Nixon: Some people say that this is one of the most inflationary provinces.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Some say it is. But we maintain that unemployment and unused capacity—to put it in simplest terms—in Ontario will not provide any more jobs in Nova Scotia or in Newfoundland. It is that simple.

I do not accept the idea that the member has raised that anyone can point the finger at any one area of Canada or one government, and say that there is the cause for inflation and place the blame there. I do not accept that position at all. I do not think many people do.

On the other hand, the finger has been pointed at us and, I think, quite erroneously from a logical point of view, and quite erroneously from an economic point of view. I do not think measures taken based on that principle are going to do anything to help the total inflationary picture. Certainly they are not going to do anything to help economic imbalance in our country. So I hope that the attitude that we took at the conference in Ottawa on what I am saying today will help to dispel this attitude.

At the conference dealing with inflation two weeks ago, the comprehensive series of policy proposals dealing with prices, incomes and related matters were discussed. Our approach to the proposals advocated by the prices and incomes commission was closely related to our analysis of the economic situation in Canada, as well as the probable impact of these policies on the economy of Ontario.

Our analysis of the economic situation is that there are a number of economic indicators that tend to show that the process of real growth in the Canadian economy has moderated. Although the physical volume of production rose by 1.4 per cent during the fourth quarter of 1969, expenditures declined in consumer durables, which is an important sector. The member for Grey-Bruce is not in his seat, but we were told last night, for instance, of layoffs in the television manufacturing industry in his area of the province.

The modest increase in the fourth quarter of 1969 was probably the result of catching up as a result of a labour dispute which occurred during 1969, and the formation of new business capital in Canada increased by only one per cent during the last quarter of 1969.

We expect that in 1970 real growth in Canada will occur only in the latter half of the year and that real growth may be as low as 2.8 per cent for the entire year. One result of this slowdown, of course, will be increased unemployment—that may go as high as six per cent across Canada as a whole and may reach a level of 4.1 per cent here.

Any trend, of course, toward increased unemployment during 1970 constitutes a very serious problem to the Canadian economy. We do not believe, and we have so stated, that the creation of unemployment is a proper means of controlling our economy.

Turning to our own economy here in Ontario, it appears that private and public investment will be one of the few relatively strong elements in the economy during 1970. Our current expectations suggest that earlier forecasts were overly optimistic.

The outlook for residential construction in Ontario remains uncertain and real gains in this area are not expected to match price increases. In 1967 and 1968, business investment was affected by the combination of economic uncertainties and the pressure of mounting spending in the public sectors. In 1969, extremely tight credit conditions and labour unrest combined to force the deferment of many investment decisions. One result of the slower economic growth has been that corporate profits declined by seven per cent in the third quarter and a further two per cent in the fourth quarter.

During 1970, we expect that cost pressures will combine with lower productivity gains and continue the drift to lower profits and moderating investments. From a growth rate of 9.3 per cent in 1969, Canada's economic growth for 1970 is expected to decline to 6.8 per cent. In real terms, growth is likely to decline in Canada from 4.8 per cent in 1969 to approximately 2.8 per cent during 1970. The slowdown will affect Ontario, of course. Our estimate for 1970 indicates real growth at 3.2 per cent in Ontario and an overall growth of some 7.2 per cent.

It is against this background that the government of Ontario argued for the need of joint federal-provincial policy making. We are

seriously concerned about the question of overkill in the matter of inflation. As we see it, the question we face is how to design policies to encourage and promote economic growth across Canada in order to reach our full potential. We believe emphasis should be placed on a long-run strategy which would counter inflationary tendencies while, at the same time, ensuring a return to a balance in the economy.

We believe that growth in the private sector must be restored by deliberately restraining growth in the public sector. At the federal-provincial conference, we expressed the view that current reliance on monetary and fiscal restraint was not well suited to the special requirements if various regions of Canada. This results in some regions being more strongly affected than others. I have given the reservations already outlined.

The government of Ontario indicated that we would be prepared to endorse the proposals of the prices and incomes commission to call upon business firms to reduce the number and size of price increases they would normally make in 1970. Price increases would generally have to be less than the amount needed to cover increases in costs. At the same time, all Canadians were urged to co-operate actively through restrained price and wage increases during 1970.

The governments also agreed to observe the same principles where applicable. This was an important step for the governments to take if the current inflationary trend was to be arrested. It was also agreed, in spite of the projections prepared by the tax structure committee, which indicated that there would be a chronic shortage of funds at the provincial-municipal level, that governments hold the line on tax increases and attempt to balance their budgets.

I gave the conference a commitment that the government of Ontario does not anticipate tax increases this year. I also indicated that the government of Ontario will remain out of the bond market so that this area of financing will remain open to private enterprise and Ontario Hydro.

The other areas where we should be focusing our attention are rents and professional fee structures. Both of these are under provincial jurisdiction. We agreed to meet with the groups affected to determine the extent to which voluntary restraints might be forthcoming.

The federal-provincial conference also discussed at some length the matter of sanctions in cases of noncompliance with the pricing criteria, and while it was not anticipated that these would be required in a large number of cases, we shall be examining what options are open to us.

In concluding this report on the federal-provincial conference, I want to tell the House that I was heartened by the extent to which other first ministers were prepared to co-operate in their areas, particularly at a time when many provinces are facing special and serious problems.

I would remind all members of the final paragraph in the Speech from the Throne. The government of Ontario has given a commitment to the people of Ontario and of Canada to examine all areas of expenditure in a concerted effort to help ease the inflationary pressures on our economy. As a result, we are reviewing all spending programmes to ensure that we have removed every possible extra dollar of spending and that we may achieve a balanced budget in the next fiscal year, as we did in the current one. The Treasurer of Ontario will discuss this more fully when he presents the budget address next month.

While doing all that we can as a government to contain overall expenditures, I would remind the House that we must ensure that the necessary and urgent programmes affecting the growth and development of the province continue uninterrupted. The necessity of providing this growth and of providing the essential publicly financed services which each of us uses every day of our lives is an undeniable fact of life with which we and our municipal partners must live. They must be provided if Ontario is to continue to prosper.

Mr. Speaker, I would like at this time to table a number of documents related to this recent federal-provincial conference. First, the statement of the government of Ontario dealing with the current economic situation in Canada. Second, the statement of the government of Ontario dealing with water pollution and the Canada water bill. Third, the statement of conclusions approved by all governments participating in the conference. Fourth, the report of the tax structure committee.

With regard to that last report, the report of the tax structure committee, the Treasurer will comment upon this report of the tax structure committee during his presentation of the budget. It may be that some members of the Legislature will be interested in reading it prior to that time because it has already generated a good deal of discussion, much of

which reveals some lack of knowledge of what the report actually says.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, to make a few comments about what has come to be known as the federal white paper—the white paper on taxation. I would like to make it very clear, once again, that I make these comments because I, and all other citizens of this country, have been asked to make comments. This is not necessarily an attack. I have heard some pretty unbridled language used about our "unbridled attacks", all of which is completely misleading.

The comments that I have made have always been prefaced by the comment that we look forward to tax reform. We accept in the white paper many elements, and I will detail some of them, but that does not mean that we must treat it as a document that has descended from on high and has all the authenticity of the bible, because we do not think it does.

Mr. Nixon: Nor one that has been introduced for first reading.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Then why do they take such offence when people discuss it?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would just simply say that I think our comments—which we make on behalf, once again, of the people of this province, whom we represent, and who put us here to represent them, and who expect that we will do so—are made in order to ensure that when tax reform comes, they will get a better deal than is contained in the white paper as it stands. No amount of use of abusive language will make us shift from this position one iota.

I would say to the House that there are many Canadians who are concerned about the white paper. I have a feeling that polarizing around it is some generally held concern as to, sort of, "whither Canada." Where are we going and what are we doing? Because there is basic apprehension among our people as to what the future of our country will be and perhaps some of that apprehension is polarizing around these particular proposals.

If the white paper is implemented unchanged—and I say "if it is"—and the new system of public finance as outlined in it is created for Canada along the lines set out, I would suggest to the House that we face a new dimension in our potential for prosperity. I think we are going to face a new Canada. I think in 10 years it will not be the Canada that all of us know now, or that we knew 10 years ago.

There is no question whatsoever that we need changes in our tax system. I know that, because we have raised some objections to the white paper for various purposes, and it has been translated to mean that this government is not interested in tax reform. Well, no thinking person will accept that argument.

Many of the proposals here in the white paper are of benefit and, in our opinion, many are not in the best interest of our people. Because we oppose certain portions of it, to translate that, or to draw from that, the conclusion that we are not interested in tax reform I would say is pretty faulty reasoning.

I think all governments have found changes are needed—and we all started this about the same time, when the Carter commission was appointed, and I point out that the Carter commission's terms of reference deliberately excluded the provinces and the municipalities. Mr. Carter refers to this in his report, and says that none of his conclusions has been reached with any consideration of the provinces or the municipalities, because they were not included in his terms of reference.

So if one goes back to that beginning, we then appointed the Smith committee to fill that gap. I think it would be fair to say that no levels of government really realized what a very mixed bag of tricks we were getting into and the full extent of the difficulties that we would experience.

As has been pointed out, there has been a good number of years' work go into this and I think there will be some more, but that does not mean it is not a useful exercise. It does not mean that through examination, discussion, acceptance and rejection we will not eventually achieve what we are after, and in the best possible form.

I would say, first, that I am hopeful that the white paper is, in fact, a white paper and not a *fait accompli*—something that will be translated into action in its present form. I do not see how it could possibly be, with the comments that have been made about it. But, in any event, I express the hope that it is not. I think that the discussion to date has been healthy; of course, parts of it have been abrasive, parts of it have been flowing rhetoric and very emotional. I am talking now about the comments—and that is natural in the world of human affairs; but as well as those, one does not need to pay attention only to the emotional responses.

There have been some very well reasoned discussions and points of view which must be considered and which will lead to the objections which I have mentioned. But I do

think that we must be aware of the total potential economic consequences of the document, if it is implemented as it has been presented, and there has not been a great deal of work done in this area. There has not been a great deal of work done to examine, really, the ultimate total economic consequences these proposals, if implemented, will have on this country.

Once again I would assure the House that there are many proposals of the white paper with which this government is in agreement. In particular, I would mention tax relief to low income families. Because we raised objections to certain parts of the white paper, the assumption has been drawn, for whatever purposes I do not know, that we oppose any tax relief for low income families. This too, has to be a pretty ridiculous position to take.

I think we all realize that in the society in which we live and with the wealth we are creating, and which I referred to earlier, we must do something about those who simply do not share as well as they should in the general prosperity. I would mention too, that we agree with a better deal for wage and salary earners. We agree with a better deal for working parents.

But there are other areas with which we find serious fault. I will not bother with that today, but we regard the form of taxation levied in this province as a high priority. It is a very high priority indeed, for both the federal and the provincial governments.

We are going through the agony of reassessment in this province and it is not an easy task either for those who do it or for those to whom it is done. If members really think it over, they will know that tax reform, in this province at any rate, on a provincial basis is impossible and it is a meaningless phrase unless we have uniform assessment across our province.

What I think is the really big failure in the white paper, is that it fails to deal with tax reform in the total sense. It assumes that the federal government can undertake tax reform in a state of isolation. It ignores completely the urgent financial requirements of the provinces and the municipalities, and we cannot understand how one can talk about any form of meaningful tax reform if one disregards the needs of two levels of government and concentrates only upon the needs and objectives of one level of government. It simply will not work.

In addition, by rejecting, as the white paper does, the needs of the provinces and the municipalities, I would suggest that it really rejects the main problems that will face us here in the next 10 years. It rejects all the problems involved in the municipalities which are going to require enormous sums of money: urban growth, housing, transportation, education and pollution control.

All these are matters which constitutionally have to be handled by the provinces and by the municipalities and yet this programme for tax reform completely disregards this whole area of government. And thus, I suggest—and I do not think this was done deliberately in any way—that in fact, the white paper totally disregards the basic social problems that we see lying ahead of us. It also represents a piecemeal reform of a tax system. It is a system designed to generate more tax revenues, and when one reads it one finds that most of the so-called tax reforms simply mean higher taxes for somebody.

Interestingly enough, the recent tax reform proposals of the United States federal government indicated that tax increases in that country need not continue forever, and these proposals reveal that meaningful relief can be extended to the needy without imposing punitive increases in taxes at higher levels. The key to this combination of tax reform and tax reduction is that the United States federal government is prepared to take less. This is the key to its proposals.

However, the white paper, as we analyse it, indicates that in Canada our federal taxes will continue to roll on and on, inexorably onwards and upwards. In the white paper the federal government takes out for itself the bulk of the new revenue fields and, of course, their yields. By doing so, the federal government will effectively pre-empt the use of the income tax field as far as we are concerned in the provinces and at the level of the municipalities.

The federal government will be taking a first and major dip into the taxpayer's pocket leaving virtually no room for the rapidly growing requirements of the provinces and municipalities. And again, I simply cannot subscribe to the oft-repeated admonition of the federal government—echoed repeatedly by the Leader of the Opposition in this House—that the provinces should simply go out and take more and more money out of the taxpayer's pocket to meet their legitimate constitutional obligations.

I think tax reform must embrace the total requirements of all three levels of government if it is to be meaningful tax reform. I do not believe it is possible to separate the question of the reform of the tax structure

from the question of tax sharing and priorities of expenditure. I believe it is a fundamental error to approach the reform of our taxation system from the point of view of the federal government only. It is most improper for the federal government to consider major changes which will alter the total burden on the taxpayer without the fullest consideration of the implications that this will have on other levels of government.

What will the cities do, what will the provinces do, what are we to do if all these decisions are taken with no reference to what our needs will be in this Legislature—the needs that will be presented to us in order to carry out our constitutional responsibilities to the people of this province? I sometimes feel, and I have stated this before, that the federal government really wishes that the provinces and the municipalities with their problems and their politicians would just simply go away. We have no intention of going away, as I stated earlier.

We are presenting a case on behalf of our people and our municipalities and we do not present it in an antagonistic fashion. We put it forward in the hope that it will lead to changes in the approach being taken in this white paper. If we achieve that, we will have achieved our objective and we hope that members opposite will recognize the logic of the position we take and we hope that they will join with us.

We ask that the needs of the people of this province be recognized simply because we are the group that speaks for all of the people in the province. I suggest that the most conclusive evidence of an isolationist attitude on the part of the federal government is that the federal proposals assume in their general tables that all provinces can meet their requirements with the equivalent of the 28 per cent abatement of personal income tax now provided by Ottawa.

Of course, the fact is that six of the 10 provinces already impose a surtax on the personal income tax, and one of them, Saskatchewan, announced an increase in its surtax this week. The federal government cannot turn its back on the other levels of government as it did again at the recent federal-provincial conference and again tell us to "go out and raise your own taxes." By ignoring, in the face of the consistent evidence in the report of the tax structure committee, the demonstrated needs of the provinces and the municipalities, the federal government, through its proposals, which I hope will not be implemented, is threatening the future of Canada. Surely government finance cannot be treated as a sort of end in itself. Economic policy must be used as a means to enable all of us to build the sort of society we want for ourselves and for our children as Canadians.

The Treasurer will have much more to say in his budget address about the plans of the government of Ontario to reshape a provincial-municipal system of taxation in Ontario, but at this time in this speech and in reporting to the Legislature what the position of the government is on these matters, I am expressing the disappointment of the government of Ontario that the federal government is not interested in establishing a co-ordinated and integrated system of taxation which meets the needs and responsibilities of all three levels of government and which gives a full measure of consideration to the capacity of the taxpayer to keep on paying taxes.

I am particularly concerned about the proposal in the white paper on taxation which would blunt the incentive of the people of Ontario to achieve for themselves the rewards of hard work. The hon. member for York South poured scorn upon my head when I mentioned such virtues as hard work and saving. I do not know where he thinks the wealth and strength of this province were built.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: They figure that is old fashioned.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is old fashioned, it is Victorian, it is not a socialist approach for 1970.

Mr. MacDonald: I did not pour scorn on that; you've missed the point completely.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Spend, spend, spend before you ever create! Borrow, do not save anything. What an attitude!

Now, sir, I have expressed in this House on another occasion my apprehension about the effect the white paper would have on entrepreneurial talents, which is a relatively narrow and rare asset that we have. I have expressed my concern and apprehension about the effect on the small businessman, and I certainly do not intend to go into that again. What I have said in the past still stands.

I have heard it stated on several occasions recently, and I heard this in Ottawa at the conference, that it is imperative we alter the corporations income tax to catch a certain number of businessmen who are finding loopholes in the existing laws. I have heard it said that about one third of a billion dollars are slipping through the tax collectors' fingers. These are the terms that are used.

Certainly as a government, and as responsible citizens, we are very much in favour of the elimination of blatant evasion; and we are certainly in favour of the elimination of tax payment abuses; and we are in favour of across-the-board, even administration of our taxing statutes so that everyone is treated alike.

But I do not appreciate the attitude that we must squeeze every dollar possible in taxes out of businessmen. I do not know where all th's money that is missing is supposed to be going. If the inference is that it is going in unmarked accounts or tax havens here and there, I do not know. My guess is that most of it is being used by the hard-pressed businessman to finance the expansion of his company and to buy new equipment and to provide new jobs to take care—

Mr. Nixon: After he pays his five per cent provincial tax on machinery!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —to take care of the growing labour force we have in this province.

I believe that those dollars which are not being caught in an all-pervasive tax net, are the dollars which are being used to build our country and to build our economy.

I think more research and consultation should have been undertaken before this white paper was tabled in order that we might really see what its effects will be in the areas of job creation. I have mentioned to members here today the growth in our labour force in the last 10 years and the projected growth that we foresee for the next 10 years. Are these proposals liable to endanger the capacity of business in our economy, in this province, to provide jobs for these people who are going to be in our labour force? Has this been researched? We do know?

I say it has not!

Mr. Speaker, I suppose I could say that I am equally apprehensive about the effect the white paper, if implemented as it stands, would have on a very vigorous and productive group of Ontario families who are earning in the range of $10,000 to $15,000 a year. If you look at our economy in this province, in our society here, these are the people who are forming families, buying homes; perhaps buying summer cottages, boats; planning to send their children to universities, the universities we have established. Indeed, they are the people who are looking forward to pretty heavy expenditures, all of which can be treated as necessary in the life which we lead.

These are people with drive and ability, many have studied for years in order to get an education. They are the people for whom these things are starting to pay off. They are beginning to reap the rewards of their efforts. They are the people who worked hard with the idea that there would be a reward at the end; and they are the people with really great expectations. And I might say they are the people of great potential as well, in our society. They are also the people that the white paper would hit the hardest.

I would like to say, and I want to make it absolutely clear, that I and the government of Ontario support to the fullest, the necessity to give greater assistance to low income people; our own tax reform proposals indicate that. The federal tax proposals will assist them, and we are quite in favour of this.

And if we are in favour of these people being eliminated from the tax rolls, I suggest, if they are not going to pay any tax and if the provisions of tax reform are going to remove them from the tax rolls completely, then they really do not enter the equation. They do not enter the discussion because they are not going to be paying any tax, and I want to interest myself in the effect this white paper is going to have on those who will pay taxes. Because if I am removed from the tax rolls completely—

Mr. Nixon: That is very unsound reasoning. Surely one has to consider them?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Of course one has to consider them, but in terms of—

Mr. Nixon: Well do not write them off, do not cross them off.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —in terms of what the white paper is going to do—

Mr. Nixon: They have as much right to consideration as any other citizen.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Of course they have, but in terms of what this white paper will do, let us direct our attention to those taxpayers who are going to be affected by it.

Mr. Nixon: Including 700,000 who now pay tax.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Who will be removed completely from the tax rolls.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: There are, in Ontario, about 300,000 individual taxpayers in the

$10,000 to $15,000 range. That represents close to 1,000,000 people in terms of family groups. They are a large and very important segment of the taxpaying public of this province, and I am interested in what is going to happen to them. Maybe the members opposite are not, I do not know.

As I mentioned earlier, the review of the tax system at the federal level in the United States will result in some tax relief for nearly everyone. It is instructive to note that the income tax surcharges which have been levied in recent years in the United States will be removed by June 30 of this year. Here in Canada we have a very disconcerting habit of imposing a surcharge for a special purpose and then just gradually allowing it to slip right into the total tax picture—

Mr. Nixon: Is the Prime Minister suggesting that Medicare costs have come down then?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No I am not. All I am—

Mr. Nixon: Is the Prime Minister suggesting we do not need that money?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am suggesting that surtaxes in this country very quietly become part of the total tax picture—

Mr. Nixon: We have to pay the bills!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —with not much fanfare.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That was not supposed to be for Medicare, did the member forget that?

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): It was for social development.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: It was for social development.

Mr. Nixon: Do the ministers not consider Medicare social development?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Why not call a spade a spade?

Mr. Speaker, I refuse to be sidetracked, but it is very interesting that when we asked for that money back, that money we said was collected for Medicare that we were not enjoying, the federal government said: "Thou cannot have it!"

I have an idea the same situation is going to be an element in a provincial election to be held in our sister province to the east very shortly. Mr. Bertrand is still not in Medicare. He thinks that money, which has been taken from the citizens of Quebec, should be returned to them; and I am inclined to agree with him.

I think the hon. member does too, because he just stated it was a Medicare tax.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In any event Mr. Speaker, hon. members will recall that there are currently two special taxes incorporated into our income tax; four per cent for old age security and two per cent for social development—that is what it is called, but we all know it is a Medicare tax; we all know it.

Mr. Nixon: They took the political plunge and raised the taxes to pay for their programmes.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: To pay for programmes they never develop. That happened in Quebec.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The way the Leader of the Opposition argues on behalf of the federal government against the people of Ontario just scandalizes me. He just cannot help defending those people in Ottawa.

Mr. Nixon: The Prime Minister just accused me of not having the party lines straight a minute ago. He cannot have it both ways.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh I do not know!

Mr. Nixon: That is a phrase he has heard before.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In any event, there are two special taxes incorporated into our income tax—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, maybe I could have some indication that things are going to quieten down a little bit. It is all right with me, I have another four hours to go, it could not matter less.

Mr. Nixon: So have we!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, the members will recall that there are two special taxes incorporated into our income tax at the present moment, a four per cent old age

security tax and a two per cent social development tax. These flat rate taxes are applied against the taxable income base, at a maximum of $240 for old age security and $120 for the social security tax. Thus no matter how much you earn, you pay no more than a total surcharge of $360.

However, under the white paper proposals these surcharges are quietly incorporated into the total personal income tax structure. As a result, those in the productive income ranges will have their tax rates substantially increased because the ceiling will disappear. One only has to refer to the charts provided in the white paper to see what happens to these people that are mentioned.

A married man with two children under 16 and earning a salary of $12,000 each year, will pay personal income tax on approximately $8,000. On his first dollar of personal income which is taxable the tax bite will jump from 15 cents to 22 cents. He will pay 36 cents on his last tax dollar, compared with 31 cents at the present time. While there is tax relief proposed for the family man whose annual income before taxes is below $8,000, the heaviest burden would fall on this one productive segment of our community earning between $10,000 and $15,000 a year.

The white paper indicates that a family man with an income of $10,000 must pay an additional $17 a year; those with a $12,000 income will pay an additional $128 a year; and those with an income of $15,000 will pay an additional $177 per year. At $20,000 this extra tax would drop to $60, decreasing to $35 additional a year at $30,000. Only when a man has reached a salary of $50,000 per year does he again approach the same increase in personal income tax as the man who has an income of $15,000, namely $180 versus $177.

As I understand it, the proposed capital gains tax is supposed to deal efficiently with those whose incomes are above $15,000 a year, thereby explaining the lower income tax bite when you go over the $15,000 a year. However, if you are to place a heavier burden on the family man in the $10,000 to $15,000 range, I wonder how he is going to accumulate sufficient capital to apply the capital gains tax? I wonder who is going to be able to make the purchases which keep our economy booming? I wonder who is going to enjoy the rewards of life in Canada; or are there going to be any?

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Trudeau says 19 per cent earn under $10,000.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That may be so, but I pointed out in the first place—I do not know whether the member was in the House then—we are in complete agreement with the removal from the tax roll of X number of people; and I think it might be interesting to examine what is going to happen to those who are, in fact, going to be the taxpayers.

Mr. Ben: I think what the Prime Minister is doing is trying to make a sow's ear out of a silk purse.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): The member has not been here!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am just trying to see what is going to happen as a result of the inequities in this; to see if it is going to fall heavily on certain areas of the population of Ontario and to ascertain if we think it should. We feel it is our duty to put forth this information and see if we can rectify the situation.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In my view, we should look very closely at the effect the system as proposed will have on this particular group of people.

The young growing family is the backbone of our society. We should do our utmost to ensure the success of these families. I do not think we should throw roadblocks in the way of our young people. I think we need to permit them the rewards of their labours. If you work hard you need rewards, you need incentives; and you should at all times have possibilities of a brighter future.

I will deal with other aspects of the white paper at another time, but I might say this: if the federal government were content to keep its tax yields at present levels, tax reform can accommodate tax relief as well, and it can accommodate the needs of the provinces and municipalities without imposing punitive tax burdens on middle income groups. If it would use revenue gains in the corporation tax fields, and the white paper indicates the increase in this field would be $205 million in the first year and $560 million in the fifth, it should be possible to finance tax relief to the lower income groups and provide tax room for the requirements of the provinces and the municipalities. We advance this as changes we think can be made, and that would meet some of the objections that we have.

Mr. Speaker, I think perhaps for this afternoon that will be sufficient. I have other matters which I want to discuss in the Legislature and I will have an opportunity to do so as the session moves along. I would say this: ordinarily I enjoy winding up these debates in order that I can take part in the vote to see just how everybody feels on these non-confidence motions. After I have completed my remarks, however, I will await with great interest the contributions of other members to this debate and I look forward, eventually, to dealing in a practical way with the rather ridiculous amendments put forward by the two opposition leaders.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, I am honoured to follow my leader as the second speaker for the official opposition.

An observer in the press gallery last year mentioned that I am still not at ease after two and a half years in this Legislature. I suppose it is perhaps the result of a long upbringing in a family of 10 children where there was a very strong hand deciding what the order of the day would be that I still am somewhat in awe of you, Mr. Speaker, sitting on the podium, but I will say that although I have not agreed with all your decisions, I still feel in time we will resolve our differences, especially once the government of this province is changed.

For over eight years we have seen the Premier (Mr. Robarts) of this province develop a reputation for being a quiet, safe sort of man. He provides an approach to problems that does not get him into too many difficulties. We have given him credit for his role in Ottawa as one who has been encouraging co-operation between the two cultures of Canada, and I think he has earned respect in that regard from coast to coast.

Over the last 12 months we have been very sorry for the Premier because he had many difficulties and problems besetting him. That broken ankle last year certainly must have caused him a great deal of pain and trouble. And then there was the knee, which was aggravated no doubt by the extra weight that has been accumulated over the last 20 years of sitting around Queen's Park. It certainly would not have helped the knee, and I am sure he had a very painful and unpleasant few weeks in bed, so that none of us would have liked to have replaced him there.

But really, we have become more sorry for him as a result of the many brush fires he has had to put out during the past year.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Deacon: The members may recall Bills 73 and 74.

I do not know whether any of the members have ever received the deluge of mail that was aroused by the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) deciding to deal with the problem of municipal pounds and the supply of research animals. There is no way that he could have done a more thoughtless and inappropriate job of solving these two problems. He confused the issue in such a way that emotion came into the matter to a degree that we have never seen before in this province.

We certainly had a need to provide regulations for municipal pounds. The conditions in many around the province were certainly atrocious, and they probably still are, because a lot of people have not yet realized that there is some compassion needed with the treatment of animals as well as with human beings. We certainly need the research animals, but we have many better ways of providing subjects for research than the way that the minister saw fit to follow in his Bill 73, which certainly deserves the damnation that it met from all sides.

Then following Bills 73 and 74, the minister in the corner—of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko)—brought down such wrath and indignation and frustration on the part of his Indian development branch that there was a mass resignation. Any person who read the story behind that mass resignation has got to realize that this is an unusual case. In many cases of mass resignations there is something that is not altogether right and true about them. But the stories of the frustrations those people faced in trying to bring a new approach to social welfare in this province, in recognizing the need for human beings to have a sense of worth, a sense of control over their own destiny must indicate that this minister is the cause of one of the most embarrassing episodes in the history of this government.

And he has not changed his ways! He has not changed his ways as we see around the province evidence of a continuation of the practice of just handing out welfare cheques according to regulations without recognizing that social service will never succeed which does not raise the dignity of the human being and does not recognize the worth of the individuals and the importance of their being able to contribute to the society in which they live.

Then following that situation, the next embarrassing episode involved the then Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett)—I guess there was no energy and no management, as my colleague from Niagara Falls (Mr. Bukator) said. This minister led the cabinet into approving a sewage plant for Holly Beckett's developers that would look after their 400 acres north of Toronto. It was completely in opposition to the expressed policies of the Ontario Water Resources Commission; and it almost brought a mass resignation of the water resources commission, because they could not accept government interference in such a crass way for a special temporary favour to someone wanting to develop land without recognizing the overall need for development in that area.

An hon. member: Shame on every one of you who were not there.

Mr. Deacon: And then came May, with the Premier accepting a report from his Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) on the future of GO Transit in this province, saying that it had no future, that we have to have another three years of studies and delays. It represented failure to recognize the problem, the desperate, emergency need for a solution to provide a system to carry people and move people around this province by public transport and not have us smothered in smog and automobiles by just concentrating on expressways.

Private transportation is no way to solve our transit problems and the Premier, in a few months time, in a matter of three months, reversed his sentiments, recognizing that the only answer to the movement of goods and people—or people and goods, to put it in the right order—around this area, around this great growing city, is one of mass transportation, public transportation integrated from one end to the other.

So that was another embarrassing episode, another place where he had to step in and change the recommendations of one of his ministers.

The Ontario Housing Corporation in buying thousands of acres of land around Kitchener, adding to their acres of undeveloped, unserviced land, saved a few more speculators in raw land by paying them cash for the acres that they had accumulated—and yet it still had not a single house at Malvern.

After nearly 20 years of owning land and failing to do anything with it, the Ontario Housing Corporation continued to show its complete inability to deal with the major problem of providing houses for the people of this province.

The Ontario Development Corporation: a bureaucracy which is approving forgivable loans for the foreign fat cats and ignoring the struggling local people.

Take a situation such as Nipigon. Nipigon is where a private company went into receivership in 1967. Local people recognized that there had been things in management which had not been good. These local people recognized that there was an opportunity there for continuing to provide employment for the many people whose jobs were at stake and who were lost as long as this plant remained idle.

They applied to the Ontario Development Corporation for a loan. The Ontario Development Corporation longs to give forgivable loans to these very strong, important corporations coming in from outside; but those people up in Nipigon, those little citizens, were not significant enough, they were not important enough to be recognized. The officials from the Ontario Development Corporation would not even go up to look at the plant, to see what the opportunity was. So these people, not giving up, scrounged around and got money locally, enough to get going. Now they have a sound, vibrant, good operation; thanks in no part, in no way whatsoever, to the Ontario Development Corporation which is looking after the outside interests so well and not looking after our own entrepreneurs and people with initiative.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): They want to look after people like Kraft.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): That is right. You have to have assets of $1 billion or more before they will give you a forgivable loan.

Mr. Deacon: That brush fire was burning nicely when along came the repercussions of that Bill 44, the county school board bill, where 25 to 50 per cent increases in education mill rates were the order of the day.

Chaos in the schools! The principals were frustrated by the fact that they had no ability to make their own decisions. They were under a supervising principal who was to tell them what to do. They no longer were in charge of their own school. Janitors were frustrated by the fact that through the red tape morass they could no longer order a door-hinge in the normal way by going down to their local hardware store; they had to put through purchase orders that went through the board,

and about four weeks later the door could be fixed.

Mr. Ben: In quadruplicate!

Mr. Deacon: In quadruplicate; right!

The cost, the delays, the frustrations were enough to send anybody crazy—not to mention the blank cheque that the Premier finally had to give to the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) to smooth over the situation. Another well-burning fire that the Premier had to try and put out!

The Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough), with his Ottawa-Carleton bill nicely underway, introduced his Niagara bill. The Niagara bill had some improvements over Ottawa-Carleton, but there was still this aggravating point that the people in the area wanted facts. Not only do the people want to have facts, they want to know what is going to happen when regional government is introduced, when boundaries are changed, when levels of authority are shifted.

Is it a strange thing for people to want to know what will happen? Yet the lesson taught by the Bill 44, the mass introduction of county school boards, was not sufficient for the Minister of Municipal Affairs to decide that he should perhaps change his approach. Lakehead and Niagara were both jammed through regardless of what the local people thought.

The government protested that the people were in favour and yet they failed to give the people an opportunity to ratify any of these agreements. Now we see, in Ottawa-Carleton, reports that the cost of looking after their roads, for example, has increased 50 per cent with no improvement in the quality of the roads, just a lot more administration.

In Niagara and the Lakehead we have not yet had time to see the frustrations that are coming as a result of a system of government introduced without proper care and study to be sure that what was done would be a good idea, a careful idea, to be sure of the results, the consequences.

In March, the minister has stated that before the next election he, "Lord Darcy," will bring in one more regional government. Perhaps York is the place he is thinking about. The people in York are also concerned about what is going to happen to them. The minister in this case has had the idea of consulting with the local leaders and has set up a committee to study the situation. The committee met, I believe, twice. That is the extent of the consultation, there are no facts before them. The minister likes controversy, he does not like facts. So the Premier has to deal and will be dealing with more fires as the regional government battle builds up across the province.

The Minister of Health last year—

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): How about the resolutions of the county council?

Mr. Deacon: Some of the councils are rescinding and changing those resolutions.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): The minister is not in his seat.

Mr. Deacon: In the case of health, the county boards of health had been acceptable up to then, but the Minister of Health thought we should have something completely different, so he put in a new health system and he said: "It does not matter what the consequences are to you folks, we are going to cover that by increasing the grants from 50 per cent to 75 per cent".

But was it not embarrassing to that Minister of Health to find that his own county would not go along with it? His own county, from which he is elected, said: "We cannot see any evidence that the taxpayer is going to benefit in changing this county board into a health district. Can you show us any benefit?" The minister could not persuade them and they refused to go along because they said: "We are all paying these taxes. What is a 75 per cent grant or a 50 per cent grant? We want to know whether the money is being spent more effectively."

This the Premier had to contend with, as these health districts were set up with no relationship whatsoever to any other regions in the province.

Medicare: "Why did we have to bother with Medicare when we had such a wonderful OMSIP situation?" the Premier said. Interfering Ottawa. He was forgetting, as was his minister, that the thousands of people who were frustrated by the red tape of getting their qualifications for OMSIP assistance were looking for something better.

They certainly did not get it. They got a continuation of what was bad before and has been made even worse. The rates are the highest of any province. They have not recognized that there is a simple, easy way. Even with this new minister and his fresh ideas, they have still not recognized there are many ways of cutting down the red tape, cutting out the expense and efficiently collecting the money through our tax bills in such a way

that we all get Medicare, pay for it according to our ability to pay and have a responsible check each year as to what health care is costing. But no; these health ministers that the government of this province has are going to cause more fires, more embarrassment for the government every year, because they cannot recognize some of these basics in good management.

Mr. Nixon: OHSIP says the minister is not around.

Mr. Deacon: The former Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree), who was in office for some time, established the department and was embarrassed last year, and I am sure the Premier was embarrassed, to find that a stockbroker—who is not under the Toronto Stock Exchange or the supervision of the IDA, even though licensed by the OSC, licensed and giving the public an indication that he was capable of providing service to them and doing business with them—could go broke and his clients lose thousands of dollars.

A mortgage broker continues in business while an unfortunate client has been left destitute by the failure of that licensed broker to meet his obligations. Nothing is done by the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, just the Premier left embarrassed by it.

The Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett), runs the department by regulation, not common sense—witness a department which says school buses must meet certain regulations, certain restrictions and must put on their flashing lights regardless of what common sense urges. It does not matter how many accidents there are, or people killed as a result of these regulations. A regulation must apply everywhere, not recognizing the fact that direction can be given to school bus drivers to put on their flashing lights on certain routes and not on others. Other drivers when they know that the flashing lights mean "stop", will stop, so the bus drivers need not put on flashing lights where it is both dangerous and unnecessary to stop. Just another embarrassment, another fire for the Premier to deal with.

Then the last straw: On the opening day of this session Mrs. Robarts was nearly knocked down in the scuffle due to a workmen's compensation board victim coming in here. Of course a lot of the government people report that this must have been an opposition ploy, they must have staged that; not recognizing that there might be good cause for a man to become desperate to the state of coming in here as he did on that occasion.

Fires, fires! Fires everywhere! No wonder they are now calling the Premier "fireman John".

There is an interesting thing about this: most good firemen love a good fire, and when you look at the number of fires there have been around this province over the last year—certainly there have been many before that, but they are building up in frequency and in volume and size—there is no wonder that people are beginning to suspect that "fireman John" is the arsonist, he is the one who is setting them. Maybe he is responsible for the soaring costs of government, the red tape, the inefficiency, the problems the ministers are having in working out their own problems and working together.

Now here is an interesting thing; it has been said that management is leadership. The Premier just made a quote in his speech, "whither Canada?"; and I say "whither Ontario?", because it certainly does not have leadership at this point.

An hon. member: It is withering all right, just withering.

Mr. Deacon: Even though every seat in that cabinet were filled by an expert it would not make any difference. An orchestra could be filled with virtuosi, but unless there is a leader to conduct it, it is going to sound pretty horrible.

We do not have virtuosi, we have anything but, in the seats of that cabinet. And we certainly need strong leadership because we do not have strong ministers at this point, and we need to have somebody who can make them a little stronger. The people of this province are recognizing the fact that to cope successfully with our problems, we have to have a leader who originates, directs, organizes and scrutinizes. He must plan the course. Without planning this province is becoming like a rickety table with legs of unequal length, propped up on paper wads. I have a feeling we are getting in worse trouble all the time.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Which one is the House leader over there?

Mr. Deacon: One of the points in the speech on the opening day of the Legislature was very interesting—that document giving us a new direction for the province. But you look at it and you wonder what is there that has any significance. The Premier has just stated that the highest increase in costs has

to do with provincial and municipal affairs. A good part of the reason for the highest increase in costs occurring in these areas is because we are running our affairs so poorly. Take the Treasurer—

Mr. Nixon: The member can have him.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Who wants to have him?

Mr. Deacon: He has been working for some time on a project called "Design for Development". I forget what phase he is at now—three, four or seven—I am not sure which, but he is away out on his own. He is working with some sort of regions and organizations, ignored by municipal affairs, ignored by water resources, health, tourism, trade—to each his own in this province.

Everybody has his own region, all working in their own direction. Perhaps this is because we have no leadership, the reason we have so many brush fires—troubles brewing in all parts of the province.

The Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) in this time of tight money—when it is difficult for the province to borrow advantageously because of conditions everywhere being difficult—does not recognize that if he cut back to the essentials that really need provincial assistance, then there would be money available for other points of priority.

For example, Ontario Hydro still has its bonds guaranteed by this province and it borrows as much or more each year than the province of Ontario. So the bond market considers that the borrowing of Ontario is not just for the provincial needs but also for Hydro as well. It is $300 million for the province perhaps, and $300 million for Hydro, so the borrowing by the province is considered by bond buyers to be $600 million a year.

The province of Ontario should say to Hydro, "You are a good, well-run organization; you have your own good record, go out on your own"; just like Consolidated Edison does in New York. The state of New York does not have to worry about guaranteeing the bonds of Consolidated Edison; it does not hurt the state of New York when Consolidated Edison expands; Consolidated Edison is a strong, viable independent operation on its own. And so is Ontario Hydro.

And if Ontario Hydro were on its own the province would have some credit available for much more important, much greater needs—like that of providing water and sewage services throughout this province on a basis that municipalities can afford—in a way that we can expand and develop in areas where we consider it best for development to take place. We have definite priorities, but the Treasurer does not seem to recognize this, and he just has no excuse whatsoever for allowing our credit to be dissipated in a major way by a concern that is well able to stand on its own feet.

Look at provincial levies and how they are spent. Imagine the difference to this province if people could go out and buy a home around areas such as this city for a price that was somewhat in keeping with the amount it used to cost when you bought a home. In the old days when you bought a home, about 10 to 15 per cent of the cost of the house was made up of the cost of the lot. The services and the street works, everything else was paid for in advance, and this brought the lot cost up to about 15 per cent of the total cost of the house. But today it is 55 or 60 per cent.

And it is not because we have insisted on paved streets or some of these services going in ahead of time. The reason the house costs have gone way up is because of the speculative land costs going up; the cost of the land itself. And why has that occurred? Because we have failed to provide a sufficient supply of lots on which there are services.

The Ontario Housing Corporation does not have any lots for sale in Malvern and does not have houses there, because it has failed to provide a means whereby Scarborough, the municipality in which Malvern is located, can obtain the resources to put in the services. And so the public is paying soaring land costs with absolutely no benefit to anyone and with frustration to all concerned.

If the province would divert money to cover the Ontario Water Resources' deficits, which would be of a temporary nature, so they could provide the basic plants for water and sewage services, then we could improve the supply of serviced land on the market quickly, and have the supply well in excess of the demand. Then prices would come down.

There is another way the province's money should be used to help overcome the great mistakes that are being made today in housing development and causing one of the prime causes of shortages of low-cost houses. Pickering township, a few years ago, approved a fairly low cost development. Pickering could not get industrial and commercial assessment to support the very substantial amount of residential assessment that it went ahead with, and it got into financial difficulties. No one with any sense in his head wanted to establish an industry there because they thought they

would be in a township where taxes would be unreasonable because of very badly balanced assessment.

But the province could have encouraged Pickering by providing a temporary assistance —a subsidy, over a period of, say, 10 years— this would have covered the income that normally could have been expected to come in from a municipality with a good balance of industrial and commercial assessment. But the Treasurer does not recognize these things. He does not recognize that, for example, in forming Metro Toronto the outlying municipalities were saved from financial disaster by the huge commercial-industrial assessment of the major part of the city, which enabled them to finance the services and go ahead with residential development, regardless of whether the industrial-commercial assessment was in that municipality at that time or not. Industrial-commercial always falls in behind.

But the Premier and the Treasurer have not seen these priorities and so what they have done is caused a speculative spree in land around this city, the like of which has never occurred before in North America, and at the cost of every single one of us.

Now in education; imagine changing a whole system of education overnight. If the Premier had said to the Minister of Education that night in Galt: "We will try in one, or two, or maybe three areas, Bill, but not put it across the board", we would have much less a problem in our hand across the province today. But the Premier did not understand that this is the normal way of doing things when you have the alternative of going broke if you do not succeed. He does not care about going broke because he has got taxpayers to pay, pay, pay. He can go to Ottawa and say, "Pay, pay, pay". He does not worry about whose tax pocket it is coming out of. He does not look at good planning, and common sense, but instead tells the Minister of Education: "Go ahead, put in the whole system right across. We will work out what is going to happen afterwards". And boy, we are certainly paying for it.

Transportation—moving people and goods— is a key element in planning; it is a key element in prosperity in any area, and yet we have done nothing to really put in an integrated programme in the province which recognizes the proper role of both public and private means of moving people and goods. We cannot hope to have a healthy public transportation system if our only subsidies across the province are given to private means, to the highways—if we do not recognize that there is a great need to provide people with the means of movement through public transportation, that is as fast as, or faster than any possible means of movement by private automobile.

A fast, efficient, public transit plan across this province would be a tool whereby we could establish green belt areas reasonably. Transportation to and from work could be carried out to points well beyond the city in the areas where agriculture is not very prosperous, such as in the hills of Caledon or the Dagmar hills where there is very desirable and lovely land. People could be taken from their homes very quickly by efficiently planned, well co-ordinated public transportation.

But no, the Premier does not seem to see these tools that he has available to him, to save the taxpayers of Ontario a great deal of money and also, at the same time, provide them with a much more pleasant life than they now have, living in a world of smog and automobile congestion.

Then we come to the manner in which we are running our government. Business changes the way it handles its procedures; if it did not change, it would go broke. It has to modernize. It has to keep up on technology and new methods and new ideas in the way it operates.

But Tory Ontario is being patched—patched over with 30-year-old patches, with no new concepts that really recognize some of the great advances and strides that were made in technology for management in the last few years; patched with Bandaids that are rotting.

The provincial role should be one of broad guidelines, not making day-to-day, small decisions for every little part of the province. It should be recognizing that it is the most efficient director of revenues, but not the most efficient spender.

It should be a tax collector that shares on a *per capita basis*, the same basis that recognizes the difference in economic prosperity in different regions of the province as it is now doing with education grant disbursements. But these disbursements should be unconditional, so it is not necessary for a municipality to go along with the decisions made here at Queen's Park, but rather use its own judgement and be responsible for the money that it spends to those who elect the officials.

As it now stands, a very small fraction of any tax dollar spent by a municipality is really spent at the full discretion of the local elected official. The local people find that it is

Queen's Park that tells them that if they spend money in a certain way, they will be given a grant, and if they do not spend it this way, they will not.

They do not recognize that, without a sense of responsibility to the elector, without any degree of authority for the elected official in carrying out expenditures, there will not be responsible spending, careful spending, and efficient operation of local communities.

The province can help people spend their money responsibly in the local communities by providing them with a comparative performance report of how each section is operating. A tremendous guide for those elected is to help them exchange their knowhow and expertise in a practical way, as business does.

The province is in a position where it can provide professional research for those who have problems to solve in local areas. But not research that is combined with a province issuing orders and instructions. By the province providing the major transportation corridors by means of rail, or road, or whatever is developed as the best means of moving people and goods over the years, it has a tremendous planning tool for the province to use.

And for the province to combine that with the provision of major sewage and water facilities, with financial assistance to municipalities so that they do not have to be concerned immediately about whether they are putting up low-cost housing or not, so that they have proper commercial-industrial-residential assessment balance, it will certainly do a great deal to make government from the provincial point of view much more efficient.

The county, or the region, or whatever the name happens to be, in whatever part of the province we have counties or regions, has an excellent borrowing base and it should be doing the borrowing for the local municipalities. There is no need now for the Ontario Municipal Board to decide whether counties or regions have a right to borrow. The municipal board had to be set up to take steps to control borrowing 50 years ago or 40 years ago, when a great deal of borrowing was done irresponsibly by small communities who were not expert or experienced and knowledgeable in what their borrowing capacity could be. But we could have the region, or the county, given the authority to do all the capital borrowing for a municipality now. This would eliminate the need for the Ontario Municipal Board to have these hearings to decide, on very much of a technical basis, and so often not with any practical basis of decision, whether a municipality is in the position to borrow or not.

It should be possible for the region and the county to develop expertise to handle its own financial affairs and be responsible to the people within that county as to whether it goes ahead with borrowing or not. The county and the region can provide special services which the local councils can share. For example, in police forces, the detective service is a specialized service which perhaps can best be done on a county or regional basis. Whereas the actual police officers doing their daily work can do it best on a local basis, where they are known by the people—the people know them and they gain respect—on a regional or county basis, we can share a specialized service, such as detectives. We can provide the MOH in his specialized assistance. We can combine for garbage disposal arrangements. But the larger-scale programmes should be introduced only where there is a clear need and a clear indication that it is the most efficient and best way for the work to be carried out.

The local council should have the major responsibility for looking after the needs of people and for looking after the expenditures to supply, not just roads, not just police, but welfare. It should take a total approach to welfare, not just an approach by regulation, so it can recognize the worth of the individual, and put in a programme that could include volunteer assistance from organizations within that community. There is nothing like local interest, local concern, to get efficient, valuable and effective expenditure of funds for social services.

When we have funds distributed by remote bodies, they are distributed according to regulation, and regulations never can meet the local practical need in all situations. Sometimes it works, but on the whole there are always people who develop ways and means of getting around regulations and frustrating the purpose of the regulations. It is much better that we put the problems of social services back in the hands of local people.

The same is true of health concerns. We could have local programmes of a public health nature, helping people become much more aware of good diet, good exercise, and other ways in which they can reduce the need for medical care and expenditure. We can introduce schemes such as the out-patient scheme that has been working so well in Sault Ste. Marie, and not clog up our hospitals unnecessarily.

Surely the way we are going to get into serious financial problems through our Medicare scheme is not through the scheme itself, but through the irresponsible abuse of this scheme. By having health programmes back at the local level and schemes which will encourage people to look after themselves better, will certainly reduce our Medicare costs.

With regard to community activities, the province at this time has seven different branches and departments responsible for encouraging community activities. In the public accounts committee last year the chairman and those of us who were examining, at the time, The Department of Education were quite amazed to find that there is no correlation or co-ordination on a regular basis between the various departments of government responsible for encouraging community activities.

The Department of Agriculture and Food went on its own. The Department of Labour, with the Ontario athletic commissioner, went on its own. The library services had their own part of the branch of The Department of Education; for the athletic programme, there is still something else from The Department of Education. One overlapping the other, each with his own empire—a frustrating, confusing morass for the ordinary person to take advantage of.

All this could be co-ordinated and directed through the local community control, if the local councils of this province were given control over their destinies in a way that really enabled them to more effectively encourage and develop strong community activities.

We know by looking around this continent today that one of the greatest needs we have is not only for the building up of a new approach, a new strength, in family relationships, but also in community relationships. It is the breakdown in family and community relationships across this continent that is causing the stress and strain that could cause explosive, violent problems during the next few months and the next few years, and destroy our civilization to that extent.

With regard to protection of persons and property, why worry about whether a community has one policeman per 1,000 or one policeman per 6,000? What we are concerned about is the result. Leave it up to the local community to decide. If they want to expend more money on recreational programmes to help make the town a safer place and a better place to live in, and thus reduce the necessity for protection, let them do so, but it is the result that counts.

To have us, from Queen's Park, tell towns, as we now are doing, that they do not have enough policemen—"The recommendation for a town of this size is so many policemen for every so many people"—is not common sense. It is not good government; it is not serving the needs of people.

Perhaps, also, some day we might look forward to the time when, not only these features, but also education would, again, come under the control of the communities. Perhaps even the board of education could be a committee of council—a merger of education and municipal councillors, to avoid the fantastic frustration now being met by those good citizens who are elected to the board of education or the county boards of education, and who are trying desperately to find a way of merging their demands, their needs, for educational purposes with those of the municipal councillors.

The disputes that are arising in connection with this are costing the taxpayers a great deal of anxiety and a great deal of money. Until we get to the point where there is a merger of councils and school boards in such a way that there is a co-ordinated approach to raising funds for school purposes and for local municipal purposes of other natures, so that we involve the whole community in education, not just those who happen to be between Grades 1 to 13, then we will never get a proper utilization of the tremendous funds that we are now directing into the fields of education.

Another area in which the Premier has shown absolutely no imagination or leadership to his ministers in giving them co-ordinated direction is that of the development of the province. And free enterprise is the only way that this province will develop well. We are developing in this province, in spite of the approach that is being taken by our branch-plant Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) and by his organizations that are supposed to be helping free enterprise in this province.

They have a group in that Ontario Development Corporation that is making decisions it is not capable of making. The province does not recognize that lending money to organizations as a way of assisting them should not only bring extra profit to them, but should also bring extra profit to the province. By lending the money in a way that exists through debt, they are not helping the people of this province at all.

They have not shown any imagination or any initiative in developing a means whereby

not just nine per cent, but 90 per cent of the people of this province, are investing capital—investing savings in some enterprise in their own area, or in areas where they see opportunity. And we will not have this happen until we have development corporations formed in this province which can harness local enterprises and permit people who have ideas and can see opportunities and ways, to use their money and to permit pools of capital to be well utilized in the development of their regions.

We in Queen's Park cannot determine what is going to succeed or not succeed in areas that are remote from us, when we are not familiar with the local scene; but by selecting groups of people in regions, or groups of people who are specialists in certain types of industry, and helping them to attract pools of capital and giving them the opportunity to attract large public pools of capital, we will be able to compete, not only in Ontario against foreign controlled enterprises, but we will be able to export competitively in any part of the world because we shall be using our own good initiative, our own good enterprise in the development of our corporations.

In conclusion, this province should not consist of 39 unco-ordinated dictatorships and empires. The throne speech should not just be a lot of patches—more rubbish causing more fires. Certainly we can accuse the Premier—"fireman John"—of being one who is not clearing up the rubbish but creating more of it, when he delivers a speech or brings forward a Speech from the Throne of this nature.

We must give people the services that only Queen's Park can provide—the services I mentioned—the major broad planning. We should be providing services that can be used by the province, between regions so that they are co-ordinated, but we should not be the ones that make the day-to-day decisions and interfere with local people's freedom to decide their own destiny.

We should not look upon ourselves as those who know what is best for everyone else. We are not the big brothers. We want to give people freedom to decide their own course of action, their own life, and even to have control over their own destiny to the extent that they make mistakes. They should be free to make mistakes if they want to make mistakes.

I think it is time the Tories of this province got rid of the arsonist they have sitting over there in this House heading the government. He is the one who is responsible for these ministers having to resign their positions due to embarrassment they caused this government, not themselves. Sure, they have their own sense of responsibility, but you know people by their leader and when you see the mistakes that are made by so many of these ministers it is because they are not being given direction.

It is time that the Tories of this province decided that they needed a new leader because if they do not decide, the people of Ontario will decide for them.

Hon. Mr. Grossman moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, we will carry on with this debate tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5.55 o'clock, p.m.

No. 8

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, March 5, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Thursday, March 5, 1970

Doctors and Windsor medical services plan, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Nixon, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. MacDonald 257

Mining claims in provincial parks, questions to Mr. A. F. Lawrence, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Stokes 258

Shamrock Club and letters patent of other social clubs, questions to Mr. A. F. Lawrence, Mr. Lawlor 259

Transportation of school children in buses operated by service clubs or charitable organizations, question to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Paterson 259

Raising of minimum wage in Ontario, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Shulman 259

Ontario securities commission and takeovers of public companies, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Sopha 259

Water pollution by Smiths Falls Ontario hospital, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacKenzie 260

Charge by private citizen under The OWRC Act, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Pitman 260

Meadows Land Development Company, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Bullbrook, Mr. Pitman 260

Release of committed persons without psychiatric examination, question to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Lawlor 261

GO Transit service to communities north of Toronto, question to Mr. Gomme, Mr. Deacon 261

Farm equipment manufacturing industry, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Makarchuk 262

Offshore drilling in Lake Erie, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Haggerty 262

Waste disposal by hospitals under OHSC, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Burr 263

Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Nixon, Mr. T. Reid, Mr. Pitman 263

Relief for unreasonable tax increases on certain residential properties, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Shulman 266

Hamilton-Burlington-Wentworth report on regional government, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Deans 267

Water pollution at Rosseau and Emburn, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. T. P. Reid 268

Release of committed prisoners without psychiatric examination, question to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Lawlor 268

Transfer of medical records from provincial to federal institutions, question to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Worton 268

Establishment of garbage dump in residential area, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. MacDonald 269

Use of defoliants by Department of Lands and Forests, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. B. Newman 269

Presenting petitions 270

Tabling of 1970 Municipal Directory, Mr. McKeough 270

Second report, select committee on standing committees, Mrs. Pritchard 270

Schools Administration Act, bill to amend, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 271

Schools Administration Act, bill to amend, Mr. Pitman, first reading 271

Employment Standards Act, 1968, bill to amend, Mr. Davison, first reading 271

Judicature Act, bill to amend, Mr. Breithaupt, first reading 271

Municipal and School Tax Credit Assistance Act, 1967, bill to amend, Mr. Stokes, first reading 271

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Shulman, Mr. Sopha, Mr. Burr 271

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Burr, agreed to 299

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 299

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Today in the galleries we have as guests: in the east gallery students from North Bay bilingual secondary school in North Bay, and Thistletown Collegiate Institute in Rexdale; and in the west gallery from Bayview junior high school in Willowdale.

Statements by the ministry.

Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Well Mr. Speaker, there are not many ministers present, however—

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): They do not want to govern. They do not even want to come.

Mr. Nixon: Perhaps the Minister of Mines, soon to become minister of northern affairs as well, might be prepared to answer a general question on northern matters pertaining to the community college at Kirkland Lake and the possible use to which it might be put, since it is not being put to reasonable use now. Might I ask, Mr. Speaker, if the minister would be prepared to entertain a question about that matter?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): I think the best thing, Mr. Speaker, would be to have the Leader of the Opposition ask his question addressed to the Ministry and it can be taken as notice.

Mr. Nixon: Well there is always the possibility that one of his colleagues might arrive later in the afternoon, when we could use the question period in the normal style.

But is the minister prepared to accept the responsibility as minister in charge of northern affairs generally until the statute is in force?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: No legislation permitting this has yet been presented to the House.

Mr. Nixon: That is right, although the minister is usually referred to that way by himself.

Mr. Pitman: Is the minister taking over northern education?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Wait and see.

Mr. Nixon: Well then, Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Is he aware that the doctors participating in the Windsor medical services plan have decided to divide the reserve funds from Windsor medical among themselves for their personal use? Does he approve of this division and use of the reserve funds? Is he investigating the matter further?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of it; but I will make myself aware of it and reply to the question when I am so informed.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): May I ask the minister a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker?

In case the doctors involved in the Windsor medical services plan insist on continuing the process of distributing the funds among themselves, would the minister consider suggesting to them that they donate those funds to the University of Windsor for a medical school?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will not, Mr. Speaker, make any commitment on the subject today.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): By way of a supplementary question on this Mr. Speaker; and then I have my own questions.

My understanding from the minister's predecessor was that a letter had gone out saying no distribution of funds could be permitted until guidelines had been laid down. May I ask the minister whether the guidelines permitted the division of the moneys among themselves rather than to some public purpose?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: My understanding, Mr. Speaker, is that the letter that went out was a "hold letter." As I recall, it was part of a very full statement my predecessor made around the end of November.

This is the first I have heard of this particular statement that they are distributing,

and that they are doing it in this particular way. I simply ask that I have time to check the facts in detail and compare them with what has been done.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question for the Minister of Mines. Am I correct that public policy is that there are to be no mining claims in provincial parks?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, may I then ask the minister for confirmation of the fact that there are mining claims in Quetico Park —32 mining claims patented and held by seven American persons, 10 claims held by American persons with corporate addresses and 62 claims held by Canadian corporations? Is this accurate?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Yes. Those arise, if my memory serves me right, from long-standing licences of occupation that were granted many many years ago.

Some of these unfortunately, are held in the form of perpetual leases or licences, or in some cases actual patents, that predated the setting out of park boundaries in some instances. The policy of the government is to progressively, as far as we can, limit and restrict them and have them revert to the Crown as much as possible, but in no case extend any of the rights or privileges in connection with them, and certainly not permit actual mining operations where we can possibly prevent them.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Might I ask a supplementary?

What is the policy of having these claims revert to the Crown? Is there a definite statute of limitations for developing these claims?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: No. As my hon. friend certainly knows, if somebody has a patent for mining rights that is something, according to the statute at the moment, that is perpetual in nature.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of further supplementary question: would the minister explain what he could conceivably mean when he says that it is the policy of the government not to permit development of these claims where it is possible to prevent them?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: What I meant to say—and I am glad if the leader of the NDP is correcting me—what I mean to say is discourage any exploitation within the parks as a result of some of these—

Mr. MacDonald: Discourage or forbid?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: We have no power at the moment to forbid it. In no case that I know of is any actual mining operation taking place within any of the parks; and in any case those mining operations are controlled through another statute; I think it is section 38 of The Mining Act which would make any attempted operation subject to the parks regulations.

It is a very complicated, complex situation that has arisen in respect of these matters, but as I say I am not aware, and I have been attempting for some time to make myself aware, of any actual mining operations taking place within any of the parks. Our purpose is to discourage this where we can. In some cases there may be a need for statute changes if it becomes obvious that there would be mining operations carried on.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, this is extraordinary!

One final supplementary question if I may be permitted.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member may ask a final supplementary question but will confine it to a question.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes. Since public policy is that there is to be no mining development in a public park, why is it not possible to rescind mining claims that have been granted no matter when?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Because at the moment the statutes of the province of Ontario do not permit us to arbitrarily or unilaterally take away the right—

Mr. MacDonald: Well change the statutes then, the door is half open for somebody to come in.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: A patent to a mining claim is exactly the same as a deed to land, and it would be a pretty arbitrary government that would want to walk right in and take this away. We have not felt that there has been the need for it up until now because there have not been any actual mining operations carried on under some of these old rights.

Mr. MacDonald: The department usually cancels the claim if they do not do enough work.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: We are looking at this.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): What about Temagami?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Temagami is not a public park, Temagami is a—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Perhaps the hon. minister would confine himself to questions properly put from the floor. Has the member for Rainy River a supplementary?

Has the member for York South completed his questions?

Mr. MacDonald: The other ministers are not in yet, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, I might take this opportunity of replying to a question raised the other day by the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) with regard to the Shamrock Club.

My department finds that in the period between April 1, 1969, to March 2, 1970, the letters patent of 22 social clubs have been cancelled. In each case the cancellation order was made under section 326(2) of The Corporations Act for failure to file annual returns under section 3 of the Act.

None of the letters patent of the 22 social clubs were cancelled for a cause. The companies branch has no knowledge as to whether any of the cancelled clubs were organizing chartered flights. The licences for organizing chartered flights are issued by the federal Department of Transport. The Shamrock Club which was mentioned in the member's question has not been incorporated under The Ontario Corporations Act.

Mr. Speaker, we have no jurisdiction over charter flights. However, should we receive a complaint in this area, we would of course immediately advise the federal Department of Transport in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex South.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport.

In the past few weeks has his department reached a decision as to whether it will licence buses operated by service clubs or charitable organizations to take on regular bus routes for the transportation of school children?

If so, how many such charitable organizations have been licenced in the province?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of service clubs applying for charter rights to move school children. I will look into this and let the member know what is happening.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for High Park has the floor.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): A question to the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker: is the article in the Toronto *Telegram* of January 20 correct in its statement that the minister had planned to raise the minimum wage in this province to $1.60 this year, but has run into trouble with the Conservative backbenchers?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): No, Mr. Speaker, that is not true.

Mr. Shulman: By way of a supplementary, does the minister intend to raise the minimum wage to $1.60 this year, as apparently he suggested to the writer Mr. Mark Zwelling?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I did not make any such statement to any reporter, but the matter is under review and has been for some time.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Would that not mean another wage raise for the members of the Legislature?

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I should like, properly, to put a question to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. That is, is the public understanding of the position of the minister correct, in that he says that in the circumstances of a far-reaching and important takeover of a public company, as for example Denison Mines, that: (a) no reference to or information is given by the parties to the Ontario Securities Commission about it; and (b) that the Ontario Securities Commission does not, of its own initiative, seek information from the parties involved?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not what I said. I was dealing with the position of the Toronto Stock Exchange—this was yesterday?

Mr. Sopha: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In that particular case the Toronto Stock Exchange did what it should have done, namely required from Mr. Roman—

Mr. Sopha: I was asking about the securities commission.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The securities commission? That has not been done. I know of no particular action that is required from the Ontario Securities Commission.

They were kept informed—on a minute by minute basis you might say—and there was nothing that I can see at the moment they might have been required to do under the circumstances.

Mr. Sopha: Well by way of supplementary, if you will permit, Mr. Speaker: is the minister then saying that, unlike the situation in the United States where resort is made to government before the proposed merger or takeover, that that situation does not obtain in Ontario? No resort is made to the securities commission before the matter goes ahead or approaches finality?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us stick to the circumstances the member is describing, and that is the negotiations and proposed sale involving a particular company.

As a matter of law I know of no requirements for the parties involved there to come either to the Ontario Securities Commission or to me or to the government. They were acting, as far as I can ascertain, completely within the law, and there is, to my mind, no overriding right to intervene.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Ottawa Centre.

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): A question to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management in relation to OWRC. Is the provincial hospital in Smith's Falls polluting the Rideau River, as reported in one of the Ottawa newspapers two days ago?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): I did not hear the verb in that question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MacKenzie: The provincial hospital in Smith's Falls; is it polluting the Rideau River, as reported in an Ottawa newspaper two days ago?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I was told of that news report and I have asked for a report from the commission. I hope to have that for the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

I would like to ask the minister what the policy of his department would be in the case where a private citizen is taking a polluter into court and loses the case as a result of the questioning of the testing procedures of his department. Would his department be willing to take over the appeal in that case?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, my understanding of the procedure is that when a charge is laid by a private citizen under The OWRC Act, the local crown attorney carries the case.

Mr. Pitman: Well he does not, it does not happen.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is a charge under a statute and in most cases this is my understanding. Certainly where we have had convictions, this has been the case.

Another thing is that the commission always, when asked, will give whatever evidence the person wants, will supply witnesses and testimony, so that in the event that the case is lost—in many cases, as the member knows, this involves continuing pollution—there is no reason why a charge cannot again be laid with proper evidence and proper procedure and preparation.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I am concerned as to whether it is the policy of the department to appeal, when the reason for the loss of the case is the questioning of the procedures of the OWRC?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, if there are grounds for appeal, certainly there should be an appeal.

Mr. Pitman: Another supplementary; I wonder if the minister would table the report of the Lakefield College School which was made by the OWRC? I think it is a public document; it has been sent to a number of townships.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am still waiting for a copy of that. We will give that to the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sarnia.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

I am a little hesitant to bring up again the question of Meadows Land Development Company. I am wondering if the minister could explain to the House how they avoid

the provisions of The Planning Act and whether his department has been in liaison with his colleague, the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) to amend the statute to avoid such avoidance?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would not purport, Mr. Speaker, to give a legal opinion on the application of The Planning Act administered by my confrere, the Minister of Municipal Affairs. We certainly discuss these things, but the direct answer, I feel, should come from the minister charged with that responsibility.

Mr. Bullbrook: I am wondering, by way of supplementary, if I might ask the minister why he is so reticent to answer the question as to how the statute is avoided. There must be a clear cut reply in that connection which would in no way denigrate from the position—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is entitled to ask a question, not to make a statement.

Mr. Bullbrook: On a point of order, sir, if I might—

Mr. Speaker: Yes. The hon. member asked his question and instead of waiting for the minister to answer he went on to state that there must be something clear cut. That was not part of the question; that was the member's own view.

Mr. Bullbrook: After tossing aside the editorial comment which I agree was there, I am wondering if the minister would answer the question.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): He does not know the answer.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Whether I know the answer or not I think is irrelevant. The person who should answer is the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Peterborough has a supplementary.

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if the minister, before he makes his report on Whiterock estates, would ascertain whether section 33 of The Planning Act has been avoided in that case as well? This is the section which states that a person cannot—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Avoided or evaded?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: A question of the Minister of Correctional Services. Are persons accused of serious crimes who are remanded in custody for mental examination released by psychiatrists unescorted to the public? Is this a considered departmental policy?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, I am not too clear what the hon. member means when he says "unescorted" in "released unescorted to the public". Is that what he said?

Mr. Lawlor: That is what I said.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: How does the member mean, "released unescorted to the public?" People are not released and then escorted to the public, they are released or they are not.

Mr. Lawlor: In a newspaper report on this, the wording is "They leave hospital unescorted to go shopping or visit friends, on the sole leave of the psychiatrist."

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I do not know to which incident the hon. member is referring. Is he referring to the temporary absence programme?

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, under section 15 of The Mental Health Act. It is an accusation made by the criminal lawyers in the bar of the city of Toronto that this is a practice or procedure that has taken place and does take place.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: If the hon. member will send me that statement, I would be glad to study it. I think there is probably some confusion as to those who come out of our institutions and out of some other hospitals not under my jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York Centre.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Highways: will the GO transit system to Richmond Hill and communities north to Toronto, which was announced last fall, commence in July as anticipated at that time?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, I know the hon. member is very anxious to get an answer. The only thing that I can tell the House is that to date we are proceeding as expected, and providing all things turn out as we expect they will, I think the service will be in operation at that time, or closely thereafter.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Brantford.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. In view of the persistence of unemployment or under-employment in the farm equipment manufacturing industry in Ontario, what steps are being taken by his department, or what steps does his department intend to take, to alleviate this particular situation?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the layoffs in the farm equipment companies, particularly Massey-Ferguson, are on a temporary basis, and in those instances we do not take steps for retraining. Where there are permanent closedowns we attempt to assist Canada manpower by providing retraining where it is feasible.

Mr. Makarchuk: By way of supplementary question, is the minister aware that these so-called temporary layoffs have gone back as far as July of last year and there are no prospects of the people being rehired? How temporary can you be?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I am aware that the temporary layoffs have been protracted, but I think the other part of the statement that there is no possibility of re-employment is not correct.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Welland South.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Just a long holiday!

Hon. Mr. Bales: Right, it is.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): A question to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management: with the continued offshore drilling in Lake Erie and the continued objections of certain state governments in the United States, such as New York State and Ohio which are opposed to offshore drilling on the American side as well as the Canadian side for reasons of possible pollution from the blow out of oil wells and the blow out of gas wells and damage to the pipeline insulation, is it the policy of this government that the companies holding the oil and gas lease should bear the total costs for removal of the pollution?

Second, in any case of negligence by the parties involved would this government be placed in a position of being sued for damages by any state government or by the United States government or by municipalities for the damage incurred by pollution, which could cost the province millions of dollars?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows the International Joint Commission has been studying this whole problem of drilling in the Great Lakes. It is expected that within a matter of a few weeks the commission will make recommendations as a result of a number of hearings that have been held in the various states and in Ontario.

Now the hon. member also knows that the only drilling in Ontario is in Lake Erie and this is strictly for gas. We do not allow any drilling for oil.

As far as the companies are concerned, if Ontario was ever sued by a state government, as a result of oil, for example, leaking from this operation, certainly the companies involved would be liable; if of course damages could be established by a state government or by individuals.

I am afraid I did not get the hon. member's first question, Mr. Speaker, I could not hear him.

Mr. Haggerty: Is it the policy of the government that the companies holding the oil and gas lease should bear the total cost for removal of the pollution?

Mr. Speaker: This is very interesting, because that would be a quick and proper question and the member had a very large preamble to it, which was not proper. He has now asked the question properly.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, Mr. Speaker, certainly if the company is responsible for causing the damage, for causing the pollution, it would be liable in damages, for the cost of cleaning it up for example, or whatever adverse effect it might have.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question?

Mr. Haggerty: A supplementary question: the minister did mention that they are only drilling for gas, but I am sure he is aware that they have hit oil too, have they not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I am informed that in some of the drilling operations the companies feel that there are oil resources there, but they have not been allowed to tap the resources to find whether in fact it is of any quantity.

As the hon. member knows, when you are drilling for gas, there is a possibility of some oil. But certainly in all these drilling operations the utmost safety precautions are taken. There has been no problem that I am aware of from oil spillage from any of these drilling operations in Lake Erie.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Are the hospitals under OHSC disposing of their garbage in recognized waste disposal areas recommended by the minister's waste disposal branch?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Is that question in order?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am going to wait for the Speaker to rule on it.

Mr. Burr: It is in order!

Mr. Speaker: Certainly it is not a question of very urgent public importance and it is one that might well be directed by the minister to the order paper, but the Speaker has no control over that. That is up to the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is obviously ahead of me, because he knows some hospital, somewhere, that is not complying with our regulations, so all I can say is they are supposed to.

As far as the disposal of their waste is concerned, I am not aware that they are not complying with our laws.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Leader of the Opposition a supplementary? The Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Education.

Can he explain the gross error in judgment which led to the overconstruction of the Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology at Kirkland Lake, which was referred to in this morning's *Globe and Mail*?

And Mr. Speaker, since you like the questtions put at one time, would the minister consider using the facilities that are presently not in use for extending Indian education in northern Ontario, in view of the fact that some of these facilities in southern Ontario are being closed down?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, leaving out the editorial comment which formed part of the question—

Mr. Nixon: What is the editorial comment?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: All the member's statements of fact, which are completely against the rules.

Mr. Bullbrook: He does not need the Prime Minister's help. He is a big boy now.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The hon. Leader of the Opposition does not need the member's help either.

Mr. Speaker: May I just interrupt to say that the members are doing particularly well this week. We are not perfect. We are ever so much better than we have been.

I hope that, little by little, the members will be able to follow the rules more carefully; I shall, perhaps, be a little stiffer.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I will try to answer in a way that will also entitle me to good conduct behaviour on Friday at one o'clock in a nonprovocative way.

One must trace the history of this a little bit, Mr. Speaker, in endeavouring to answer it. The institution referred to in the article in this morning's leading Metro morning newspaper was the Kirkland Lake campus of the Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology.

Mr. Speaker, it had its origin as the Northern Ontario Institute of Technology, which was developed out of a facility that was constructed—if memory serves me correctly—around 1962. This construction provided for, I think, a student enrolment of some 200 students initially. It was in the following year, or year and a half, that the institute of technology, which was then completely under the jurisdiction of the department, made arrangement with, I believe, the Kirkland Lake school board, to move another 200 or 250 students into one of the schools in that community.

It was felt that as it was at that point, shall we say, the only institute of technology for northern Ontario, it would be wise to develop a further facility to accommodate an increasing number of students.

This decision was made, Mr. Speaker, as I recall, some time in early 1964, to go ahead with the Northern Ontario Institute of Technology, planned for between 700 and 800 students.

After that, Mr. Speaker, the government moved into the programme of colleges of

applied arts and technology and the Kirkland Lake campus, or the Kirkland Lake institute of technology, became part of the Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology, along with the Haileybury Institute of Mines, and together with a new satellite campus in Timmins.

When this was done, Mr. Speaker, there was also developed Cambrian College, with facilities at Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury and also in North Bay. There are presently accommodated, Mr. Speaker, at the Cambrian College and—I cannot divide it up for you today on individual campuses—some 1,828 full-time students, some 160 apprentices, and I believe somewhere in the neighbourhood of 1,573 students under the manpower programme, or something in excess of around 3,000 to 3,200 full time students.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): How is the Minister's memory?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Pretty good; that is without notes.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Now Mr. Speaker, the department was faced, as were the boards in that area, with a decision whether or not to move these facilities where they would have greater access to a larger number of people.

I think it is quite obvious that if we did not have the technology programme, say, available now in Sudbury and in Sault Ste. Marie and perhaps in North Bay, that there would be no problem in filling up the total complement at Kirkland Lake. Although, very frankly, Mr. Speaker, I think this would have led to some fairly substantial residential facilities.

So, Mr. Speaker, we moved ahead, and the boards really took much of the initiative to provide the facilities in the Soo, in Sudbury, and in North Bay, because we knew we could accommodate—or they could—a substantially increased number of students. We also face, Mr. Speaker, something of an excess of student population, or student places rather, at Haileybury.

Our own estimates and those of the board would indicate—and I have not the information at hand with respect to Haileybury—that Kirkland Lake will probably reach full capacity by 1971 or 1975. We have been exploring, as has the board, and certainly, if there are any ideas as to how we might utilize this excess capacity on a short term, we are quite prepared to take a look at it.

Mr. Nixon: Might I ask further: when the minister says he might reach full capacity by 1974 or 1975, does he mean the 800 that will be accommodated, or the 1,600 for which the labs were constructed and planned?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, the capacity there is for 800 students. This is an approximate figure. This does not include part time or extension students.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary?

Mr. Nixon: Might I ask a supplementary question of the minister? Is he aware of the changing emphasis in Indian education in the province and is he prepared to make these facilities available to the Indian community for the time that they will be sitting there without being used between now and 1975?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, not only are we aware, I hope we have been somewhat involved in the changing emphasis with respect to Indian education. Certainly if matters move along in discussions with the federal authorities in the field of education we are quite prepared to look at the use of any facility that can be done educationally and economically to assist in the education of Indian people.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, if you will permit. I feel that the answer, with all respect, was too glib.

Is the minister aware that his colleague, the minister of welfare, indicated yesterday that he was not even aware that the Mohawk Institute was going to be closed down? How can you say you are aware f it?

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. leader can ask a supplementary question.

Mr. Nixon: My supplementary question is, how can the minister say he is aware of the problem?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, if I recall the supplementary question, I think it was phrased, "was the Minister aware of the changes taking place with respect to Indian education?"

Now, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. Leader of of Opposition would be more specific and refer to a specific change. I am referring to—

Mr. Nixon: Mohawk Institute is closing.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I am referring to changes and discussions that are taking place as to whose responsibility it might eventually be for Indian education in this province. These are the changes I am referring to.

If the hon. member is referring to something more specific, I would be quite prepared to discuss it with him, but with respect, he did not.

Mr. Nixon: The closing of the Mohawk Institute.

Hon. Mr. Davis: That was yesterday.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Scarborough East a supplementary?

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question? What does the minister mean when he says, "that was yesterday"?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. leader I think has pursued the matter far enough.

The member for Scarborough East has a supplementary?

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): A supplementary, if my leader is finished, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East has the floor.

Mr. T. Reid: Does the Minister of Education intend to allow a teaching ratio of five students to one teacher to continue until 1974 at Kirkland Lake, or does he intend to do something about it?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, we are not prepared to let the ratio maintain if there is not the anticipated growth.

I think it should be pointed out also, Mr. Speaker, that Kirkland Lake is in a state of emergence, as we call it, as are several other post-secondary institutions, where, if one were to calculate the student-teacher ratio compared to existing or larger institutions, one would find the same differential. I think it is quite obvious that that will not be maintained on the long-term basis. But if one can project a degree of growth whereby that ratio, say in 1972 is 10 or 12 to one, then you go through this period of the development of faculty and this can be applied to every post-secondary institution in this province, including some of our universities.

Mr. T. Reid: A supplementary question arising—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member may ask one further supplementary.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, in view of the statement by the minister that this is an emerging institution—

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member will ask the minister a question.

The minister knows what he has said. All the member does is ask the question.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I will ask a proper question.

Did the minister's department approve a $5,000 a month computer which is now being installed in an "emerging" institution and, if so, is that not rather stupid?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, leaving aside once again the editorial comment. As with other post-secondary institutions, and as well with high schools, it is the basic policy of this department, and I am sure the hon. members from the north will concur—and perhaps we will hear from the member for Cochrane South (Mr. Ferrier)—that we endeavour to provide the same facilities, the same degree of educational opportunity, no matter where the institution or the student happens to be located.

Mr. Lewis: Those southern Ontario types do not understand that.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, if we really believe in providing equality of educational opportunity for young people in northern Ontario—if we believe this, and I would like to think the members opposite do believe this—then, very frankly, Mr. Speaker, we have to be prepared to pay some premium for this.

Mr. Lewis: How much was paid?

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Peterborough a supplementary?

Mr. Pitman: If I might ask a nonprovocative question.

Mr. Speaker: Is this a supplementary?

Mr. Pitman: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member may ask a supplementary question.

Mr. Pitman: It is a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, with no editorial comment.

I wonder if the minister would indicate whether in the planning of these colleges in the north there was some projection of enrolment for each of these colleges and why this projection apparently went off the track?

And, was there some degree of co-operation and co-ordination with the industries and with the employees in that area, and what their roles were?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I thought I had explained this to a degree. The initial plan was to have the Kirkland Lake Institute of Technology, then the Northern Institute of Technology, to be, shall we say, the single institute for technology to serve northern Ontario, and this goes back nearly 10 years.

During that period of time, Mr. Speaker, with the pace of change in the field of education and the very enlightened approach taken by this government, certain other policies were introduced. In order to provide the type of educational service that is essential for today's graduates from our high schools, we moved into the community college programme. This meant the establishment of campuses at Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, North Bay, Timmins, Lakehead and what have-you; so without any question we are in this manner serving substantially more students in a more economical fashion.

I am sure the member for Peterborough, really, basically supports this with enthusiasm.

Mr. Pitman: Would the minister encourage his colleague, the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall), to do something about the economy of the north, so the—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Is he running for the leadership too?

Mr. MacDonald: That is not worthy of the minister.

Mr. Speaker: There have been sufficient supplementaries on this question.

The member for Peel South has the floor.

Mr. R. D. Kennedy (Peel South): A question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Will the minister amend The Assessment Act to permit relief to residential properties which, through reassessment, will be subjected to unreasonable tax increases?

Mr. Nixon: Trouble in Mississauga!

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet perhaps you would allow me to draw attention to the—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I suppose, Mr. Speaker, if you pay $50 a head, or $100 a head, or whatever it was, some of the mellowness spills over into the next day. Is that the problem over there?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is on his feet for the purpose of answering a specific question.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Right!

Mr. Speaker: I would ask that he answer the question and at the appropriate time he can introduce the report which he has there.

Mr. McKeough: I was trying to save the time of the House, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Stokes: Does he not think his picture is superfluous in this booklet?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the member for Peel South, I would simply say this is one of the suggestions which we have under consideration, in terms of possible amendment to either The Assessment Act or The Municipal Act, to cope with some of the more difficult situations which have been brought to our attention as a result of the re-assessment in Mississauga by the county of Peel, which was completed last year.

I think members will realize that many of these assessments are still before the courts of revision. The courts of revision have, in fact, been making some alterations in the assessment. I would not want—

Mr. Lawlor: Not much; reduced from $38,000 to $36,000!

Hon. Mr. McKeough: —I would not want to comment to any extent on the equity or otherwise of the assessments made while these matters are still before the courts of revision. I am sure my friend, the member for Lakeshore, would agree with the propriety of the position which I am taking.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): *Sub judice*!

Hon. Mr. McKeough: *Sub judice*, right!

The particular problem, I think, in Mississauga is not—and I think members would be interested in knowing this, because members opposite during the debate on the new assessments, talked at considerable length about the situation in Ajax, the leader of the New Democratic Party in particular. As I recall—the situation is not entirely similar. There is somewhat of a shift in Mississauga.

On the other hand, the figures which have been provided to us would indicate that something in the neighbourhood of 60 per cent of the residential properties or the residential units, will either pay the same amount of tax, based on last year's levy, or

will actually experience a reduction in taxes. The particular problem is that there are some substantial increases in tax in the remaining 40 per cent.

Whether these, under the assessing procedures, are entirely correct or not, I am obviously not prepared or equipped to say. I think the courts will have a look at this particular situation.

What is of concern of course, is that there are a number of people on somewhat large lots whose taxes have risen somewhat dramatically. This is a shift within a class, rather than a shift from a class to a class. This is a problem of concern to us.

The suggestion which the hon. member is making I think, as I have said, is one of the suggestions which I have under consideration. Fortunately, we have some time to consider this.

The interim tax bill, of course, has gone out in Mississauga, as it has in York county, where there are also some difficulties. There are also some difficulties in that part of Waterloo county which was reassessed last year. Some of them go back longer than last year, I might say, in Waterloo county, arising from court decisions. Some of the members will be aware of the effect of some of those court decisions.

We have some time, particularly in Mississauga, because the final tax bill or the tax bill will not go out until some time in June. The levy does not have to be struck until then.

I would expect and I assure the member who has asked the question that, well prior to that time, we will be bringing forth reasoned policies, perhaps legislation, in an attempt to ameliorate some rather difficult situations which have come to light in Mississauga.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has a supplementary?

Mr. Shulman: In view of the fact that the interim tax bills have gone out in Mississauga and some dozens of people are unable to pay, those people on pensions, can the minister take any immediate action? Otherwise these people are being forced to put their homes up for sale.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member's question is merely: in Mississauga is the Minister able to take some immediate action?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I do not contemplate any immediate action. By "immediate action" I suppose the member means today or tomorrow.

What we are talking about is probably some legislative changes, some of which might well be implemented, as the member has suggested, by the municipality itself. I think until we have had the results of certain studies which we are undertaking and particular printouts of exactly what has happened, it would be unwise to precipitously take action at this time.

I have full sympathy for some of the people who feel they are unable to pay their interim levy, which is something more than half of last year's levy.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary?

The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Municipal Affairs a question. Did the minister receive a copy of a letter from one Wessel Gall, a councillor in the town of Burlington, in which he stated that it was his opinion from having appeared before the Steele commission that they did not write the Hamilton-Burlington-Wentworth report on regional government? If he did receive it, as was reported in the newspaper, what action has he taken to either investigate the allegation or to set the councillor straight as to the facts?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I received a letter from Alderman Gall of that great municipality of Burlington yesterday — councillor, councillor Gall of Burlington yesterday. I have not as yet replied to it, I must say that I would look with—

Mr. MacDonald: Careful, careful.

Mr. Pitman: Careful, take it easy.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I am afraid I cannot take very seriously the suggestion that three commissioners, eminent people appointed by this government, would not in fact have written the report.

Whether they actually took pencil to paper and wrote the report—and I was not clear from the letter whether that is what Mr. Gall meant or not—whether they actually took pencil to paper, I think there is no question that the report itself represents their conclusions and their thinking.

Mr. Deans: May I ask, by way of supplementary question, whether the minister intends to make public this statement, other than in this particular media, in order that

it will be made clear to the citizens of Burlington, in the same fashion that councillor Gall made his opinion clear?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I will be replying to councillor Gall, and if it is his desire to release what I say to him to the press that is his privilege. I do not normally distribute my correspondence to the press.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Is the minister aware of the situation in the villages of Rosseau and Embrun where, according to the newspapers, the residents are drinking their own sewage?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I read the same newspaper report. I think the hon. member exaggerated the conclusions of that report a little bit. There is some indication that wells are contaminated, and the local medical officer of health of course is investigating it. However, I did see the report and I have asked for an OWRC report to be made to me.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question? Can the minister explain the relationship between the local health unit and the local director of health and OWRC?

Mr. Speaker: This question is not supplementary to the original question and it really is not a question for the oral question period.

The Minister of Correctional Services, I believe, has the reply to a question asked earlier.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Perhaps I could clear that up.

The hon. member for Lakeshore made reference to a report in the Toronto *Daily Star*—I do not see the date, the hon. member will know when he clipped it—and he asked if it was the practice, I believe the question was whether it was the practice for institutions in my care to allow a prisoner out into the community without psychiatric supervision. Is that the question, I take it?

Mr. Lawlor: Well, no; I asked if those committed were subject to a medical examination.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well there is nothing here really, Mr. Speaker, as I read it. I have read the whole article in the paper and it makes no reference at all to any of the inmates of any of the jails being allowed to go out of the institutions under such circumstances. I think the hon. member is confusing the practice which apparently might be in existence in some of the mental institutions where some psychiatrists may, according to this article, under some circumstances allow someone in their care to be free for a few days. But that has nothing to do, sir, with my department or any of its institutions.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member a supplementary question?

Mr. Lawlor: The minister disagrees with what Dr. Gray has to say as to releasing people who have been remanded into his care?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I made the point that Dr. Gray did not say released from our institutions.

Mr. Speaker: I think the minister has set it out properly; and if the member has indication that it is an institution under the minister's care then that can be the subject of either another question or some other action.

The member for Wellington South.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Correctional Services. Is the minister aware of a statement made by Dr. Amodeo of Kingston Penitentiary into the death of a prisoner yesterday to the effect that there was lack of co-operation in the transfer of medical records from provincial authorities to federal authorities?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I read that in this morning's paper. I just happen to have some information which I asked my staff to get on this matter. We are naturally concerned about the statements attributed to Dr. Amodeo and certainly we will look into the matter.

However, I should point out that in the case of the particular inmate referred to, officials of my department, having looked into the matter, have apprised me of the following facts.

On admittance to the Metropolitan Toronto jail, the jail physician examined this man and noted that his biological condition was satisfactory but that he displayed symptoms of "Speed" withdrawal. He was kept under observation for four days in the psychiatric assessment wing without incident.

While he was accommodated in this wing, Dr. Gary Prince, psychiatrist, held an informal

conversation with this inmate and observed nothing unusual, nor did he make any recommendations as to medical treatment. Psychiatric nurses supervising the hospital area noted nothing unusual about this inmate's condition or behaviour. In fact, no problems were encountered in this four-day period and he was transferred to a corridor. Once again, his actions on the corridor were normal.

This man appeared to have been a first offender insofar as indictable offences are concerned, as there are no department files on him prior to this incarceration. In addition, there are no records, official documents or information available at the jail to indicate that this man was an arsonist or was suspected to be suffering from this condition.

At no time did the courts or the jail physician order this man to undergo a mental examination.

As noted previously, this man experienced no illness while incarcerated at the jail, and no medication was prescribed.

I am informed that it has been the policy of this jail for some time to forward medical information, that is recent illnesses, prescribed medication, special problems and so on, to federal correctional authorities when inmates are transferred to their custody. In this inmate's case, since no medical problems were encountered during his brief incarceration in the Toronto jail—a period of 12 days—there was no information of this nature to be forwarded.

But as I have already indicated, in view of the press reports of Dr. Amodeo's alleged statement, I shall enquire further into the matter of transfer of medical records from provincial to federal institutions.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South. Did the member for York South wish the floor? He was on his feet.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Has the minister received representations from a number of organizations in St. Catharines protesting the establishment of a garbage dump in a residential area; and if so what steps can or will he take; and if the minister can take no steps, what avenues of review are open to the citizens' groups?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I have, within the last several days, received a number of letters—perhaps 10 in all I suppose—from the St. Catharines area concerning the matter which the member has mentioned. I have asked for a report from the staff, which I do not have at this moment in time.

My guess would be that when we do write back to them we will be referring them to my colleague, the Minister of Energy and Resources Management rather than me. It is a matter of waste disposal.

I think there may be some possibilities under The Planning Act, but so far as I know this was an area which was not zoned I suppose; or the zoning would not preclude this type of facility being established in that particular area. I am sorry I cannot be more helpful to the member; I expect to have a report within the next few days and I will get it to him.

Mr. MacDonald: I appreciate getting the fuller report, but may I ask the minister, does specific permission have to be secured from either his department or The Department of Energy and Resources Management for the establishment of a waste disposal area such as a garbage dump?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Not from my department. The only connection that we have, and I think the member will recall, is that we amended The Metropolitan Toronto Act, first of all, and then we amended The Municipal Act, to allow municipalities to establish sanitary land fill sites or dumps outside their municipal boundaries. If there was not agreement with that municipality, then the matter could be referred to the Ontario Municipal Board for decision. I think probably, subject to what my staff tell me, that would be our only connection.

In this particular instance, as I understand it, it is within the new city of St. Catharines. So I suppose I have no involvement, then, under that section of The Municipal Act which I just mentioned.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Lands and Forests has the answer to a question placed by the member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, the question of the member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. B. Newman) was: "Does The Department of Lands and Forests use defoliants in its projects?" The answer, Mr. Speaker, is yes, the department does use defoliants or herbicides, as they are better known, to release valuable young pine and spruce trees from the crowding and overhead shading of brush and undesirable broad-leaved trees. The principal herbicide used is 2, 4-D, which as members know, is the chemical which has been used

for many years to control dandelions and other weeds in lawns.

Other departmental uses of herbicides classed as defoliants include the use of 2, 4, 5-T and aminotriazole to kill poison ivy around camping and hiking areas in provincial parks, and for killing wild currant and gooseberry bushes in those areas where it is necessary to control the blister rust on white pine.

Returning to our major use of defoliants, that is, in aiding the survival and growth of seedling pine and spruce, the work started on an experimental-operational scale in the mid-fifties. It has gradually increased over the years until it now totals about 30,000 acres per year, applied by commercial aircraft under contract, and is regarded as one of the most significant developments in silviculture to date. The treated areas are scattered across northern Ontario in relatively small acreages.

The application rate, of course, must be kept low—1.5 lb. active ingredient per acre—just sufficient to defoliate most of the brush without injuring the pine and spruce.

In addition, we have found that in most cases only one treatment is necessary in the life of a stand of trees in order to achieve the desired effect.

The foregoing factors mean that unlike the much more stringent requirements of weed, brush, and tree control on power and road right-of-ways, areas sprayed by the department are not markedly changed in general appearance. It has also been our experience that the degree of brush kill does not result in an increased fire hazard.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Is the minister aware that the World Health Organization study made at the request of the United Nations concludes that there is serious possibility that defoliants may cause severe defects in the development of human foetus?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, Mr. Speaker, I was not aware of it. However, I would be glad to look into it.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask another supplementary?

Mr. Speaker: This completes the oral question period.

Mr. B. Newman: It is a very short one.

Mr. Speaker: I regret the time has expired.

Petitions.

The following petitions were presented:

Of the corporation of the city of Sault Ste. Marie praying than an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass auto noise bylaws and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the city of Kitchener praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass bylaws for Christmas lighting on certain streets.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Perhaps this might be an appropriate time, if the Minister of Municipal Affairs wishes to present his annual directory. It is not a report but I think the members would be glad to receive it.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I simply draw attention, for purposes of the record and the information of members of the House, to the tabling of the 1970 municipal directory. I think contained therein is a word of appreciation to the municipal officials from whom we collect the information, which of course is of great value both to them and to all government departments. We are grateful for their co-operation. There is some new information contained in it this year, and I commend it to the members' reading.

Mr. Pitman: What information is new?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: What is new?

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Mrs. Pritchard, from the select committee to prepare the lists of members to compose the standing committees of the House, presented the committee's second report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee recommends that the standing regulations committee, ordered by chapter 110, Statutes of Ontario, 1968-1969, be composed of the following members: Messrs. Allan, Apps, Ben, Bullbrook, Demers, DeMonte, Henderson, Hodgson (York North), Johnston (Carleton), Peacock, Price, Renwick (Riverdale), Winkler—13. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: May I just interrupt the member long enough to tell him that normally

government bills have precedence and I normally make sure there are none from the treasury benches.

The hon. member for Scarborough East has the floor.

THE SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION ACT

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Schools Administration Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, clause k of subseciton 2 of section 22 of The Schools Administration Act, which authorized the principal to suspend pupils from the school, is reenacted to strike out those parts of the clause which can be used to threaten pupils with the loss of their freedom of speech and freedom of association which other residents of Ontario have.

The bill adds other grounds for pupils' suspension, more suitable to a school in a democratic society, and provides for written notification of the parents or guardians of a suspended pupil, and for "due process" in the appeal procedures to the school board concerned.

THE SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION ACT

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Schools Administration Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is that it provides for the establishment of a school council in every elementary and secondary school. It will allow teachers, pupils and parents in every school to meet to discuss administrative procedures and the academic development in every school.

THE EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ACT, 1968

Mr. Davison moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Employment Standards Act, 1968.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton Centre): Mr. Speaker, the principle in this bill is to move the minimum wage up to $2.50 an hour.

THE JUDICATURE ACT

Mr. Breithaupt moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): Mr. Speaker, this bill proposes to resolve the problems of divorce courts within the province in that it would allow the local judge of the superior court, who would be the county court judge, to hear uncontested divorces brought within his county.

THE MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL TAX CREDIT ASSISTANCE ACT, 1967

Mr. Stokes moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Municipal and School Tax Credit Assistance Act, 1967.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Stokes: Mr. Speaker, the bill removes the obligation to repay tax credits allowed under the Act.

Mr. Speaker: I will ask the clerk to keep that particular bill until I have had an opportunity to study it and ascertain that it is not one which affects the treasury of the province. If it does then of course it is not a proper bill.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order; resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Mr. Speaker, today I would like to discuss quite briefly, and my speech itself will be a very brief one, three serious problems which have been discussed here in this past week; and which I am going to illustrate by one incredible case which shows what can happen to an individual in this province.

The three problems involve first, the need for an ombudsman in this province; secondly the critical and criminal shortage of professional staff in our mental hospitals, and thirdly the government's fetish of secrecy, in which they refuse to allow documents, which

are not really secret and confidential documents, to be seen by other members of the Legislature.

I am going to try to make this speech as non-partisan as possible, because I think this is not a matter of party politics, it is not a matter of the policy of any of the three parties here, it is a matter of—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Go ahead, be political for once!

Mr. Shulman: I would like to try to be apolitical this time, because this is a matter that I think we will all agree upon.

The man I want to talk about is named Mikilas Gilewicz. This is a man who spent many years in one of our Ontario mental hospitals in error, an error which, unfortunately, no one is willing to do anything about.

This man was born in Poland, in Kuti, on December 14, 1908. He went through public school, took training as a tanner, went to work in a tannery in Kuti and worked there until this last horrible war broke out when he joined the Polish army, in the cavalry.

As members know, shortly after the Germans marched into Poland from the west the Russians marched in from the east. The Polish army was crushed.

Mr. Gilewicz wanted to continue to fight. He did not return to his home, which had been overrun by the Russians; he escaped through Romania, went to France and joined the French army. He fought in the French army on the western front until the Germans overran France, and when his Polish group in the French army was overrun he wanted to continue to fight so he escaped to Switzerland in an effort to get to England.

When he reached Switzerland he was interned by the Swiss. He spent some time in an internment camp. When he was finally released from the internment camp it was no longer possible to get out; Switzerland was then surrounded as Italy had entered the war.

He spent the remainder of the war in Switzerland, working as a labourer in a mill. He had, of course, no Swiss citizenship, he had only Polish citizenship. But he could not return to his home in Poland because Kuti, in the treaty that was made after the war, was no longer part of Poland, it was now part of Russia and his views were such that he did not feel he wished to live under communism.

He applied to immigrate to Canada. He received his visa in 1951 and he migrated to Canada. He went to Ottawa and up and down the seaway to Cornwall and other areas. He spent the next number of years working on the seaway; he worked as a driller, which is a labouring job.

He did not marry. He worked hard, he did not squander his money, he saved everything he could. He hoped to return to Poland to marry, to bring someone out here.

Unfortunately, he did not learn English well. He did not learn English at all at that stage because he spent all his time working. He had no friends who were bilingual.

He managed to save up approximately $14,000, which he put in the bank.

All went reasonably well for him. He had no trouble with his work, he had a good work history, he never was in any trouble with the police. He was never in trouble with anyone until one horrible night in January, 1960, when he had too much to drink.

You must picture this man. He is living alone in a strange country; no family, no recreation to speak of, very little that he could read because of the language problem. In any case, for whatever reason, he went out that night and got drunk. And then his nightmare began, because on his way home to his room he passed several monks in the street.

There is no question he behaved badly, he was drunk. He did not assault them, but he began to yell at them. He said that they had jostled him as he was walking. I think perhaps he had some resentment toward monks from something that might have happened in another country at another time but this is all irrelevant.

In any case, the police were called, he was arrested, he was taken to court and the judge could not understand a word he was saying. First of all he had been drunk; and secondly he did not speak English.

The judge thought he was odd and referred him for a mental examination. He was sent to the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital. He remained there for 10 years.

I am going to tell hon. members shortly what happened to this man in the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital, but I would like to go ahead of it to tell the House how this case happens to be here, and how it developed.

As members may recall, there was considerable investigation into the situation at the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital a little

over a year ago and a number of the patients were transferred from there to other places because, in evidence given to the Royal commission here, it became apparent that they were very overcrowded. Perhaps this is the reason, perhaps this is just a coincidence.

In any case, Mr. Gilewicz was transferred to the St. Lawrence Sanatorium in Cornwall, Ontario. The doctor in charge of the sanatorium was a Dr. Gorecki, who spoke Polish. Dr. Gorecki spoke to him when he entered and apparently this is the first time he had a chance to converse with anyone in authority who understood what he was talking about for some length of time.

Dr. Gorecki very quickly came to the conclusion the man was not mentally ill. Unfortunately, since Gilewicz had been such a lengthy time in an institution, having aged some ten years—he was now 60 odd—Dr. Gorecki was not quite sure what action he should take. So he asked Gilewicz what he would like to do and Mr. Gilewicz said: "Well, I think I have been unfairly treated. Will I get any compensation from the government?" Dr. Gorecki did not think he would.

He said then: "Could I have the $14,000 which I saved up? They took it away from me when I went into the mental hospital. Fourteen thousand dollars is not very much to live on here in Canada, but I could do quite well in Poland with that. Could you arrange for me to return home?"

Dr. Gorecki wrote to the Polish Red Cross in Warsaw asking if they could have someone go to Kuti and see if there were any members of the Gilewicz family left alive after the war. They could not do that because this was in Russia now. But what they did do was broadcast a message over the Polish radio, which apparently is received in the old part of Poland which is now Russia, asking if there were any relatives of Mr. Gilewicz to please contact them, as they wished to make some arrangements to get him out of the situation he was in. In Kuti, a woman, a cousin of Mr. Gilewicz, heard the radio broadcast, but she did not know what to do. Being in Russia, she did not see what action she could take and she wrote a letter to an aunt of Mr. Gilewicz who lived in a town called Olowa, which is still in Poland. It is in the new Poland.

This aunt was very upset, of course, and wanted to help. But, again, she was a lady of modest circumstances and again did not know what to do, but she knew of a man who lived in another Polish town, Obornik, who had a brother living in High Park riding in Toronto.

So this aunt wrote to a Mr. Samborski in Obornik, explaining the circumstances. He wrote to his brother, who lives close to me, goes to my office. This brother, Mr. Samborski, went down to the hospital in Cornwall and spoke to Mr. Gorecki. He found him, as far as he could tell, completely normal and said: "This is ridiculous—you staying here—"

Mr. Speaker: Gorecki is the doctor, I believe?

Mr. Shulman: I beg your pardon.

He spoke to Gilewicz, the patient, and found him completely normal, in his opinion, and asked him to come and live with him until they could make other arrangements. Mr. Gilewicz, of course, was delighted; the hospital discharged him and he came to Mr. Samborski's home where he has remained to this time. Shortly after this occurred, Mr. Samborski and Mr. Gilewicz came to my office and asked if I would apply to the government to see if some compensation could be given to Mr. Gilewicz for what had occurred to him. I explained to Mr. Samborski that there were many people wandering the streets who have been in mental hospitals who say there is nothing wrong with them and we would need a little more proof than his word.

So, I contacted a gentleman who works for The Department of Health, whose name at the moment at least must be protected, and asked him if he would look at the chart of Mr. Gilewicz to see what the real situation was. I explained to him what Gilewicz, Mr. Samborski and Dr. Gorecki had said and he said he would do that.

He called me back shortly after and said: "There is something very odd in this case, because, apparently, no doctor has seen Mr. Gilewicz for at least the past four and one half years, according to the chart."

At that point, I was brought a letter signed by the nursing superintendent at the St. Lawrence Sanatorium and I want to read you the key line in this letter because this really sums it up:

> Mr. Gilewicz is no longer a certified mental patient as it has now been determined his problems arose through a language problem and poor communication.

Then it goes on that he is fine and can do anything he wishes. The letter is dated October 29, 1969.

I found this quite indicative, if not conclusive, and I then wrote to the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) and I think perhaps I should read this correspondence in full, because it is self-explanatory. I wrote to the Minister of Health on November 18, 1969 as follows:

> Dear Mr. Minister:
>
> I am writing to you regarding a Mr. Mikilas Gilewicz, recently released from your mental institution in Cornwall after it was discovered that he had been held in Brockville for ten years in error.
>
> I am sure that you will be surprised when you see his file, but apparently the man was never mentally ill. Your Brockville institution was so short-staffed that no one ever got around to investigating his case until he was transferred to Cornwall last year. The superintendent there, Dr. Gorlecki, came to the conclusion that all of Mr. Gilewicz' troubles had originated from a language problem. Mr. Gilewicz is now being housed by a family at [such and such an address] but he has no financial resources—

At that time I was not aware that he still had some money which was being held for him:

> —and at age 62 he finds it impossible to get work.
>
> I am writing to ask if you will make an effort to get some financial restitution for this man for his many years of improper confinement. Can I have an early answer, because if you do not intend to take any action, I wish to pursue this matter during your estimates?

I may say that when Mr. Gilewicz went into the institution his money was, of course, taken over by the public trustee and this was some 10 years ago.

The money was invested by the public trustee, but it has not grown at all. In fact, it is a little bit less than when he went in, because during all this time The Ontario Department of Health has been charging him. They have been charging at the rate of $2 a day, which has used up the interest earned on his money, plus a little bit.

Well, very quickly, in fact remarkably quickly, I got a reply from the Minister of Health. I had written him on November 18 and I got an answer back on November 20.

> Dear Dr. Shulman:
>
> I have for acknowledgement your letter of November 18 which concerns the case of Mr. Mikilas Gilewicz.
>
> I am advised that the above name was admitted to the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital on two occasions, but I am not in a position to disclose information concerning his illness without Mr. Gilewicz' written consent. I can assure you, however, that the statements which you have made in your letter are unfounded.
>
> If Mr. Gilewicz is in need of assistance in establishing himself in the community, I would suggest that he seek further help from the Queen Street mental health centre.
>
> Cordially yours,
> Thomas Wells.

Well I thought perhaps I should look at the file to see what the circumstances were. Mr. Gilewicz has now come to see me several times, and I am now his doctor, as well as his consultant, and I received a certificate from him, which I will read:

> The Health Department, Queen's Park,
> Toronto, Ontario.
>
> To Whom it May Concern:
>
> It is my wish and with my full consent that Dr. Morton Shulman, MD, be allowed to inspect my file and necessary papers held by the Health Department.
>
> Mikilas Gilewicz.

This is what the Minister of Health requested, I guess, and this is what I did get and a photostat of this was sent to Mr. Wells. I wrote to him on November 28, 1969, as follows:

> Dear Mr. Minister:
> Re: Mr. Mikilas Gilewicz.
>
> Thank you for replying to my letter of November 18. Enclosed please find Mr. Gilewicz's written consent for me to examine his file concerning his illness which you refer to in your letter.
>
> Would you kindly let me know when these files will be available to me.
>
> Your sincerely,
> Morton Shulman.

Well, a month went by and I did not get a reply. So I wrote to the Minister again on December 16.

> Re: Mr. Mikilas Gilewicz:
> Dear Mr. Minister:
>
> When may I expect an answer to my letter of November 28?
>
> Yours sincerely,
> Morton Shulman.

Two days after that, I got a letter back, not from the minister, but from Dr. R. T. Miller,

who was the superintendent of the Brockville Hospital for many years, but who has now been promoted to a higher position within the minister's department.

This letter, unfortunately, is marked "confidential" and so I cannot read it. But in sum it says that the information that I have is incorrect and that Mr. Gilewicz was mentally ill at the time that he was admitted and that he was treated accordingly, and it outlines the treatment which he received.

After receiving this letter, I called my doctor again—the doctor who had looked at the file originally—I read him this letter and he said the facts in the file did not correspond with the facts in the letter. So, I thought it would be best if I saw the file myself, so I wrote back to Dr. Miller as follows, on December 23:

Dear Dr. Miller:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 12. I am anxious to see the file of Mr. Gilewicz and would like to come to Brockville for that purpose, as well as to see the hospital. Because of my medical appointments during the week, I wonder if it would be possible to arrange this visit on a weekend.

Thank you for your attention,
Yours sincerely.

Well, Dr. Miller did not answer my letter, but I got a letter back from a Mr. R. D. Goodbun, who is the hospital administrator at Brockville, which reads as follows; and this is dated January 9.

Dear Dr. Shulman:

In reply to your letter of December 23, 1969, I regret that I am unable to authorize that you be permitted to see the file of Mr. Gilewicz.

He goes on about making arrangements to visit the hospital. He says to have prior notice, but that is another argument. And it is signed Mr. R. D. Goodbun. That is the only comment he makes about the file.

I then wrote the Minister of Health, as follows. I wrote to him on January 12, 1970, and I will read the letter.

Re: Mikilas Gilwicz.

Dear Mr. Minister:

You will recall that I wrote to you on November 18, 1969, about a Mr. Mikilas Gilewicz. At that time I had received certain evidence that Mr. Gilewicz had been held in one of your institutions for some years in error. On November 20, you replied stating that my facts were incorrect and offering to disclose information about this gentleman's illness with his written consent.

On November 28, 1969, I sent you written consent from Mr. Gilewicz for me to examine his file.

On December 12, 1969, I received a letter from your Dr. R. T. Miller outlining the facts regarding Mr. Gilewicz which were in direct contrast to my earlier information.

On December 23, I wrote to Dr. Miller saying that I wished to come to Brockville to see Mr. Gilewicz's file.

Today, I received a letter from your Mr. R. D. Goodbun, stating that I will not be permitted to see the file. Mr. Minister, surely if your department has nothing to hide there is no need to conceal the file.

In order to give the department all possible leeway I have let these many weeks go by. I am now writing to you personally to request permission to see this file. I am writing in my position as Mr. Gilewicz's doctor, his MPP and the health critic for my party.

Yours sincerely,
Morton Shulman

I received a letter back a week later from the Minister of Health which reads as follows:

January 19, 1970.

Dear Dr. Shulman:

Thank you for your letter of January 12, 1970. It is not our policy or practice to allow anyone, other than officers of the department and staff of the hospitals directly concerned with the care and treatment of patients, to have access to patient records.

It is my understanding that the hospital has provided essential information concerning the care and treatment of Mr. Mikolas Gilewicz. I am sure that the hospital will be as helpful as possible in responding to a further request indicating the specific information which you would like to obtain.

Yours sincerely,
Thomas L. Wells.

Well now, this line "it is not our policy to allow anyone, other than officers of the department and staff directly concerned to have access to patient records" I knew from past practice with previous patients that I had in other mental hospitals this was not correct.

However, I thought perhaps the policy had changed with the new minister, so I phoned. Actually, first I went to Penetang, and at Penetang, in the company of my assistant, I

spoke to Dr. R. Colthard; the Penetang hospital is, of course, under the same minister. I said to Dr. Colthard, "If I had a patient who was previously in this hospital, may I come and see his file with his consent." He said, "Of course, it is our policy always to allow the doctor to see the file".

I then phoned Dr. Gunn, on January 28, at the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital—he is the superintendent of that hospital—and I asked him the same question. He said, "Of course, you can come down at any time. As long as you bring the patient's permission you may see the file."

Well I was now aware that this was not really the policy and that the statement that the Minister of Health had laid out as policy, at least was not followed in all of his departments.

I wrote back to the minister on January 21, as follows:

Dear Mr. Minister:

Thank you for your letter of January 19.

Surely there is a misunderstanding, as there is no general hospital in this province which refuses access to a patient's record to that patient's physician. The reason that I wish to see the record is that I have statements from one of your physicians and from one of your nurses stating that the facts as given by the hospital are not correct.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): The member was not asking for those records in his capacity as a physician, but as an ombudsman—as a lawyer.

Mr. Shulman: I was asking for those records in my position as his physician.

Mr. Ben: The member was not. It is obvious that he was misleading the hospital.

Mr. Shulman: First of all, let me say that there is no thought of instituting any lawsuit and there will be no lawsuit.

Mr. Ben: Oh, come on! The member was misleading them because he did not need to treat the patient—he was not ill.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The hon. member for Humber—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): He asked in three different capacities. It was perfectly justified.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

The hon. member for Humber in due course will have, in this debate, the opportunity of stating his views on the matter.

Mr. Shulman: Well, just to straighten this matter out, Mr. Speaker, there is a certain justice to what the member for Humber says. He is partially correct.

I would be the last one to disagree with him on this point. But, really, the essential point, in my mind then and now was, has the man been mistreated?

He is my patient, there is no question on that score. I am asking on his behalf, but I am certainly not acting as his solicitor. No one is going to sue anyone. This is not what we are seeking here.

What I wanted to find out was, was he mentally ill? We know now he is not mentally ill. Was he properly treated? And if he was not properly treated, then I want to be able to point that out to the Minister of Health and to the government so the man can get justice.

I do not disagree with the member for Humber. Perhaps he is right. Perhaps I was acting as an ombudsman. I will not argue with that.

Mr. Ben: All right. I will agree with that.

Mr. MacDonald: The Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) says that is the role of the MPP.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: To continue with the letter—This is the letter that I wrote to Mr. Wells on January 21, 1970:

The reason that I wish to see the record is that I have statements from one of your physicians and from one of your nurses saying that the facts as given by the hospital are not correct.

For one final time I am requesting permission to see Mr. Gilewicz's records. If you persist in your refusal I must come to the conclusion that you and the hospital have something, indeed, to hide, and I shall present the facts to the Legislature.

Yours sincerely.

Well, I got a reply from the Minister of Health and he finally agreed to let me see the records. The letter reads as follows:

February 5, 1970.

Well, actually, I do not think it adds anything to read the letter but he agrees to let me see the records and he says I can see them at my convenience.

After seeing the records—and I did see the records—I spent some time going over them—I could understand the reluctance of the hospital to let me see those records. They are quite a shock, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Gilewicz was admitted, according to the records, on February 12, 1960. The first conference of medical staff that was held to discuss his case was on April 12, 1960. This was a conference of the medical staff and I want to quote from the statement in that conference:

> It is impossible to find any evidence of delusional thinking at present.
>
> April 12, 1960.

On January 6, 1961, in the medical file of Mr. Gilewicz, there is a note: "There is a language difficulty." On July 4, 1962, there is a note: "Mr. Gilewicz is to be transferred to the residential unit."

On April 22, 1964, there is a note, with no reason being given: "Mr. Gilewicz is to be re-admitted to the hospital." But on May 7, 1964, two weeks later, there is a certificate of mental illness, signed by two doctors. I want you to note that date—May 7, 1964.

One of the doctors, Mr. McDougall, says:

> An elderly male, tidy, very slow thinking, and has difficulty in understanding and answering questions.

Now that is all that is put down from his examination of Mr. Gilewicz, but further down the sheet there is an area—"Have you been told anything by anyone else?" And further down the sheet under what other people have told him is a note: "Others say that he thought the water was poisoned in the hospital". Now that is May 7, 1964.

On the same date, on the same chart, is a note by another doctor, Dr. Hoogenrod, which reads:

> This patient has lost his paranoidal delusions about being poisoned.

The very same day that he was certified.

Mr. Ben: What did the other doctor do? Were there two doctors?

Mr. Shulman: No, No. Two doctors signed certificates and then, on the chart, on the same day, below that was a note by a third doctor saying this.

Now the fantastic thing that occurs is from that day until August 28, 1968, there is no evidence whatsoever that any of the medical staff spoke to Mr. Gilewicz. There is no evidence of any medical conference. There is no medical note. There is no psychiatric examination. He sat there for that four and a half years and even on that day he was not seen by a doctor, he was seen by a social worker. The social worker made this note:

> In conjunction with the nursing and occupational therapy staff, all patients on Ward D are being seen in hopes that we may find some resources to help them. Patient was seen today. Interview with Mr. Gilewicz was impossible since he would not talk. Patient spends his time sitting on the ward with his head down.

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): Did anyone know?

Mr. Shulman: I questioned people there and they had tried. Various kinds of people spoke to him. I understand they tried Ukrainian, they tried French — various languages had been tried and he did not respond to any of them. Now we know why, he did not understand any of them. None of the psychiatrist staff or the occupational therapy people, unfortunately, spoke Polish.

Mr. Ben: Since the town he came from, Kuti, is in the Ukraine, could he not understand Ukrainian?

Mr. Shulman: No, it was a Polish-speaking town. It is a Ukrainian-speaking town today, I am afraid, but it was a Polish-speaking town in that day.

Mr. Breithaupt: No flicker of recognition of any language at all?

Mr. Shulman: No. This was August 28, 1968. On October 1, 1968, they transferred him out of the hospital to the residential unit.

On January 13, 1969, as a result of considerable publicity which had occurred here, I presume, he and a number of other patients were transferred from Brockville to the St. Lawrence san in Cornwall. He was seen by a Dr. Gorecki a few days later.

Dr. Gorecki said to me: "As soon as I spoke to him in Polish his face just lit up and he started to talk to me and it all poured out." He said it was obvious he was not mentally ill.

Now whether he ever was, we will never really be able to establish. God knows what the situation was in 1960. From the record I have grave doubts. The fact that throughout that record there are notes on the chart that they could not communicate with him—that he could not understand. The fact that on the very first medical conference which

was held on him, they say there is no evidence of mental illness. The fact that on the very day he was certified in 1964 there was a note on the chart by another doctor saying that the delusion for which they were certifying him was not present—this is very strong evidence.

I do not know what he was like in 1960; we will never establish that. But of one thing I am sure, today he is normal. For the last lengthy time he has been normal, and I would guess it has been a period of some years.

He has been sitting in that hospital because, really and simply, they are so short-staffed that they have not got the time to look into this type of case. What really frightens me about Mr. Gilewicz is how many Mr. Gilewiczs do we have across the province sitting in similar situations in other mental hospitals—

Mr. Ben: The member says he is still in there?

Mr. Shulman: He is out now—how many other Mr. Gilewiczs do we have sitting in there in similar situations when people just are not making any effort to contact them? Where they are sitting there for four and a half years, or more, with no doctor contacting them or speaking to them or having any medical conference? This is what happened to one man, in this province, in one of our mental hospitals.

Well, after seeing the chart I wrote one final letter a month ago to the Minister of Health. I will read that letter:

February 13, 1970.

Hon. Thomas Wells,
Minister of Health.

Dear Mr. Minister:

Thank you for your letter of February 5. Yesterday I had the pleasure of examining the Gilewicz file. It is now quite clear to me that my informant doctor was correct and at least for the past several years Mr. Gilewicz's difficulties continued because he did not speak English.

I would strongly suggest that you have the file re-examined and in particular you should note that on May 7, 1964, Mr. Gilewicz was certified as mentally ill by Dr. John Page, who stated that Gilewicz was having paranoidal delusions about being poisoned.

I found it quite fantastic that in examining the clinical record there was a note on exactly the same day by Dr. Hoogenrod that Mr. Gilewicz "has lost his paranoidal delusions about being poisoned."

You should also note that there are numerous references throughout the years that Mr. Gilewicz had a serious language problem, and I have a letter from the nursing supervisor at the St. Lawrence Sanitarium in which he says "it has now been determined that his problem arose from a language problem and poor communication."

I feel that Mr. Gilewicz deserves some recompense and I hope you will agree with me.

Yours sincerely,
Morton Shulman.

There has been no reply from the minister to that letter.

What is Mr. Gilewicz's situation now? He is living on his money, which he had earned and saved many years before. He is trying to get a job. I tried to get him a job here at the Parliament buildings, but he is too old. I tried to get him a job at a number of other places, but his English is not good enough.

His English has improved considerably since he has been out. The Samborski family have been very good. They have made a great effort and for the many months that he was in the St. Lawrence san, Dr. Gorecki and his staff there made a great effort. His language has improved but it is not good enough to handle many jobs, and he is too old to get an ordinary job. He is too old to be a labourer any more. He has tried everywhere, but he has not been able to get a job.

He came to me yesterday and he said, "I would like to stay here in Canada. I have the $13,000 which is left, but it will not last long in this country because costs are so high. If I can get a job or if I can get a pension, I would like to spend my life here—what is left of it, but if I cannot I am going to return to Poland where this money will last much longer. It will go a long way and I can live on it for the rest of my life."

That is the situation. I am not indicting anyone. This Minister of Health was not around when this happened. It is not his fault. It is not the government's fault, it is the fault of the system. But here, surely, surely we owe a debt to this man to see that he receives some compensation? He should receive some pension, at the least, so that he can live on in comfort here in this country, in this city.

Further than that, forgetting what Gilewicz is entitled to, and so on, surely it is time that a crash programme went into those mental

institutions? We must divert some of the money that is going into highways, that is going into the other areas, into this particular serious situation, so that this type of thing will never occur again in this province.

There may be no other men like that, but there may be a dozen—who knows? It is impossible for any of us, as individuals, to find out. Many of the members to my right, opposite me and on this side, have visited mental hospitals recently, but we do not know where to start.

You go into a hospital where there are 1,000 patients; how do you know where to begin? There has to be a group go in there and go over each and every patient.

Each and every patient should at least have the right to be seen by a psychiatrist once a year, to have a medical conference where their case is presented once a year, because people do get better and mistakes are made. This is what I am pleading, through you, Mr. Speaker, to the government.

I am sorry the Minister of Health is not here but there are ministers here and I hope they will pass it on to him because this, to me, is not a matter of politics, this is a matter of straight humanitarianism.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): It should be a matter of law.

Mr. Shulman: My colleague in front of me says it is a matter of law that has to be reviewed. Certainly in the case of Mr. Gilewicz it was not done; there was nothing on the chart.

Mr. Lewis: We passed such a law in 1966-67.

Mr. MacDonald: There must be an annual review to avoid someone being detained like a human vegetable.

Mr. Shulman: I want to mention briefly one other case, because it shows why there is such a shortage of staff in these mental hospitals. I do not want to go into great detail with this case. This second man has been badly treated but he can remake his life. He will have a second chance. Gilewicz will not.

This case was mentioned briefly in the Legislature last year, but I now have the full details. The thing that disturbs me about this case is not what was done to this man, although I think that he has been very badly treated, but it is the secrecy that the government relies on and the fact that the suspicion arises that perhaps what they say is in certain documents is not there.

I am referring to Dr. D. C. Hutfield and his case was brought up by the member for Scarborough Centre (Mrs. M. Renwick) in the health estimates last year. Since then I have had some correspondence with the Minister of Health about it.

Dr. Hutfield was a doctor of extremely high qualifications. He is of English extraction. He was practising medicine in England until May of 1969 when an advertisement appeared for a medical officer in the venereal disease control section here in Toronto. He applied to the advertisement; he was interviewed and he was accepted for the job with the expected starting date of July 1, 1969. He received a letter on May 2 from Dr. J. S. Bell, the chief of epidemiology, appointing him to the post.

In the local health services bulletin put out by The Ontario Department of Health of May, 1969, it says, and I quote:

> Dr. David C. Hutfield has been appointed Medical Officer in Charge of Venereal Disease Control. . . . and so on.

And it goes on about his qualifications.

Well when Dr. Hutfield got here, first of all he found he was not appointed the Medical Officer in Charge of Venereal Disease Control; and he found also that there were a number of things, that to his eye as an English physician, appeared very odd and very bad in The Department of Health in this particular section of venereal disease control.

He then made a crucial error; an error which I can understand, looking back, but which I wish he had never made. He wrote a letter of complaint. But being English and not being aware of our political system, he did not make the serious error of sending it to the opposition; but he made almost as serious an error, he sent it to the head of the civil service.

Well the head of the civil service wrote him back and said:

> Because the matters to which you refer lie in the field of departmental administration, I referred your letter to your deputy minister for such action as he deems desirable.

Signed, looks like Anderson; in any case it it the chairman of the Ontario Civil Service Commission. What the deputy deemed desirable was to fire him.

Immediately after Dr. Hutfield received this letter and found that he had written to the wrong place, he then wrote to the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells), explaining his

circumstances and laying out the various complaints which he had. The minister replied to him on November 4 saying:

Dear Dr. Hutfield:

I refer to your letter of November 3 and the discussion you had with Dr. Charron and myself. This correspondence and discussion dealt with your employment in the department. At the end of this discussion, Dr. Charron proposed that a board be established to investigate this matter and I concurred with this suggestion.

Dr. Charron informs me that the board has now been established and will begin its investigations later this week.

Yours sincerely,
Thomas L. Wells, Minister.

Incidentally, at this very same time, dated November 13, 1969, in a letter from Dr. E. J. Trowe, Associate Professor in charge of dermatology at the University of Toronto:

Re: Dr. David Hutfield.

Dr. Hutfield has been in charge of the venereal disease clinic of the Toronto General Hospital for the past three months and there we found that his work was extremely competent. He was interested and obviously very well trained in venerealogy. I have personally met Dr. Hutfield on a couple of occasions and found him to be quite co-operative.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Trowe.

Of course Dr. Hutfield had been sent to the Toronto General by The Department of Health.

Well one week later, Dr. Hutfield received a letter from Dr. Charron, the Deputy Minister of Health, and I quote it:

Dear Dr. Hutfield.

I have received and carefully reviewed the report of the unofficial board of inquiry established to provide objective information on the validity or otherwise of a number of statements and accusations contained in letters written by you to the hon. Thomas Wells, Minister of Health, and the chairman of the civil service commission.

I am satisfied the board gave you a complete and fair hearing. It is apparent from the report that you are not satisfied with your employment in the department and that your attitude continues to be the opinions expressed in this correspondence. The department, as represented by your superiors, is not satisfied with your services and behaviour.

Under the circumstances, I regret to advise that I have to terminate your probationary service with The Ontario Department of Health, effective November 12, 1969. If you decide to resign as of the same date, I shall be pleased to accept your resignation.

Well, all very well. He had a hearing, he had a fair hearing and if the board found against him that is what should happen.

But did the board find against him? Something very strange occurred.

I went to the Minister of Health and I told him I thought an error had been made and would he look into the matter. This was a verbal thing and he said that he did look into the matter and it was a fair hearing and the board had recommended that he be fired.

Well I wrote to the Minister again, because Dr. Hutfield now spoke to the various members of the board of review—spoke to two of them—and they both state that they did not, did not, recommend his dismissal. So I wrote back to the Minister of Health, and I quote to you:

As you know, I have taken no part in this controversy because of your earlier explanation of the situation. I am now, however. uneasy about the matter and I would appreciate seeing a copy of the review board's report.

Yours sincerely,
Morton Shulman.

I had had this information for some time, and I saw no reason to disbelieve the Minister. I saw no reason to disbelieve the deputy. If the report said that he should be fired, then he should have been fired; he had had his hearing.

But I was disturbed by these comments about the board, so I thought I had better see this report and know for sure. And the Minister wrote me back as follows, on January 16:

Dear Dr. Shulman:

The report which the informal board of inquiry presented to the deputy minister is a confidential administrative document, and therefore it would really be inapproriate for me to release it. However, I would again like to assure you that Dr. Hutfield's case was given careful and serious study by all concerned and that the reasons for his dismissal were as stated in Dr. Charron's letter of November 12 to Dr. Hutfield.

I believe that you already have a copy of that letter.

Yours sincerely,
Thomas Wells.

Well, the reasons in the letter, I will remind members, "that the department is not satisfied".

And I can understand that, but is that really reason to fire the man?

You hold an inquiry, you call in impartial people to hold the inquiry; do you not follow their suggestions?

It is very disturbing to me that the Minister will not allow me to see that report. If it truly says he should be fired that would be the end of it. It would not be brought up in this House.

It is not a matter of real, true confidential material. The type of thing that the government should want to keep confidential is the type of thing that might cause advantage or disadvantage to one person by learning it ahead of another: buying of land, the route of a highway, something that might contain scurrilous material that is not true about an official or a member of the government.

This is what they should keep confidential, not this type of material where a man comes to his MPP and says: "I am being unfairly treated. Will you intercede with the government and see that I have been fairly treated?" And his MPP tries and he fails because he cannot see the file.

And this is why we need an ombudsman.

I came to my party a year ago and I said let us not wait for the government. Let us appoint an ombudsman. We will pull someone in, someone of great repute from the university. We will pay them a suitable salary, we will put them on a fulltime basis to investigate all the complaints of this type that come into the offices of the various MPPs of this area or anywhere in the province. We will advertise it throughout the press of Ontario. We can do it. We do not need them.

But we could not do it. We discussed it in great detail, but the same problem would happen to our unofficial ombudsman as happens to the MPPs. We cannot see the files, and he would not be able to see the files.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Morton Shulman for ombudsman!

Mr. Shulman: Thank you!

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): At least he is here.

Mr. MacDonald: If one wants to get the situation cleaned up . . .

Mr. Shulman: There are many people outside of this Legislature who would make fine ombudsmen, and I can think of a dozen of them. The government would not have to go far to find good conservative people like Dalton Camp, people of an open mind who they do not have to worry about causing them political trouble.

But this province, really, badly needs an ombudsman. Because we are unable to do the job; we cannot get in there to see those files. The Ministers will not let us do it.

By chance, the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) and I saw a file a few weeks ago in one of the reform institutions, Vanier Institute. The minister arose in high dudgeon in this House and said: "You had no right to see the file."

This is the attitude of the government and this is why we have to have someone who is not beholden to the government. Someone who is not anxious to get political grist, but someone who is independent—who can look at these things and, if there is a human being unfairly treated by government bureaucrats, or by government departments, or by anything to do with government, can then step in and right the matter.

He would not have to make it public. He would not have to have this type of case thrown into the public arena. He would go direct to the minister and he would say: "Look, this is wrong, correct it." And the minister would. There would be no reason for him not to.

The problem is that when we in the NDP, or my colleagues in the Liberal Party, go to the ministers with something like this the ministers tend to get their backs up. They tend to think we are just trying to cause trouble and automatically, out of hand, reject these cases. It is so unnecessary.

I really do not wish to belabour this. They are the three points I wish to make. This is really what I wanted to say today.

We need an ombudsman—now, this session. We need more money and more care put into our mental institutions. We need it now, this year. Take it from where you have to, and I think the place is The Department of Highways. Build a few less this year, but do something with those people in there. They deserve it.

Third, rethink this whole problem of secrecy. Keep the secrets you have to. Keep

the secrets that are going to hurt you politically, but do not keep the secrets which are not really secrets. They do not hurt you. All they do is cause aggravation. They cause trouble and in the short and the long run they gain you nothing.

I have tried the best I can to be as non-partisan as possible. I extend this request, through you, sir, to the Prime Minister. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, as Geoffrey Stevens and his employer, the *Globe and Mail,* ofttimes remind us, it is very difficult to get a crowd here, but one has to make do with whatever one has, in order to carry on the communion of the fellowship of ideas.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, although I had not intended to say it, that that is one of the better speeches that I have heard the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) make. I might say I am a man who is able to revise his ideas about some things that he calls to with rather fierce adherence.

I do reveal, by way of confession, that I took a different view of the member for High Park the second day of the session when I saw the way in which he rocked the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman). The minister, in spite of his blubbering on that occasion, was forced to admit that the member for High Park had a valid point—that a wrong had been done to one of the inmates of one of his institutions. But I noted that the next day he resorted to form and came in and indulged in the ordinary vilification.

So the conclusion I come to is that in some ways, Mr. Speaker, this place has become a little different for the presence of the member of High Park, in the light of the fact that that is what those people over there have needed for a long time. And if they are confronted with more factual situations, ultimately the people of this province must realize, as indeed I firmly believe, in the depths of my being they are coming to realize, that this government has finally run its course. It is only a question of time when the verdict can be given at that final place, the ballot box.

At the outset of my remarks, sir, I want to make reference to what I conceive to be that very irresponsible statement made by the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) in the House yesterday, when he referred to the possible closing of the paper mill at Espanola. I was not here to hear it myself, but that was the fault of Air Canada and the weather —or rather the weather and Air Canada. But I did hear on the radio at Sudbury this morning the comments of senior people of the E. B. Eddy Company at Espanola, as well as the mayor of Espanola and others. They repudiated, in substance and, in fact, any suggestion that the mill at Espanola is about to close and move to British Columbia or anywhere else.

And in the rightful point, I put it this way, simply. In the right of those unequivocal statements of repudiation of the suggestion made by the member for Sudbury East, in order to allay the anxieties of the several thousands of people who live in Espanola and are dependent upon that single industry, it is encumbent upon the member for Sudbury East to produce his evidence. Nothing short of that will do.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): It is wishful thinking on his part.

Mr. Sopha: The Minister of Mines could well be right.

Now let us remember—

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Has the hon. minister joined sides with him?

Mr. Sopha: Now let us remember—let us remember that—

Mr. Martel: It is a natural relationship, of course.

Mr. Sopha: We will not be deterred. We will put these thoughts on record.

Let us remember that that mill having been established about a generation ago, in that town—in fact, creating the town of Espanola by the location of the mill—it closed for a number of years. Then, along about 1947, the KVP Company, an offshoot of the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company, reopened the mill. In the years that followed, that pretty little community became a very valuable municipal locale, as it stands today, and supports the livelihood of the 5,000 or so people that live within its confines.

Now, the very idea that a member of this Legislature should stand up in this privileged place and give voice to what is nothing more than speculation and mere suspicions, is to do a wrong and injustice to those 5,000 people who live in that community.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): The member starts off so well.

Mr. Sopha: And in the light of the fact that the people in authority in that community this morning, in their own voices, on the radio at Sudbury, denounced and repudiated the statements of the member for Sudbury East, then it is doubly encumbent upon him to come forward with the facts.

I just leave it by saying that one of the officials wondered aloud to the good citizens at Sudbury and Espanola whether perhaps the member for Sudbury East smokes opium.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton): Should apologize to the House.

Mr. Pitman: He smoked them out. That was the point.

Mr. Sopha: Well, I leave it at that. I am quick to say that some of the utterances of the member for Sudbury East were to be to the common good. It is just that this one yesterday was so reprehensible, that he had—

Mr. Pitman: The hon. member read the question. He was not here.

Mr. Sopha: He had a bad day.

Mr. Pitman: The member was not even here.

Mr. Sopha: I said that.

Mr. Pitman: Yes, I know the hon. member said that.

Mr. Sopha: When the member for Peterborough speaks—and I do not want to be distracted by him, but when he speaks, perhaps he will tell me what relationship my being here has to do with E. B. Eddy Company going to British Columbia? I would like to hear that.

Mr. Pitman: The point of the question the member missed.

Mr. Sopha: I would like to hear that.

All right, I leave it at that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to deal—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Well, we may not have much of a crowd, Mr. Speaker, but we have lots of activity.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): What makes the member so sure? Where is his evidence? What is his proof?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury has the floor.

Mr. Sopha: Now, I want to deal with—

Mr. Lawlor: This is the first time in his career that the member has accepted the word of a company executive without cross-examination.

Mr. Sopha: Will you ask when he is finished?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury has the floor.

Mr. Sopha: Is the member finished?

Mr. Lawlor: No, I am not finished, but I cannot think of another question.

Mr. Sopha: I want to deal with two subjects of interest to the city of Sudbury and the surrounding area. The first is, I want to wonder aloud to you, Mr. Speaker, that I am completely at a loss to understand why it is that The Department of Municipal Affairs has failed at this time, March 5, 1970, to complete the assessments of the mining installations in Sudbury in line with the law which came into effect on January 1 of this year. The explanation has been given that during the four and a half months' strike that occurred last year, the assessors of The Department of Mines were unable to go upon the company property in order to make those investigations, surveys and examination that are necessary in order to come to an assessment figure. Well to me that shows the power of INCO.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Municipal affairs, not mines.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, municipal affairs. I am sorry, did I say mines?

Well that shows the power of INCO, because I would have thought that in the light of the changing of the law, that whether there was a strike or not the assessors could say to the company, "it is necessary for us to go and have a look". I am unable to understand, short of an explanation, how their presence on the property during a shutdown could interfere in any way with: (a) the strike; or (b) the maintenance of the plant that was being carried out.

The fact is, of course, that their failure to complete the assessment is causing great disturbance and dislocation in the Sudbury area to those municipal people who are waiting for the first time to levy an assessment for municipal services upon that company; and

not the least of which is the school board which must perforce send out its tax notices to the company and bring in the revenues that are necessary to maintain the operation of the school system.

I asked the minister last week—and the people of Sudbury of course will be very interested in the reply—I asked him when it might be anticipated that this work would be complete so the figures would be available; and to put it mildly, his reply was vague indeed.

He did not appear to know that an announcement had been broadcast in the Sudbury area that a press concerence would be held about two weeks ago, on a certain Wednesday, to reveal the assessment figures. And suddenly without prior notice that press conference was cancelled.

So the municipal officials are very much in the dark, and I carry out my responsibility here by drawing attention to the subject and hoping that the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) will react to the views I express and that those statistics will be forthcoming and available to the area municipalities.

Now I am not going to make reference to the regional study, because regional government is such a sensitive area these days in the political arena, but I merely want to say that we await the report of the commissioner, J. A. Kennedy, with a great deal of anticipation in order to see what shall be our fate in our future political system in the area of the Sudbury basin.

Now the second thing I would like to draw attention to, in the absence of the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), is one of my favourite projects; and that is to once again plead publicly for the establishment of a wilderness area of considerable size, adequate size, along that as yet unopened highway which is to link Sudbury and Timmins. It strikes me your honour, that the time to set aside a wilderness area along that highway is before it is opened and before people get accustomed to the use of the lakes and the other advantages and perquisites that abound in the great out of doors in that part of the Laurentian shield.

I am satisfied in my own mind that unless we do something effective to protect our wildlife and sustain the balance of ecology by setting aside fairly large areas, we stand in danger of depriving future generations of the sights of some of these wild animals; and some of the species might very well become extinct.

I can envisage the day, Mr. Speaker, when perhaps there will not be a deer, there will not be a moose left as a result of the depredations of that species of life on the planet. I say to my friend the member for Huron that the only species that preys with such determination upon his own and upon other species, the most dangerous species on the planet, is "*homo* the sap" himself.

What I want, in short, is for The Department of Lands and Forests to set aside about nine townships—which would be nine times 36 square miles, which is 324 square miles—that would be immune to motorboats and snowmobiles and any other form of technological transportation; that would provide nature trails, canoeing routes and that sort of th'ng, with no intrusion of the technology that man brings along with him.

I sometimes believe that the snowmobile having become so prolific—we have 8,000 of them in the Sudbury district alone, since we have more snow—snowmobiles having become so prolific I am concerned what the mere noise of them must do to the wildlife; to their habits, their procreation and the ecology of the area. I think it not too much to ask at all that in this great province we are willing to set aside an area and say: "This shall be preserved in its natural state".

In all deference to my friend, the member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski), somebody may tell him I do not rule out the possibility there could be some controlled harvesting of the forest resources in the area. But surely to heavens we must become conscious of practical remedies in this way in order to sustain that delicate balance of nature.

I do not expect I will ever be appointed to the bench. I do not want to be and the Attorney General is unlikely to appoint me, but I do say this, that if I were sitting as a provincial judge and there came before me the two individuals that my wife was reading to me about last night in the living room, about the two who were pursuing the wolf on Lake Simcoe with snowmobiles, that I would be of a mind to put them away for a lengthy period of time. I would have little in the way of mercy upon those who make contact with the steel of man-made machines and the flesh of the wild animal which is defenceless against their depredations.

I also think it an indictment against a society that calls itself civilized to permit the hunting by intruders of the most magnificent animal perhaps that occupies the planet, the polar bear. There is not a more noble animal on the face of the planet, in my view, in the

light of the fact that he can sustain his life in the most adverse conditions that exist on the whole of the planet. And when his numbers are reduced, we are told, to some 12,000, I think it a terrible stain upon the human race that anyone would permit them to come with helicopter and airplane and hunt him down on the ice floes of the Arctic.

Now perhaps there is encouragement in all things, and perhaps the reaction of people is one that is motivated toward more humanitrian considerations. I hope so, and I hope governments will become aware that among the great mass of the body politic there are growing numbers of those who are revolted by the attacks and depredations made by the human race upon animal life. I am going to keep after the Minister of Lands and Forests about the wilderness area, and I hope when we all go up there next October to open the great highway, that it will come about that the minister will announce that such a wilderness area will be set aside.

Mr. Speaker, during my years in this House, I have been awfully concerned about the relevance of what goes on in this chamber to life out on the streets, the street corners, the homes and byways and highways of this nation, and have been very anxious about the relevance of what we do to the feelings, needs and desires of our people. I noticed that the other day Mr. Geoffrey Stevens of the *Globe and Mail* was bewailing the fact in the public prints in the *Globe and Mail* that we do not get much of a crowd in the galleries in the House, and I must say in that connection that Mr. Stevens does not do a great deal himself to encourage any participation.

I want to make reference to the contribution of Mr. Stevens in his reportage of Tuesday, March 3, when he reported the speech of the Leader of the Opposition. Mr. Stevens makes direct reference to the fact that there were not many in the galleries, and then called in that unerring eye of the *Globe and Mail.* You see, the *Globe and Mail* feels that one of its chief missions in the public area, the political arena, is to keep a very exact count of how many are here at any particular time, and the *Globe and Mail* has always judged the quality of government in the province by the number of members who are in their seats. I suspect that they have assigned Miss Russell, perhaps it is, to keep a count. She keeps a chart, perhaps, of how many are present, because you get very detailed records of who is here and who is absent, and what those here are doing.

I refer to yesterday's story during the Prime Minister's speech. Any day Mr. Stevens is going to be observed up there with a pair of opera glasses, or perhaps stronger binoculars, and he will be studying what the members have on their desks, what they are reading. He will catch one up in the back row reading all about racing, and there is one that I know of down that way who reads *Hush* and *Flash,* and the devotion to literature is not much better over to our left there. That is one of the perils that we face.

But to become more serious, I say Mr. Stevens does not contribute much to the public interest because in his reports of what I am told was that magnificent speech of the Leader of the Opposition, he spent a good deal of his contribution in dwelling upon the activities of one of the assistants in the office of the Leader of the Opposition. He told that portion of the public that waits at the doors of its houses in Ontario in great anticipation for the delivery of the *Globe and Mail*—and that happens all over the province—that the busiest man in the chamber, aside from the leader, was the leader's special assistant who kept running up and down the circular staircase and handing out the releases. He devotes the better part of three his columns to that very vital piece of information.

The point I make is this—so Mr. Stevens will understand—that I am told, or rather, I know because I read the speech—that the Leader of the Opposition in his speech dealt with the following subjects: pollution, planning in the Great Lakes region, Medicare, inflation, hard-pressed members of our society, the white paper on taxation, citizenship, agriculture, local government, the right to privacy, and youth—11 different heads. We might expect that if the *Globe and Mail* is a newspaper of record, as it proclaims itself to be—that is one of the labels it puts on itself—that instead of Mr. Stevens telling us about what the special assistant did, he might have informed the morning public in Ontario of what Mr. Nixon said about some or all of the 11 subjects about which he spoke. Surely there are large numbers of people in Ontario, speaking seriously, who are interested to know what Mr. Nixon has to say about matters that cause them anxious concern, holding himself up—under our system, as he does—as being the alternative to government in the province.

Be that as it may, the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) did not fare any better under Mr. Stevens' pen. It is to be noted that Mr. Stevens did not write about the speech of the leader of the New Democratic Party at all. He had become absorbed in ennui by that

time and could stand no more and he left Miss Russell to write it, so the column came out under her name, describing the travails of the leader of the New Democratic Party. I spotted Mr. Stevens; he did not even stay in the chamber. I spotted him up there talking to one of the commissionaires for a goodly part of the time, and one can only suspect that maybe he is thinking of a new career.

Miss Russell's contribution was in the press the next day, and Mr. Stevens returned to the fray with the Prime Minister in the edition of this morning. It is a great piece of literature, I must say. I will clip this one out for my memoirs. Again he does not say a great deal about what the Premier had to say, but he gives us all sorts of inside information about the climate of attention in the chamber. I quote:

> The effect of Mr. Robarts' oratory was most noticeable on the government benches, which were only half filled for the occasion. Conservative MPPs wandered in and out of the chamber as their leader spoke. Three Tory veterans—

And indeed they are—

> —Lorne Henderson (Lambton), James Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk) and Erskine Johnston (Carleton)—

Now there is a triplet, is not it, that would infuse confidence into our young?

> —carried on an animated discussion on the back benches. Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough chatted with James Snow, and Gordon Carton gave his attention to Edith Pritchard.

What does that mean? I wonder if Mr. Pritchard is aware of it?

> Revenue Minister John White and Health Minister Thomas Wells read newspapers, but Mr. Wells, without taking his eyes off the papers, reached out absently to pat his desk when other MPPs applauded.

If the Premier sees that one, there is still help for the member for Quinte (Mr. Potter) yet. He has not been seen this session. He will be back. Finally:

> On the opposition side, Mr. MacDonald seemed to be paying no attention. He read a stack of papers on his desk, pausing occasionally to pen a notation on one of them. Liberal deputy leader Vernon Singer hid his face behind a newspaper. Liberals on the back bench conversed among themselves. Only Mr. Nixon seemed to have his attention riveted on the Premier, and he interrupted Mr. Robarts every few moments with an observation, insult or correction.

Surely that puts it in the pejorative case. As an old Premier-watcher, had I been here but for the fault of Air Canada and the weather—or the weather and Air Canada—I would have paid rapt attention to what the Prime Minister had to say, but the attitude of his own members is another indication that he is slipping, of which we have all been aware. He does not carry that prestige that he used to in yesteryear, or maybe the rumour has got around that he is quitting, which accounts for the presence these days of the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis); nothing else would bring him.

What is our recourse? In spite of that description, what is our recourse against the junior valhalla? What remedies can we take? There are one or two.

Often they sit up there and write in the most supercilious fashion from the height which gives them geographical eminence over us. Of course, there is a good deal of messianism in many of the members of the junior valhalla that they come here to save the province, full of ideas of how that is to be done.

We have two recourses, really. We can all get together and we can present a brief to the Davey commission about them—which would be an interesting exercise; everybody else is presenting a brief.

I think the second is more effective. Many members stand aloof from the press gallery, adopting an attitude of unconcern and detachment and on no account must they quarrel with the press, or criticize them or point out their errors or in any way acknowledge that they said anything about a member. That is a defensive mechanism that most members adopt in the House and perhaps it is wrong. Perhaps in a participatory democracy we should change that outlook.

It is true to tell—and I say in parenthesis, it is true to tell—that whereas our friends in the press can criticize us with impunity and what many members, though never I myself, feel is a good deal of unfairness, any reciprocal criticism of them is treated as an act of indecency. Yes, many of them up there think that criticism of the press is almost indecent and one must in no way.

I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, and those who hear me, that perhaps we should adopt a different attitude and we should not hesitate when we think they fall into error to

seek them out and point it out, in courteous but emphatic, didactic tones. In that way, we would engage in a real dialogue with them, because the Lord knows in his heaven —and I can say to you privately, Mr. Speaker —that like us they make many errors. On many occasions, much of the reportage that you read about of what goes on here, I say to my friend from Peterborough, if you were here you would never recognize the same environment or the same occurrences. You would think that the reporter and yourself were at two different meetings.

To illustrate, just the other day, I pointed out to Mr. Dennis Anderson of the *Globe* that in his story yesterday about the meeting of the standing orders and procedures committee, the lead story on the first page in the second section proclaims that we in that committee had decided to recommend to the House that the throne debate would occupy a minimum of 38 hours. Many members would have seen that. He said there was a major decision arrived at in making that recommendation to the House. The decision was the exact opposite, and it was decided unanimously in that committee that no limit at all would be recommended, but that the throne debate would end not later than the day the budget was to be introduced.

One wonders if perhaps Mr. Anderson wandered in and out of the room, like the old reporter in the English reprints—I say to my friends, the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) and the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), the veritable Esplanass who used to report proceedings in the 17th century. It was said of Esplanass that "he heard half what he said and reported the other half".

So I called Mr. Anderson from Sudbury at great expense to the public purse. I tracked him down at the *Globe and Mail* bureau and pointed out to him that no such decision was taken. He was very courteous about it, very courteous. The *Globe* will put that in its errata column tomorrow on page two.

I emphasize that suggestion I make. I intend to pursue that plan for a while to see how it works out. When I see a glaring mistake in the reportage, I am going to call up the person and have a discussion with him. I think we owe it to them.

One thing we do owe to them, those who inhabit the junior valhalla up there and who all have desires of graduating to the senior valhalla in Ottawa—that is the ultimate—we owe it to them to attend to their training while they are here, so they will be worthy of us when they go up to that other place—that is to say, those of them who do not fall by the wayside by accepting government jobs.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: I leave that, Mr. Speaker, fascinating subject that it is, and I want to make it clear—

Mr. Pitman: The member brought them back in here, anyway.

Mr. Sopha: I want to make it clear that I have not singled out the *Globe and Mail* as being especially guilty, because if I did, there would be two columns of editorial comment by Mr. Doyle tomorrow or the next day. They are all just as bad—all of them, be it the *Star* or the *Telegram*, and I only make reference to the *Globe and Mail* because of the special example that I pointed to.

I too have something to say about the white paper, which is very topical, and I want to refer to one aspect of it that has not been much in the public eye. But as a prelude to what I say, I want, in the absence of the first citizen of Ontario, to issue a warning to him. That warning is that a reading of the history of this country reveals that if a provincial Premier gets so big for his bootstraps that he engages in open warfare with the government of Canada, he has got to lose.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Is the member referring to Benson?

Mr. Sopha: He has to lose in the way that Honore Mercier—who perhaps started it all in 1887 with that first famous federal-provincial conference—had to lose. The fact is that this country being a confederation, the centre of focus in politics in this country is upon the national capital. The Premier will fail in a war of attrition because he will not have access to the public arena that Mr. Trudeau will, and I hasten to point to the reality of the reports of the two speeches in this morning's *Globe and Mail.*

Both leaders spoke in this city yesterday. The Premier of Ontario spoke at 3 o'clock in the afternoon in this chamber about the white paper, and Pierre Elliott Trudeau spoke about 9 o'clock at night at the Royal York Hotel. What Mr. Trudeau had to say about the white paper is the headline story in the *Globe*: "Ottawa will not be bullied, tax critics warned by PM".

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member knows what he just said about newspapers.

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): Bad reporting!

Mr. Sopha: The Premier's comments about the white paper are on page 4.

The *Star* did even worse by him. The *Star* has got him on the front page, but again Mr. Trudeau's contribution is the headline, and I am pointing to the reality of communication—I say to my friend, the Minister of Correctional Services. Alongside, and I would like the members to take the trouble to look at this, they have put the caption, "Robarts says middle class would get a raw deal", and this occupies the rest of the column, which, aside from the first three paragraphs, is the *Star's* argument in favour of the white paper. They give the first three paragraphs to our Premier and then they begin to argue the case for the white paper and its effect in taxation upon middle income families.

That is the reality of life that the Prime Minister of Ontario has to face, and it is all right with us, if he wants to carry on that warfare with the government of Canada. We do not complain. Some of us over here might be resentful of being called Benson's stooges; some of us who have not hesitated or been inhibited on occasion when we thought that conscience demanded us to criticize the activities of the people that run the government of Canada. But I say, speaking personally, that Mr. Benson would not thank the Prime Minister in my case for referring to me as one of Benson's stooges, and there may be others of the same mind.

I say to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) that ultimately it will do us no disservice in the minds of the people of Ontario if there is a determined effort by the leader of the government to associate us with the government of Canada.

The second thing I want to point out is that I want to say to the leader of the government that I think it is dissimulation of the very worst kind by the head of a government, to condemn the proposals of the government of Canada as being all of one piece. At no time have I ever read a word that Premier Robarts has said wherein he identified any of the proposals in the white paper as being good, or as being progressive, or as being directed toward the betterment of the tax system in this country.

On the other hand he indulges in the victorian rhetoric that the proposals in the white paper are going to do such things as kill the Christian virtues of initiative and enterprise in this country, that they are going to emasculate in some way the progress of the economy of the country.

I am one who believes, sir, I say in parenthesis, that perhaps one of the things wrong with this country, ultimately and finally wrong with this country, is that there is too much initiative; we have too much initiative in our economy. Perhaps we have too much initiative and too much dedication to the acquisition of material things and we do not live enough of a life of the spirit. I note that one important area in that regard—this business of the GNP being imperative, that the GNP must increase every year—is coming under serious question as people begin to wonder what that increase in the GNP is doing to the quality of life that we live.

Are we getting more gew gaws and more dingbats for the immature, more technology at the sacrifice of the simple pleasures and pursuits and the ultimate meditation upon the meaning of the whole thing in that brief progress from the day of procreation to the final despatch when you get six friends to carry you into the final farewell? Those things are being considered by the mature and reflective minds in this society.

To return to the theme about which I am speaking. It seems to me that the Premier of Ontario thinks that those proposals are part of the law of Canada. They are no such thing, put in the light that Mr. Trudeau puts them and Mr. Benson puts them, that these are proposals for public discussion and they are willing to hear any point of view in respect of them.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Not quite!

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Trudeau said that last night, he reaffirmed that last night.

Is the leader of a government in Canada, a man occupying an office of the prestige of the Prime Minister of Ontario, entitled responsibly to attack proposals with the vigour that he does? I say he is not, and that he does a disservice to the people of Ontario with the type of rhetoric that he chooses to assail the proposals. The doors of the government of Canada are open to him, the telephone lines are available, and the government of Canada is ready to listen with courtesy and respect to any submissions made from the high office of the leader of the most important province in this country, but to go around in the way he does and to send his minions out the way he did, is bad enough for him, but to send that crew out to support him in the attack that he made—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): He sent the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White) up to help him teach Stanfield.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed, and that I must say is enough to cause depression in the "intellarchy" of Dalton Camp.

The point, of course, is this: The white paper contains many proposals, many aspects. I am going to deal with one section of it that is of particular interest to me, in a very few minutes, but there are many proposals. Some of them are good; some of them are open to revision and I want to hastily point to one that is good. The white paper, if implemented in its present form, would take 750,000 Canadians off the tax rolls of the country entirely. That is a worthy object to be pursued. Another 3,000,000, I say to the Minister of Correctional Services—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is what the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Sopha: Another 3,000,000 of them would have reduced taxes. They call this the affluent society in a day and an age that loves labels, loves adjectives, and loves words. That is a very frequent one, the affluent society, and yet I read that of the 6,800,000 Canadians who file income tax returns every year, 2,400,000 of them, or 35 per cent, earn less than $3,000 a year. Their taxable income is less than $3,000 a year. That is the affluent society.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: That is a horse of a different colour.

Mr. Sopha: The Minister of Mines cannot persuade me that they have much more under the mattress, in the sock, or in the bank, than the $3,000 which they have declared. Those statistics, those facts, that I have put forward are enough to persuade me that tax reform is a worthy object in this country.

Let us turn to the affluent, the so-called middle income group that makes more than $10,000 a year – this group here, that is everybody here. If you make between $10,000 and $25,000 a year, this country gives you a lot, you get a lot out of the country. The rewards, the assets, the perquisites, the benefits, are exceedingly good. We live well, those of us in the higher income group, and as a friend of mine put it, in a way that I thought was unchallenged for admiration – a young man who has made, perhaps, $500,000—when he was asked to join a group they are trying to form in Sudbury, he said, "If this country allowed me to live the way I do now for the rest of my life and to have the benefits that I get from this country, I would be content on my death to give them all I have got in return." That is a noble sentiment, and yet you hear some incredible attacks made in the most gross and unrestrained and undisciplined language.

I will not repeat those labels the Prime Minister of Canada used, but you hear people saying that if you tax small businessmen at the same rate for the first $35,000 that you will kill small business and you will stifle initiative. And yet you ask on the other side, if a person incorporates, why is he entitled to the privilege and the bonus of that preferential rate when all sorts of groups are not allowed to incorporate—lawyers, doctors, dentists, perhaps other professional groups, people who do not want to incorporate.

If they make $35,000 a year, they pay an average of 40 per cent tax. Mr. Trudeau pointed out, or it might have been Mr. Benson, that the cost to the treasury of the preferential tax rate is in the sum of $400 million. That is the amount the treasury does not get, and it amounts in effect to a subsidy by those who pay the higher rates to the incorporated group that has the preferential rate. That is but another example. It has been said that there are many ways of helping businesses. You do not need to use the tax laws to do it.

I will just refer to another group. I have never been able—here I speak for myself—to work up any tears for those who inherit a pile of dough. Perhaps because I come from a poor background, I guess, I am very subjective about it, but I find it difficult to wax sentimental about them because it always struck me that if a young man was left a pile of dough, he was receiving a benefit which he had not worked to create. He had not yet done anything to create any wealth in the country, and really, what he was saying to his fellow citizens was, that for some reason he is in a specially privileged position in the light of the fortuitous circumstances that his old man had a pile of dough, which he passed on to the young man.

I would rather adhere to the philosophy that what a father owes his children, basically, fundamentally, is all the education which they can profitably absorb, as well as an example. He owes them an example, also, to set them right about objectives and pursuits, and beyond that he does not owe them anything morally. Nothing morally.

Well, that group is under revision in the white paper in the name of tax reform. Everybody in the country, from Robert Stanfield down to the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White) and not the least of them on the end of the

bench, the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), agrees that we ought to have tax reform. There is universal consensus about that, but the moment we try to do it, then we are bound to offend some interest groups and set up the frenzy of irrespon ible rhetoric that we have had in this country about it.

Mr. Speaker, there is one group which, in the final portion of my remarks, I want to draw attention to. There is one group that has been overlooked in all this and that is the extractive industries. I am just a bit suspicious that those industries engaged in the exploitation of our natural resources, that they are rather smirking at this time that the public focus has been taken off the reforms that relate to them by the frenetic, rhetorical activity at the other end of the scale and the obsession with the economic health of the so-called middle income groups. I really wonder whether a lot of the critics have read the white paper.

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, that is a good question.

Mr. Sopha: I got my copy directly from Mr. Benson.

Hon. Mr. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): So did I.

An hon. member: Unrevised.

Mr. Sopha: Unrevised.

Mr. Snow: All the big taxpayers got one.

Mr. Sopha: I invite the attention of the members to pages 64 and 68—four short pages that deal with the proposed reforms in respect of the mining and natural gas industries. They are far-reaching reforms in the name of tax equity. I make the categorical statement, for which considerable evidence could be summoned, that there are few sectors of the economy that have enjoyed more privilege and more insulation from the writ of taxation than has the mining industry. It has indeed occupied a very special place in the laws of the land, and the part of northern Ontario that I hail from has produced some individuals who, in fact, were freebooters. They had letters of marque and they carried on activity in the exploitation of our natural resources in such a way that they would make Jean Laffite and Bluebeard and some of Elizabeth's sea captains look like eagle scouts.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Queen's scouts, please sir. Eagle scouts are American.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed. I refer to Harry Oakes, and J. P. Bickel, and H. W. Wright, and some others who came out of northern Ontario with a large chunk of cash, and I ask aloud, does a society owe W. H. Wright $8 million because of the fact that he asserted ownership over a portion of the earth's surface which happened fortuitously to have in it natural resources of great value?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Or Stephen Roman.

Mr. Sopha: I am going to come to him. I assert, as a matter of principle in the face of any who want to argue into the small hours of the morning, that the natural resources of this province and this country belong to the people of the country, and at best, International Nickel and Falconbridge and Geco and Hollinger and Dome and Teck Hughes and Lakeshore and Denison Mines are trustees for their exploitation.

In reaping the value, I treat it as a matter of fundamental principle that the public sector, the people of the province, get their part of the action off the top, right off the top, as payment for those natural resources. But in the sorry history of the first six decades of this century we saw immense privilege conferred upon the mining industry, which is now sought to be reformed. Depletion allowances, special allowances for depreciation—

Mr. Lawlor: Eternal tax holidays.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed. On the one hand concessions made through the tax laws. The Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act at the other end of the scale. When they were not relieved of paying taxes, the public purse was resorted to for large subsidies. I do not like to talk in generalities, but I draw your attention, Mr. Speaker, to the fact that one of the groups of mining companies—I am not sure which one it is between two, so I will not identify them; other members will know who it is—that over a period of years, the public treasury gave them a subsidy under the EGMA of $13 million.

Came the day when they wanted to buy Northern Ontario Natural Gas and the price that they were ready to put up for the shares was $13 million. So, in effect, the public of this country, the citizens, were going to give them a subsidy that would end up so that they owned the gas company as a bonus.

Where is the moral right in that? Of course, I do not want to criticize another parliament, but EGMA was wrongly directed from its inception. It should never have been given to the companies at all. It should have been given to the municipalities in which they

operated. That is where the assistance should have gone.

Look at the rest of the record. The insulation of the company towns—northern Ontario is replete with company towns which were nothing more than tax barriers. That is what a company town was. It was a feudal kingdom carved out to prevent the tax collectors from coming in to assess and levy the fair cost to be paid for municipal services for the population the mining companies created.

They created the population. They brought them to the municipality. They did not have to pay. Now, finally, that has been rectified. But the mining industry sends out its literature continually to us and never recognizes that fundamental principle that the natural resources they strike belong to the people and the people have the right to the just return.

I became convinced of that proposition when I heard the old fox of Lindsay say it. I heard him say it from the place over there. I said to myself, "if Leslie Frost says it, my God, it must be true." Well, they send out their literature and they are always complaining about the taxes that they have to pay. And they say we want to kill the mining industry—you are going to inhibit the development of mining.

The truth is, Mr. Speaker, that those valuable resources which we have—

Mr. Lawlor: You want a few extra hundred thousand? Take it, boys!

Mr. Sopha: —in such large supply, in our northland, are coveted by the American eagle. They have used all theirs up and now they look lasciviously at ours. They come to take them and people like the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) and Mitchell Sharp and Drury—the continentalists, are ready to help them cart them away.

Now the Minister of Mines is of a little different stripe. He is feeling his oats somewhat and the Minister of Mines is in a tight race with the Minister of Education for the mantle. But he has been saying some good things.

We watch him in northern Ontario. He would be pleased to know that we are alert to his utterances. Here is a young man who has a little insight and realizes the eagerness with which our American cousins rip our wealth out of the ground.

I used to lament the fact, Mr. Speaker, that the height of land in northern Ontario is so close to the border of the Great Lakes. I used to bewail that. It is within 100 miles, or perhaps less in many a place.

Now you say what a shame that the Lord ordained that the height of land would be where it is, so that water does not fall into the Great Lakes, but I tell you, I have changed my thinking. I thank God that height of land is where it is—that that water flows to the northward—because of two things. If it flowed south, they would have it dirtied up and polluted by now. As long as it flows north it is pure and fresh and potable.

The second thing is that flowing north as it does means that we will be able to take care and protection of our sovereignty over it, because it is absolutely clear that the next resource that the American eagles are looking at is our water. Our water—that is the next one that they want.

And when all is said and done, you know, we are not very shrewd businessmen. We are not. We have not exacted the price. We have paid a terrible one. We have paid a terrible price in being the hewers of wood and the drawers of water, but we have not exacted the *quid pro quo* in return. We are marks; we are not very good businessmen.

If you sit in Sudbury and you see the depredation and the desecration that occurs there in the landscape, you begin to wonder if it is all worth it—for us to produce the technology and the chrome and the toys and the gewgaws for people in New Orleans and San Francisco and Miami and New York and Pittsburgh. Ought we really to have to pay the terrible price that we pay for it?

On the other hand, should we be more militant than we have been and bring home to government that the day must soon come when there has to be a fundamental change in that company stack pouring out those noxious sulphurous fumes blowing to the east? They come and they take our natural resources away. They govern us from 67 Wall Street and then, to show their contempt for us, they blow their smoke in our face. That is the story of our life.

Well, I reveal, from this privileged place, that in about 10 days' time, on behalf of two clients in Sudbury who suffer special and unique effects from the sulphurous fumes—effects of a health nature different from most other citizens—that in respect of that public nuisance, the emission of sulphurous fumes, I am going to bring an action against the International Nickel Company of Canada in the courts for damages for those ill effects. I am going to seek a permanent injunction against the International Nickel Company in the courts against the emission of sulphurous fumes. We will see how far I get.

But we will just weigh the issue before the courts of this country, because I am told —and I am satisfied—that that emission could be prevented by the expenditure of money. That there are technological means available to stop it. Maybe the time has come to face the issue squarely, to determine whether they have to stop it or not. That is the simple issue.

You heard the Minister of Lands and Forests the other day telling about the high incidence of forest fires. Just one indicium—there are many others. But it is one of the legacies we have.

Mr. Speaker, I do say to you that I was particularly offended by the attitude of Steven Roman in respect to the announcement by the government of Canada. I thought that some of the remarks that he made in response—though they might be explained by an emotional state—I thought some of his remarks were scurrilous. And particularly resentful, was I, of the remark that he made to the effect that he was a poor Czech and John Kostuik was a Polack.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Slovak.

Mr. Ben: He will resent that.

Mr. Sopha: The report I read said that he was a Czech and Kostuik was a Polack. And I do not recall in Cobalt, where I grew up, that I ever heard anybody of that town—honest to God—ever refer to the Kostuik family as Polacks. To do so in that hard-bitten town of Cobalt would, of course, have invited a face full of fist.

And I do not recall that anybody in that town ever referred to Mario Debastiani as an Italian, or any other perjorative word to describe people of the great Italian race. Mario Debastiani, of course, is the general manager of Denison at Elliot Lake.

I do not ever recall anybody ever referring to Gerard Saumier as a Frenchman, or any of the other terms of opprobrium that are used to typify our French Canadian brethren. They are Canadians.

The Kostuiks were born in Cobalt. The Debastianis were born in Cobalt. The Saumiers, they and many others, migrated from Cobalt to contribute to the success of Denison Mines. Then played a very full role and contributed great talents.

The very idea for Steve Roman, with his face hanging out, to say to the press that there was any form of discrimination because of racial origin—it is so revolting to a person. It is beneath contempt. I hope that Pierre Elliott Trudeau, when they met yesterday morning, said to Roman, "Let us get one thing straight, right from the outset."

But nothing in the utterances of Mr. Roman had indicated that he has any consciousness that those uranium resources belong to the people of Ontario and Canada. Not only are they strategic, but they are matters of great wealth, great productive capacity, great importance to the economy of this country and its place in the world.

In not a single utterance did I ever see Roman make any acknowledgment of that basic fact. On the contrary, in everything he said he gave the impression of ownership. "It is mine. There is personal interference with me." Kostuik, on the other hand, said "we have been sledged twice." That is a new term of rhetoric. They had been sledged twice. He referred to the French contract with which the government interfered and now the government's interposition in the sale of Denison.

Well, I do recall the night—and my friend from Algoma-Manitoulin (Mr. Farquhar) would corroborate what I say—that the federal government set up a stock piling programme in the lean years of uranium production, and, furthermore, Denison Mines took the whole of the stock pile. All of it. Nobody else got a piece. Denison had the whole thing and public moneys were poured into their treasury. The other thing to be said is, in those depressing days in Elliot Lake when the town was on its uppers, and spirits as well as business were in great decline, the one group in town that did not suffer was the mining companies—Rio-Algom and Denison. They came out of it with a piece of change, and now if Mr. Roman sits there with 1,000,000 shares at $41 a share, how much is that?

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): That is $41 million.

Mr. Sopha: That is $41 million. Then it can be said, Mr. Speaker, that this country has been very good to Stephen Roman, and very good indeed to him. I am unable to see —again I say because of fundamental inability —in the exploitation of all natural resources, how one individual ends up with that amount of money. But that has been the case with Hirshon, and there are others better able to explain people like John Paul Getty than I am—namely, the other oil millionaires.

That, I suppose, is the system under which we live, and ultimately we must change it. We must change that system. We owe to ourselves, to the people we represent, and to

posterity that eventually the principle is recognized that to achieve true justice there must be the equitable distribution of the goods we produce and the wealth we have among those who produce them. Mackenzie King said that. Mackenzie King, in industry and humanity, not a great guy but enunciator of a good Liberal principle.

I meld this in with my remarks on the white paper, Mr. Speaker, and I say that fundamentally those pages 64 to 68 are excellent proposals in revising the taxes upon our extractive industries, and they are worthy of support by the people of this country. They do not deserve the scurrilous attacks that they got, any more than any individual is entitled to stand up and say to any other citizen at this critical point, "Are you for or against the white paper?" Our inane and foolish question could not be asked. It is incumbent upon the citizens to read it in its entirety. It is a short document, only 96 pages, and can be read in an evening, after you have finished reading the Minister of Municipal Affairs' directory.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Is that not a good picture of the Minister by Karsh?

Mr. Sopha: It would be less soporific than his directory.

Mr. Singer: Did the member notice the picture by Karsh?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed, I did.

May I reveal that here is why I want to encapsulate what I say. I support this document in its principles, and I am willing to stand in public and say that I will fight for it. I had the good fortune to be speaking to Mr. Trudeau when he was at the National Arts Centre a couple of weeks ago at a great meeting that was held in the city of Ottawa. The city of Ottawa has not been privileged to have such a distinguished meeting for many a year.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: And Mr. Trudeau, you know Mr. Speaker, is a man with a great sense of humour. You may know who Clem Neiman is. Clem Neiman is the immediate past president of the Liberal Party in Ontario. He just went out of office.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: May I tell you this story? There was Clem Neiman at the National Arts Centre barging a way through the crowds packed in like sardines for Mr. Trudeau. He has a terrible difficulty to get through the crowd. And there were the women as he makes his approach. There were the women with their eyes transfixed on him, and breathing from their toenails. You would think they all had asthma the way they were breathing.

So on the way out, there is Mr. Neiman sweating like a halfback making yard runs, and I arrived at the door just as he and Mr. Trudeau went through the door with that remarkable ability, and I came up behind and I said to my friend that I was with, "I wonder who that chap is with Clem Neiman?" And Mr. Trudeau turned around and favoured me with that wonderful smile that he has—it lights up his whole face and makes his eyes like a pinball machine—and I had the opportunity to speak to him and the one thing I said was, "Mr. Trudeau, please do not back down on the white paper. Please do not back down."

Mr. Martel: Does the member mean all of it or a part of it?

Mr. Sopha: In principle. Tax reform.

Interjection by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: I have been into those things. I am not going over it again.

On the principle of tax reform, I am sure he will not. The *Star* says "Trudeau defends tax reforms" and the *Globe* says that Trudeau says he will not be bullied. I am comforted from his having made that speech here yesterday on March 4, that the one person he is not going to be bullied by is the Premier of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He says he wants the paper discussed, but not people who want to discuss it.

Mr. Sopha: I am not going to talk in the strident rhetoric of the leader of the New Democratic Party, but I am content to wage battle with the Prime Minister of Ontario as regards the validity of these proposals.

If that is the way he wants it—if he wants to take the Stanfield, John Bulloch, John Hall, John Robarts line, then I am content to take the other end of the spectrum.

Mr. Ben: That is where the name John Bull comes in.

Mr. Sopha: It is a remarkable thing that that oft-quoted laudation of the Treasurer of Ontario—that it took the Premier three full months to discover that the white paper was

wrong. It took him three months to wake up to the fact—

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): The member for Downsview thinks the same thing.

Mr. Singer: The member can read what I said and if he wants, I will tell him later.

Mr. Sopha: Finally, I want to address—and this in the context of what I have said about what is going to happen in the public arena—if you are alert to what is going to happen in the next few months, now that I come to this portion of my remarks. I refer to this past amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition, which I, of course, wholeheatedly support.

It points to the many anxieties among the people we seek to serve and, on the other hand, never has this government owed in spirit, mind and physique. Never has it been under attack from so many tangents as it is now. It just seems that out in the province they have every group against them.

Everybody is against them. The local government officials, as they brought dislocation of traditional patterns of local government. Urban dwellers, with their anxieties and frustrations. School boards. All of the public that have to resort to the Medicare plan. The dog and cat lovers—and that one has not been buried yet. That one cut very deep.

But as you go about the province, it seems that you find more and more that echoes the refrain that Robarts has got to go.

Mr. Ben: The member had better send him a "Dear John" letter.

Mr. Sopha: I see in him many evidences that he is losing his grip, that he is tired of office, that he has got that ennui that reflects Jeffrey Stevens a bit. I see it. And I see it when he cannot bring a crowd in here when he speaks.

Let me tell you that Leslie Frost, when he was at the height of his career, he would not get up unless he could look at every one of the sea of faces. He could play on them like an organ. When he indicated they should applaud, well, you just saw the kindling wood. That is a fact. That is a fact. But the mystique has gone.

Look at them up there. Apps, Price, Rollins, Allan and Johnston—does that do anything to exude confidence? And the two wise men—enough to drive you to drink when you contemplate that these have control of the affairs of the province. Seconding the member for Carleton East (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) into the cabinet is not going to save them.

One of the stronger men in the cabinet, and one of the best Ministers of Labour that we had in this province, the member for York West (Mr. Rowntree), left. I wondered why Robarts dropped him. I will say in his presence that I appreciated his role in the ministry and in the House and thank him for the unfailing courtesy with which he always treated me.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Why did the member not tell him that when he was minister?

Mr. Sopha: All right. I am satisfied and I will say with conviction and I believe it, that they are going. They are going and it would serve the Minister of Education right to give him the Labour seat. That is what he deserves.

He deserves it the way he treated us over the years. With that rhetoric that nobody could understand. No-one can understand him as he speaks into his beard and you only have to have discouragement that he has charge of the education of our young.

What is the alternative? Mr. Speaker, I wish you could have seen the man from Brant at that great meeting in Ottawa. He did us proud as he came there under an environment of adversity and grave criticism. There was criticism, but he came away a stronger man for it.

When he spoke at the luncheon, I report to you, as reported in the press, he dealt with most of the salient points of those things that cause our people anxiety. He was conscious of the fact that there is a great group out in the body politic—a great, faceless, group of people who, for 25 years, were accustomed to security and stability. They have been uprooted by the policies of this government. They look upon the future with grave anxiety. They wait for policies that will allay their fears.

That Speech from the Throne which we are discussing—not only did it give them nothing in the way of hope and specifics, but it used every tired and hackneyed expression that could be summoned to the speechwriters' pen. From the "challenge we face" to "the blessings of a bountiful providence". They were all there.

They were all there. They discovered the decade of the '70s, made persistent reference to the fact that the '70s are a promise. The speechwriter discovered that when he was writing the speech, but we knew that last year, that we were entering the '70s.

The '70s call for boldness and my final word to you, in the climate of opinion and activism in which we live—and we cannot be certain of the stability that we are accustomed to, say a decade and a half ago, that, with politicians, the times call for courage. There is an opportunity for heroism among elected representatives, if they will but summon the backbone and the intelligence and the reasoning faculties and will join together, recognize the nature of the problems that confront our people and be prepared to offer solutions to them.

Simply put, that is our role in the political life of this province. Anyone that is not ready to accept it—if all he wants to do is be a cipher around here and get along as easily as possible—is not worthy of political office. It is incumbent upon us, if we are to be responsible to the people who send us here, that we must bend our efforts and our intelligence to the provision of solutions to these very grave problems that afflict our body politics.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, in what remains of this "afternoon of the knives," I want to make a few remarks.

This is the first time I have ever seen the knives thrown up into the galleries—the press gallery and even into the visitors' gallery. I even had to duck one here for five minutes too.

I am not going to make any personal attacks, Mr. Speaker. I am going to attack the whole government on its lack of urgency, the lack of a sense of urgency in the battle against environmental pollution. My first witness will be a *Globe and Mail* editorial of August 6 last year, entitled: "Culprits". It is a very short one, that is why I inflict it upon the members.

> In the unending struggle to protect Ontario's natural resources from pollutants, one automatically assigns the role of "good guy" to the Ontario Water Resources Commission. It is therefore difficult to believe that the foul slime that killed hundreds of pheasants, after it was dumped over 500 acres of open land in Mississauga, came from the Lakeview sewage disposal plant, an operation run by the OWRC. The defence that the OWRC merely assigned the dumping of the Lakeview sludge to private contractors is not what might be expected from an alert and concerned department.

My main purpose, Mr. Speaker, will be to impress upon the government the need for fast, vigorous action, not only to hold the line in the battle against pollution but also to launch a counterattack.

On Tuesday, just two days ago, during the question period, I raised the matter of air pollution by the Ontario Hydro's electric generating station in Windsor. Within hours, I received a note from a constituent, perhaps a door-to-door salesman of some kind, who wrote as follows:

> Dear Mr. Burr:
>
> I had occasion a few weeks ago to call on people in the neighbourhood to the south of the J. Clark Keith generating station in Windsor. It was a cold day with a northerly wind blowing. The amount of smoke in the air prevented me from staying in the area more than an hour at a time because of the choking sensation in my chest. It was not a pleasant place to visit and I would not want to live there.

The Ontario Hydro's generating station in Windsor is probably the worst local polluter, although because of the pollution that comes from the Zug Island direction across the river it escapes much of the condemnation it really deserves.

Two or three miles farther down the Detroit River we have the town of LaSalle, which receives trans-border pollution from Michigan no matter whether the wind blows from the northwest, the west, or the southwest. Complaints and letters are coming to me from this area as month follows month and year follows year without any noticeable diminishing of the amount of air pollution dumped into the lungs of the people of LaSalle. Admittedly, the source of the harmful emissions is Michigan, but the following letter received today sums up the matter very well:

> Dear Mr. Burr:
>
> I, a resident of the La Salle area, feel an urgent need for legislation to come into effect so that we Canadians can appeal to Washington to clean up Michigan's Zug Island industries. The United States is several years ahead of the Canadian government in regards to having legislation passed whereby they will take responsibility for pollution caused by their cities to neighbouring countries. Where is our reciprocal legislation that would make us eligible to appeal to Washington?
>
> Will you gentlemen in Toronto pass the word to the federal government, who will insist once again that it is a provincial matter? If the hon. Mr. Kerr receives a reply from the Michigan and Wayne county

people about their wonderful progress in helping us live in La Salle you might simply inform him that Great Lakes Steel is being brought to trial on April 24, the Ford Motor Company in Detroit will come to trial on April 17 in Dearborn municipal court, and two other firms, Allied Chemical Corporation and Atlas Barrel, will face trial in recorder's court April 29. I wonder what the outcome of these trials will be?

Three Detroit firms have been fined a total of $450 for violating Wayne county anti-pollution standards—the Stroh Brewery $150, Illinois Iron and Metal Company, $150, and the Charles J. Rogers Company Inc., a trucking firm, $150 for causing excessive smoke. Maybe Great Lakes Steel and Ford, being multi-million-dollar concerns will be fined $1,000 or maybe $2,000. I wonder if they will be able to afford it, and worst of all, will it spur them into action?

In the meantime, we continue to suffer from the filthy air but our patience is wearing thin. Our eyes are on you, gentlemen in the Parliament buildings. The people in the Windsor area are stirred up. Three ladies have received at least 500 signatures requesting significant action now and will get many more soon.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Victoria Michie,
1455 Laurier Drive,
La Salle.

I have another letter, Mr. Speaker, which I would like to read, in which a housewife, a longtime sinusitis sufferer, relates her experiences in unpolluted areas as compared with her constant discomfort in the Windsor and La Salle area where she has lived for the past seven years. Even where the weather was damp to the point of frequent fog, her condition was relieved as long as she was not beset by polluted air. I shall quote one paragraph.

When vacationing in the Red Bay area in northern Ontario, I am able to sit on the beach until midnight without any congestion. At home here in La Salle, under similar weather conditions, I suffer from sinus congestion. When I am up north I feel like a completely different person. I can hardly wait to escape from this polluted air again this summer.

And later, she concludes by saying:

Must we wait until people are dying by the thousands, as in the London smog of 1952, before action is taken? If we do, the lawmakers will be held responsible. God help us and our children who are inheriting this maimed earth. My words may not reach the ears and hearts of many of our lawmakers in Toronto, but when I meet my maker, at least I will know that I have tried my best.

Sincerely,
A concerned mother and housewife.

—Her name and address are given.

I turn now, Mr. Speaker, to a pollution problem of a different kind—namely noise pollution. What has Ontario been doing about noise pollution? Very little, despite the fact that the workmen's compensation board now pays over $2 million a year to workers who have been permanently injured through excessive industrial noise.

In Alberta there is a Public Health Act which establishes maximum permissible sound levels to which unprotected workers may be exposed. Although they may seem very high, at least they are better than nothing. For example, Alberta sets 85 decibels for 12 hours of work; 90 decibels for six hours and 112 decibels for one minute. These are the maximum permissive levels for unprotected workers. Wherever these limits would be exceeded, employers must suppress the noise or else supply free personal protective equipment. Quebec also has a well-enforced law setting 85 decibels as the limit and requiring ear protective devices.

Ontario has no compulsory standard. Yet technology has ways of designing the noise out of machines. There are ways of enclosing noise inside compartments. Noise can be muffled by the use of sound absorbing materials. These things can be done but they are rarely done until someone insists. Usually the only one big enough to insist is a government. When will the Robarts government finally join the fight against noise pollution?

In the east end of Windsor, in Riverside, we have a noise pollution problem, too. A forging plant pounds away 24 hours a day at least five days a week, disturbing the sleep of numerous residents even though they live about half a mile away. Some of the residents can sleep only with the aid of sleeping pills. Even on hot summer nights windows must be kept closed if some of the residents are to have any chance of sleeping.

Dr. G. J. Thiessen, head of the acoustics section of the National Research Council at Ottawa, recently delivered a paper to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His research showed that a truck roaring along the street can render a householder's sleep less beneficial even though he

is not actually awakened. Dr. Thiessen says:

> Interference with sleep is traditionally regarded as the most serious of disturbances. Some people are more tolerant of noise than others. All are more tolerant in daytime than at night and when healthy than when sick, or when participating in the activity making the noise than when being the victim.

Hon. members who have attended some dances in recent years where certain amplified music is supplied will know exactly what he means.

Health scientists at a recent conference in Boston warned that the ever-increasing noise of "just living in this modern day" can have a role in heart attacks as well as high blood pressure and mental ailments, and can have an effect even on unborn babies. Many other jurisdictions are leading Ontario in attacking noise pollution. Why has Ontario lagged behind?

Last fall there occurred another incidence of this government's lack of sense of urgency —I might even say in this case, a lack of sense of reality. An Ontario government official made a speech in Hamilton in which he said that Hamilton's air pollution was more of a nuisance than a health hazard. This was refuted shortly afterwards by a letter in the Hamilton *Spectator* in which a local physician, Dr. Victor Cecilioni, revealed tentative results of a study he was undertaking of the lung cancer deaths over the past three years, 1966, 1967, 1968.

His study is now almost complete. I shall read a few paragraphs from a recent report he made on this matter. Dr. Cecilioni says:

> I have lived in east Hamilton for 55 years and have been in general practice here for nearly 35 years. During the mid '30's and early '40s, lung cancer was a relatively rare disease and I would see one case every four or five years. However, now the reverse is true. The incidence rate has been rapidly rising, especially in Hamilton East. I have just about completed a study of all the cases of lung cancer deaths in our city for the years 1966, 1967 and 1968, and I have come up with some rather startling facts.
>
> The northeast end of Hamilton—postal zones 21, 23, 25 and 27, where most of the steel mills, foundries, and factories are located and where the environmental air pollution levels are the highest—accounts for only about one fifth of our population, yet contributes to more than one third of this city's lung cancer deaths.
>
> Hamilton, with a population of nearly 300,000, has an overall lung cancer death rate of 35 per 100,000. We are surpassed in Ontario only by Windsor. However, in northeast Hamilton the rate is over 65 per 100,000 people.
>
> This study also shows the prevalance of chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and asthma in persons, mostly males, who have to work and live close to such a polluted atmosphere.

Mr. Speaker, it is bad enough that our air pollution has so long been tolerated by this government; why must the government add insult to injury by pretending that it does no harm?

This is precisely what happened at Erco near Port Maitland where the damage to the crops, the vegetables, the trees, the flowers, the animals, and even inanimate objects, was so obvious that it had to be admitted, and yet by appointing a commission and supplying it with non-experts, the government was able to have officially annulled the obvious ill health suffered by many who lived in the neighbourhood after Erco began operations.

The people of Ontario know that air pollution is harmful to health. They do not want any more denials; they want air pollution stopped and stopped now.

Well, says the government, we have good news from Falconbridge Nickel. This company has finally agreed to reduce its air pollution. But there is a catch. The sulphur dioxide, for example, will be reduced only 55 per cent instead of the 85 per cent which has been achieved elsewhere. And there is another catch: It will take five years to install this inadequate equipment.

Because Falconbridge's profits went up from about $28 million to $43 million this past year, it cannot be financial inability that causes this delay. We are told that the problem is physical, it will simply take that long to install the equipment. When you think of the hundreds of ships, the thousands of airplanes and the millions of weapons that were designed, invented, redesigned, improved, built, rebuilt, during World War II, for example, does anyone seriously believe that it must take five years to install this equipment at Falconbridge?

Let us turn for a moment to Brantford, where a glue factory for many years had polluted the Grand River and the city of Brantford with its waste effluents. The smell could be detected at a distance of three miles when the wind was in the right direction, or

the wrong direction, perhaps. For once this government did act boldly. It told the company to install equipment that would end its polluting of the Grand River and the air of Brantford. The company replied that it could not afford to do so. The government insisted. The company closed down, saying that it was transferring operations to the United States.

Within three months, however, Mr. Speaker, the company quietly reopened, having installed satisfactory pollution controls. For once the government took strong action and it paid off. But this was a very small company involving only 60 employees and it was in the riding of my colleague, the member for Brantford (Mr. Makarchuk).

This is exactly the course of action which should be taken toward Falconbridge Nickel. If the government told Falconbridge Nickel to close down and pay its employees their regular pay until proper control equipment is installed, it is my guess it would not take five years, Mr. Speaker. It would probably not take five months.

Let us look at the Robarts government's record in water pollution, as far as its 41 pulp and paper mills are concerned.

In January, 1965, these companies were told to have primary treatment arrangements completed by the end of 1966. The companies were thus given two years to institute primary treatment, which refers to the removal of suspended solids from the effluent of the mills. Yet even today—not two years later, but five years later—only 12 mills have any primary treatment facilities and only a few of these are completed.

At the same time, in January, 1965, the companies were told to have secondary treatment procedures completed by the end of 1969. Secondary treatment removes dissolved chemicals. That deadline, too, has come and gone and yet not a single company has secondary treatment facilities completed. In fact, only two of them have made a start.

Eight or nine mills in the Toronto area are fortunate enough to be able to discharge their waste into municipal sewage systems. But all the other 32 must still be classified as polluters who have ignored the government's directive.

I shall not dwell on the sorry story of the thwarted efforts of the OWRC to prosecute such powerful polluters as the Minnesota company. The leader of the NDP, the member for York South (Mr. MacDonald), went into this matter in some detail on Tuesday, March 3.

I shall merely put in the record the reported remarks of that conservationist, Tom Beckett, who is concerned about air pollution, especially in the Hamilton area. He recently revealed that one local steel company made a six-figure contribution to the campaign funds of the old parties during the 1968 federal election. As he was the Liberal candidate in Hamilton West, he should be in a position to know whether this is true or not.

It must be admitted, however, that one pulp and paper company has finally been punished by the Robarts government; namely the Eddy Forest Products Limited. In June of 1969 this company was fined $500 for polluting the Spanish River. However, the government can take no credit for this punishment. The OWRC did not prosecute the company. It was left to a private citizen, Paul Falkowski, to bring the charges.

It is ironic that Paul Falkowski was more severely punished for bringing the Eddy company to court than the Eddy company was punished for being, according to the OWRC, one of the worst offenders in the whole province. The cost to Eddy was $500 for what almost everyone agrees was a crime against man and his environment. The cost to Falkowski was $750, although he was one of the victims of the crime—although he made what we might call "a citizen's arrest" of this company.

He should have been given a handsome reward by the government for performing the duty the government failed to perform. Instead, he lost $750.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): It is that dynamic new minister over there.

Mr. Burr: Perhaps. However, the respect he has won in the eyes of his fellow citizens will compensate him in the years to come for this financial loss.

But, did this teach the Eddy company a lesson? It did not. Months went by and nothing happened. Finally, Falkowski's persistence, persuaded the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) to have the OWRC lay a charge itself. This charge, laid in December, is at a standstill in the courts of justice, but the pollution still goes on, and on and on. When is this government going to take pollution seriously?

Because many of us members from southern Ontario do not fully appreciate what a polluted river is, I intend to describe the Spanish River which flows through Sudbury, Massey, Espanola and Spanish, before it empties into Lake Huron opposite Manitoulin

Island. Before the war, this river used to provide anglers with some of the best muskellunge, walleye and pike fishing in northern Ontario. Five tourist camps grew up in the area of Massey and thrived on the business supplied by fishermen from all over the continent.

Then, in 1946, KVP opened its kraft paper mill upstream at Espanola, and things changed rapidly. The river below Espanola became and remained a putrid mess, choked by the 16 million gallons of untreated industrial waste dumped every day by the mill. The tourist business at Massey disappeared at the same time as the fish, as did also the small commercial fishing industry in the area. Gas, bubbling constantly to the surface, carried the rotting wood fibres back to the surface, giving the 35 miles of waterway below Espanola a bouquet similar to that of putrefying cabbage. The waste might well have been diverted to the vast sand flats nearby, or treated in some way, but as the plant manager was quoted as saying, "It is a matter of economics".

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Economics is a sacred cow.

Mr. Burr: Do not knock economics.

In 1947, one of the residents of Massey, Earl McKie, got together with a few of his neighbours to try to stop KVP from poisoning the river from which they were earning their living. They took KVP to court, seeking an injunction which would force the company to clean up its effluent. Chief Justice J. C. McRuer granted the injunction, giving the company six months to clean up, and awarded McKie and his neighbours $5,600 in damages. Furthermore, he ruled, the company had to pay extra damages for the six months of continued pollution he was allowing it.

After two appeals, his ruling remained intact and KVP had run out of luck as far as the judicial process was concerned. But, undaunted, the company turned to Queen's Park and the Conservative government, threatening to pull out of Espanola lock, stock and barrel if forced to stop polluting the Spanish River. A sympathetic Premier introduced a bill called The KVP Act which dissolved the injunction and removed the threat of any similar future court action to stop the company's poisoning of the river.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Frost is now a director of the firm.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Yes, that is right.

Mr. Burr: "The injunction could be very injurious to the public interest," the Premier said, arguing that Espanola could become a ghost town if the mill closed down and, as one of the members pointed out, a year after he left the premiership Mr. Frost accepted an appointment to the board of directors of the KVP.

This story of the Spanish River is taken almost word for word from the Toronto *Telegram* article of October 17, 1969, under the caption, "How one pulp mill destroyed a river." Because the records of *Hansard* may survive long after the records of the *Telegram*, I felt it was only proper to record this story for posterity.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member come to a suitable place to break his speech, because very shortly we must have an adjournment moved?

Mr. Burr: You have hit it at the very spot, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Burr moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow morning we will carry on with this debate.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock, p.m.

No. 9

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Friday, March 6, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Friday, March 6, 1970

Ontario Council of Health, statement by Mr. Wells 303

Ontario Council of Health report, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Ferrier, Mr. J. Renwick 305

Transair landing rights, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. J. Renwick, Mr. Ferrier 306

Licences for gravel-taking operations in Lake Erie, questions to Mr. A. F. Lawrence, Mr. Paterson 307

Permanent motor vehicle licence plates, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Pitman 308

OHC agreement with Public Fuel Transmission Systems in Ottawa area, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. MacKenzie 308

Toronto-Hamilton GO Transit bus extension service, question to Mr. Haskett, Mr. J. R. Smith 308

School buses operated by service clubs, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Paterson 309

Relocation of Toronto detoxification centre, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Shulman 309

OHC legal department fee for discharge of mortgage, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. Singer 309

U.S. pleasure boaters and tourist trade, questions to Mr. Auld, Mr. Burr 309

Studded snowtires, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Good 310

Saltfleet satellite city, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Deans 310

Mental health centre on Queen Street, Toronto, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Trotter 311

Newspaper ads re salesmen and real estate agents, question to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Lawlor 311

Smith Transport application re Sunday trucking, question to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Singer 311

Tabling report, Ontario Council of Health, Mr. Wells 312

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Burr, Mr. Gaunt, Mr. Bolton, Mr. Ferrier 312

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Ferrier, agreed to 334

Motion to adjourn, Mr. MacNaughton, agreed to 334

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1970

The House met at 10 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: This morning we have guests in the east gallery and west gallery; in the east gallery, students from Franklin Horner Public School, Long Branch, and Tecumseh Senior Public School, in Scarborough; in the west gallery, from Seneca College, Willowdale, and George F. Henry Secondary School, Don Mills. Later today we will have with us members of the Adult Education, International Institute, from The Department of Citizenship.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, later this morning I am going to table in this Legislature the first report of the activities of the Ontario Council of Health, which summarizes the activities of this body and puts forward 300 recommendations.

This report represents the base of a broad total health plan for Ontario which will carry this province dramatically forward as the leader in health services in North America. I have no hesitation in saying that, of course, Mr. Speaker, this province has been in the forefront of health services down through the years, and that this report constitutes a basic document for health services that will probably be copied in many jurisdictions.

The report of the Ontario Council of Health is published at this time because it is felt that a wide understanding of health service needs and trends is required now as we move forward toward a situation in which there will be comprehensive high quality, readily accessible, and relatively economic health services for all our citizens.

Today we are probably on the threshold of one of the most exciting decades in the history of health services in this province. Probably the most significant feature of this emergence is the emergence of a concept of health care as opposed to medical care alone, and this concept of health care is inherent in the whole approach of this report of the Ontario Council of Health.

The idea of health care, of course, Mr. Speaker, goes far beyond health insurance or just adding more items for insurance coverage; it goes far beyond medical care which is strictly the provision of services when a person falls sick. Health care embraces everything necessary to maintain physical, mental and social wellbeing, including organization, research, education and proper utilization of manpower, as well as the prevention of disease and the care of the environment. Health care involves a wide range of disciplines in addition to the traditional health professions.

The emergence of the concept of health care undoubtedly means that the day of isolated health activity is gone, and I think that this report points that out. Today, more than ever in the past, the challenge is for all those in the health field to work together. Members will recall that the Ontario Council of Health was established just over three and a half years ago by order-in-council. On health matters it is the senior advisory body to the Minister of Health and to the government. The council's terms of reference are these:

1. The co-ordination of health services with emphasis on co-operation and active participation of key agencies, organizations and groups interested in health arrangements.

2. Techniques for long-range planning which are sufficiently flexible to accommodate short-term projects and deal with urgent situations.

3. Priorities and phasing.

4. Health resources development and maintenance, including the health research required for education and training, services and research.

5. Health manpower requirements.

6. Such other matters considered by the council to be pertinent to all these previous objectives.

7. Any specific matters referred to the council by the Minister of Health.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, the responsibility of the council is to advise the Minister of Health on the provision of health services to meet the needs of the people of this province. In doing so, the council is taking advantage of a wide base of experience and

knowledge. It is made up of 17 persons; the deputy minister of health is the chairman and the only other automatic member is the chairman of the Ontario Hospital Services Commission.

The other members were selected after wide canvass of the province—five from nominations of organizations of the primary health professions, five from nominations of public interest groups, and five chosen for their particular knowledge in health and related fields.

With the council we are trying to call upon the broadest possible spectrum of experience and interest in the health field. The council established a network of committees to analyse and advise on specific matters including these: health manpower, education of the health disciplines, physical resources, regional organization of health services, health research, health statistics, library services, and health care delivery systems. This last committee on health care delivery systems had six subcommittees; they were on community health care, highly specialized services, laboratory systems, rehabilitation services, dental care services and computers.

All told, about 150 people, Mr. Speaker, are directly involved in the work of the Ontario Council of Health and probably that number again can be included as direct backup support. The indirect involvement of others is obviously also very substantial.

Within the council there is a constant contact with universities and many other bodies involved, such as health and welfare councils, hospital commissions, hospital associations, professional associations, public associations, and so on.

I think the members will agree that this mechanism certainly covers what I call the broadest possible spectrum of experience and interest in the health field.

As I mentioned, the report of the council of health puts forward principles, concepts and philosophies that represent the base of a broad programme of health care in Ontario. It points the way for the future in a number of specific areas, such as planning and organization of health services, the co-ordination of health programmes, programmes of health services, financial support of health services, information for health services, production and deployment of health manpower, and demonstrations of health care delivery and research in the health field.

The document includes summaries of the activities of the eight committees of the council that I mentioned previously. Later this month, Mr. Speaker, detailed reports from each of these committees will be made available. This report also, as I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, puts forward 300 specific recommendations which were submitted by the eight committees and adopted by the council.

Actually, Mr. Speaker, about half of these recommendations are already being acted upon through the Ontario health resources development plan which was announced last July. Specifically, as you know, this plan aims at four important aspects of health care which are very important. These four aspects, of course, are: the facilities for educating and training health manpower, arrangements to obtain better distribution of health personnel, demonstrations on alternate methods for delivery of health care, and regional planning and development of health services.

Our government has allocated, of course, $640 million over the next 10 years to this programme, and we hope that the Ontario health resources development plan is going to mean that we realize better value for our health dollar. Only through this kind of long-term planning, Mr. Speaker, will we be able to achieve better value, as I say, for our money in the future and make better use of existing facilities.

A number of the recommendations included in the council of health's report relate to very complex matters where any action taken will have far-reaching consequences for the future. These recommendations, of course, will require further study in specific or related areas.

I should say, Mr. Speaker, that the work of the council of health will be ongoing. It is not a body appointed to conduct an investigation, make a report and fade away. In this sense, this report is, as I said earlier, just a progress report—a significant advance, but only a beginning.

As we look to the health arrangements of the future, we must be sure that any changes involving the replacement of traditional practices are weighed very carefully and we must be sure that the new ideas and programmes in the health field will actually produce the results that are desired.

The advice of the Ontario Council of Health and other bodies within the health field will play a key part in the development of policies, guidelines and standards for health services available to the citizens of this province in the years ahead.

In indicating that I am going to table this report this morning, Mr. Speaker, I should also like to announce that a major confer-

ence will be held on April 23 and 24 in the Macdonald block at Queen's Park to discuss various aspects of this report. It is being sponsored by my department, along with associations in the health care professions and public groups. The theme of the conference will be "co-operation in the provision of health services".

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the members of the council, its committees, and many other public-minded citizens associated with the work of the Ontario Council of Health for the very great service that they have rendered to this province.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Health regarding the report he has just given to us.

His enthusiastic presentation of, not only the report, but the makeup of the council, would indicate that he is prepared to accept personally most of those 300 recommendations or at least the 150 that have not yet been acted upon. Might I ask the minister how long before government policy on these matters will be made known?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, of course, as I said, about half of them are already in the works in the health resources development plan. As the members read the others, they will see they are matters which are under study. We are going to get some of the committees of the council which will have an on-going job, to try to suggest means of implementing and furthering their recommendations, and, of course, as they become government policy they will be announced in due course in this House.

Mr. Nixon: May I ask a supplementary question? Was there a section of this council which had a special responsibility to assess the cost of the recommendations?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, some evaluation of the cost of the recommendations was done, but I do not think there was a committee that had this specific responsibility. We do have other committees sitting, task forces on the cost of health care, and I will be tabling these reports in a month or a month and a half, which taken with this report will make up part of the package programme. Then there is also the report of the committee on the healing arts which I hope will be ready for tabling here some time in April.

Mr. Nixon: That is the chiropractic committee?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It was the committee that was set up, Mr. Speaker, to look into the licensing and educational policies, and so on, of all the health care professions in the province. It goes much beyond chiropractors.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Cochrane South.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Will the meeting that the minister referred to on April 23 and 24, be open to the members of this House for discussion as well?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would take that under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Riverdale. Supplementary.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): A supplementary question: Has the report been delivered to the press gallery and when will sufficient copies be available to the members of this House?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, sufficient copies will be available as soon as I have tabled it. I felt that in keeping with our practice in this House, it was far better to make a statement under statements by the ministry so that the members could question me afterwards, rather than making a statement later on on the tabling. As soon as it is tabled, we will have reports ready for all members of the House.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have another question—

Mr. Speaker: Does the member for Essex South (Mr. Paterson) have a supplementary? No. The hon. leader.

Mr. Nixon: I have another question of the Minister of Health on another topic.

Has the minister undertaken any investigation of the decision made by the doctors in the Essex area pertaining to the distribution of the reserve fund of the Windsor medical services?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I think, as we have stated in this House before, the matter of distribution of reserves of a non-profit corporation is the responsibility of my colleague, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence).

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question.

Is the minister aware that one of the reasons the doctors gave for keeping the reserve fund themselves is that under the plan administered by the Minister of Health they receive only 90 per cent of their fee? I would ask further, if he is aware of that, is he prepared to make public what the average income of the doctors of that area is as a result of their participation in OHSIP?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I have, of course, been listening to the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville tell me that all the doctors in the Windsor area are charging 100 per cent. This was pointed out to me a couple of times in questions to me from him—

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): A point of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has the floor for a point of privilege.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, at no time did I make mention that all of the doctors in the local area were charging 100 per cent. I specifically said that there were doctors, but not all doctors.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I accept that, Mr. Speaker, but I am told by the Ontario Medical Association about 85 per cent of the doctors in this province are charging 100 per cent to at least some of their patients. That is the figure that I have got from them. But I would say, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. Leader of the Opposition is probably getting his information from the statement in the press that I read, which stated that this is one of the reasons for their action on the reserve fund, and I just wonder if, perhaps, the statement is not a little turned around.

I had understood from some conversations that I have had with these doctors that they base their reasoning for distributing the reserve fund back to the doctors on the fact that they had accepted 90 per cent up until OHSIP came in. They felt that because they had done this for many years under their plan, in order to build up the reserve they were entitled to have this distributed to them. But as I say, Mr. Speaker, I think my colleague, the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, has been taking a look at these particular problems having to do with the distribution of reserves.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary.

Would the minister feel that it would be useful to make available the statistics on the average income of the medical profession since OHSIP came into being, and under the previous programme, OMSIP, to assist his colleague, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, in looking into the distribution of that service?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would have to think about that, Mr. Speaker. I do not know whether that would be possible.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Wells: Incidentally Mr. Speaker, they indicated to me that there were some broader problems concerned. Most of them indicated that they wanted to have the money returned to make the contributions to their own particular areas of research that they themselves might want.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Leader of the Opposition completed his questions?

The member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the *de facto* Minister of Northern Affairs.

Why did the government oppose the application of Transair for scheduled landing rights between Toronto, Sault Ste. Marie, Thunder Bay and Winnipeg? Will the government table the brief which it submitted in opposition to those rights to the Canadian Transport Commission? And, is the minister satisfied with the extent of commercial air services in northern Ontario?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, that question should be more properly directed to the Minister of Transport.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, may I direct that question to the Minister of Transport?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has the opportunity of asking all these questions as the *de facto* leader of his party today.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member to repeat the question? I was not listening; I am sorry.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I will repeat my question to the Minister of Transport.

Why did the government oppose the granting of scheduled flight rights to Transair in the area from Toronto, Sault Ste. Marie, Thunder Bay and Winnipeg? Will the government table the brief which was presented

to the Canadian Transport Commission in opposition to the granting of those rights? And, is the minister satisfied with the extent of commercial air services available to residents of northern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the filing of an intervention with respect to an application by Transair was done on behalf of the province of Ontario in the specific case as a means of bringing an interpublic hearing, if possible, on the plans of Air Canada to phase out its prop-jet services in Ontario and the rest of Canada and go into the operation of an all-jet fleet. This would leave open some very significant and important routes in Ontario. It was also done to adduce from The Department of Transport for Canada its further plans, so that we would have an overall idea of what the future of flying services in Ontario might be.

That, basically, was our reason for intervening in the specific application by Transair for routes between Winnipeg, Thunder Bay and Toronto and also between Sault Ste. Marie and Toronto. We are not satisfied with the overall service proposal for Ontario. It is of vital importance to the people of this province and we are anxious to learn the overall plans of these authorities, so that we can see where our best interests fit in and can be advanced.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, simply in completion of the question, would the minister table the brief which the government presented to the air transport committee at the Canadian Transport Commission by way of intervention in that hearing?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I think in due time it would be quite proper to make this public.

Mr. Ferrier: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Will the minister make a similar intervention if Nordair makes application for the route between Toronto and Timmins?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I will not commit myself on that. I would like to view any such application on its merits.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Riverdale a further supplementary, or further questions?

Mr. J. Renwick: My only supplementary, Mr. Speaker, is how long will the time be between now and the time the minister decides to table the brief of the government?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I have not given thought to tabling it, sir, but I will look into it and see if it is in the public interests to disclose it now.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Essex South.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Mines.

With the impending opening of navigation on the Great Lakes system, is the minister contemplating reissuing the licences for gravel taking operations in Lake Erie? If so, will they be in the same geographic locations as in the past, and will the load limits be the same as in the previous years?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows, the whole question of the erosion of the sand beaches along the north shore of Lake Erie around Point Pelee is causing the government a great deal of concern. I think this is the nub of the matter that he is directing the question to. We received a great deal of public representation that the licences for the two sandsuckers off Point Pelee should not again be issued. It is, I think, an emotional question more than anything else.

These people—and we have every sympathy for them—can see their beaches disappearing and offshore they can see the sandsuckers working away. I think they put one and one together and come up with three. Every technical report that we have been able to lay our hands on—from a governmental position, from an industry position, from an independent position—has led us to believe that those sandsucking operations are a very minor factor in the erosion of those beaches, if they are a real factor at all.

To cancel those licences arbitrarily would mean a loss to this country of something in the nature of $1.5 million in American funds alone coming in. It would mean the loss of about 50 jobs. Therefore we are considering the position very carefully. I may say quite bluntly that my recommendation to the cabinet on this particular issue is that those licences should not be canceled, because no tangible evidence, other than as I say the emotional problem, has yet been presented to us that those sandsucking operations should cease.

On the other hand, something, somewhere, somehow, has got to be done along the shore in respect of the erosion. I do not think there is any question that the real cause of the erosion is the high water in the Great Lakes.

We are right now very actively considering alternative measures which I hope would help to rectify, in a partial way anyway, the erosion in that particular area. But we are certainly in no position right now to indicate what these measures are going to be, because we are gathering in feasibility and engineering reports on what these measures should be.

Mr. Paterson: As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware of the comments of The Department of Lands and Forests in this regard, which state that this is, in fact, a determining factor in erosion?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: No. I am aware of the indications of one employee of The Department of Lands and Forests. As it turns out, that is a personal opinion on his part only, not the department's, even though it was written on Department of Lands and Forests letterhead. I can assure the hon. member that I think that particular gentleman will not be making a personal opinion again in public on Department of Lands and Forests letterhead.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could direct a question to the Minister of Transport?

I wonder if he could tell us whether he intends to have permanent licence plates available in 1970, as he announced two years ago?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the 1970 licence plates are already issued.

Mr. Pitman: Will the process of providing permanent licence plates be initiated this year, as he announced?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: No, Mr. Speaker. I do not know that I ever gave a firm undertaking as to when we would have the multi-year plates available, but we have been moving into this area. It all depends on how quickly the data processing equipment can handle it.

I have to say to the hon. members that we ran into problems that delayed the completion of the drivers' records. That has put our timetable back somewhat, but we are carrying out our original programme, or intention, of moving into multi-year plates as soon as it is feasible.

Mr. Pitman: Does the minister have any idea when this would be? Two years, three years, four years?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I cannot do much better than say to the hon. member that we are moving forward as rapidly as our equipment will permit. It may be a year, it may be two years. I hope not longer.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Ottawa Centre.

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Trade and Development. It relates to Ontario Housing.

Would the minister tell us why Ontario Housing made an agreement with Public Fuel Transmission Systems Limited which compels homeowners and lessees on the Borden Farm in the Ottawa area to purchase oil from them or pay a penalty of $130? Would the minister give us the details of the agreement?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Mr. Speaker, I am having that matter checked now. I do not have all the details. I am endeavouring to get them for the member as quickly as I can.

I do believe, though, that there has been an oil installation in some of the developments where they supply the oil to the households, just as the gas company supplies the gas. In some areas, also, the gas companies or the oil companies have put up mortgage money for the privilege of supplying the fuel.

I will have the matter looked into and I will be very glad to give the member a report on it.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Speaker, would the minister indicate in the report why, in all of this, the homeowner or the lessee should have to pay a penalty, irrespective of who supplies the fuel?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I will get all the details for the member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton Mountain.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): A question of the Minister of Transport.

When does the minister expect the kiss-and-ride GO bus service between Hamilton and Toronto to be in operation?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member has reference to an extension of GO Transit. The operation is being

dealt with in that respect by my colleague the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme).

While I have the floor, sir, may I answer a question?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Unless there is a supplementary question on that matter which does not pertain to me?

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Essex South enquired respecting service clubs and the like being granted authority to operate school buses. I understand that the Wheatley Kinsmen's Club, having secured a contract from the Kent county board of education, has made application to the Ontario Highway Transport Board for authority to operate a public vehicle school bus service, but that the licence has not yet been issued.

In issuing authority for a school bus service, the highway transport board would give significant weight to evidence of a contract having been entered into between a school board and a bus operator. But, basically, the board issues a certificate on the basis of public necessity and convenience. There is no government policy in this area that would discriminate against a service club.

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary from the hon. member for Essex South.

Mr. Paterson: May I ask the hon. minister, if, in his opinion, a private enterprise is willing and able to provide this service, is it justifiable to allow a service club to go into this type of business with a government licence?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I think that was inherent in my statement that the school board enters into the contract, and, as a government policy, we do not discriminate against an applicant of that kind.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): A question of the Minister of Health, Mr. Speaker.

What efforts has the minister made to relocate the Toronto detoxification centre, which has been given notice to vacate?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member is probably aware, the building in which the detoxification centre is now located will be demolished in two or three months. The foundation is making efforts, and is at present looking at several premises. It will likely be located in the building that it has at the Riverdale Hospital.

Mr. Shulman: As a supplementary question, would the minister give some assurance to the staff of the detoxification centre, who are apparently at present in fear for their jobs?

An hon. member: They should write to the minister.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I can not understand why they should be in fear of their jobs, because the directors of the addiction research foundation have assured me that they are going to relocate this centre and that it is not going to be disbanded.

Mr. Shulman: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In view of the success of the detoxification centre, which services such a small number of people, would the minister consider expanding this pilot project, which was set up two years ago, to cover all of the drunk cases in this city?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my estimates last year, the results of this pilot project, which has been very effective, are being studied and will be studied in the next few months by an interdepartmental committee of my department, The Department of Correctional Services and The Department of the Attorney General, with a view to developing a policy in this matter.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Downsview.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Trade and Development.

Does the minister think it reasonable that the legal department of the housing corporation should charge $30 for a discharge of a mortgage when commercial institutions, such as Prudential Life and others, are only charging $15, and when the legal department consists of fulltime employees of the government of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and get the information for the hon. member.

Mr. Nixon: Along with that lease question. We have not heard anything more on that.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, I have two questions of the Minister of Tourism and Information.

Mr. Speaker: Then, if the hon. member wishes to ask them this time, he will ask them together. *In seriatum* he would have to take another turn.

Mr. Burr: Right. First, is the minister having any success in having the gasoline tax rebate to pleasure boaters re-established as one means of trying to win back the tourist trade of American boaters?

The second question: what steps has the minister taken in United States boating circles to counteract the unfair propaganda spread by United States marine operators to the detriment of Ontario's tourist trade from American pleasure craft?

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Speaker, the first question obviously is one which I would not answer. It has to do with the Treasurer of Ontario (Mr. MacNaughton), although I can tell him that I would be delighted if I got my refund back again, as I used to.

As regards the second question, which concerns sanitary provisions for cruising craft in Ontario, I can tell the hon. member—because the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) is not here—that the OWRC have sent out a great deal of material making clear what the requirements are in Ontario waters for boats from other jurisdictions. I understand it has been sent to the trade press and to the various cruising clubs and power squadrons, I understand.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Waterloo North.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): A question of the Minister of Transport.

Since there has been extensive research into damage done by studded snowtires on the highways in Ontario, both to the highways and the white traffic markings, why have there been no research and reports given on the safety value of the snowtire with studs in the province of Ontario?

Mr. Speaker: Might I point out to the hon. member that the preamble which he made to the question was quite improper and he might now ask his question, which was the last three or four words. "Why has . . ." and it began with "why". Perhaps he would ask his question and the minister can answer it.

Mr. Good: The minister is on his feet, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: The minister will resume his seat while the member reasks his question properly.

Mr. Good: Why has The Department of Transport not made similar research into the safety aspects of the studded tire as The Department of Highways has into the highway damage?

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, sir. Now the minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, at the time the announcement was made by The Department of Highways respecting its estimate of the damage that had been done to our highways by studded tires, it was announced then that a study was under way with respect to the safety values of studded tires.

Mr. Good: A supplementary. Has this study been completed?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, no.

Mr. Good: A further supplementary. Has it been started?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, that is redundant. I answered at the time the announcement was made by The Department of Highways with respect to the damage being done, that it was also announced that a study with respect to their safety value was under way.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Trade and Development.

Could the minister indicate what progress has been made in the development of the Saltfleet satellite city? Can he indicate whether there has been an agreement reached between the city of Hamilton and the township of Saltfleet as to the providing of services for that city?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member, we have done considerable work with our engineers in Saltfleet. We have had a number of discussions with the city council in Hamilton.

The recent major discussion was the supplying of main service sewers to the Saltfleet area and that discussion is still under way. I think we will have a further report on that within the next few weeks.

Mr. Deans: May I ask the minister a supplementary question? Would he be able, at

this point, to indicate publicly how the project will be developed in order that the people of the area are able to determine what their future is in relation to their particular homes owned at present?

In other words, will it be the development of the southerly, northerly, easterly or westerly portion first? And how will development take place from then on—in what sequence?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I do not have the details here. We will not develop the whole 1,700 acres at one time, but the site plan will be formulated and made public when it is ready, and it is not ready at the present time to make that announcement.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Downsview has a supplementary.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, could the minister tell us if the lots are going to be made available for sale to members of the public? If so—

Mr. Speaker: That question is not supplementary to the original question.

Mr. Singer: It is Malvern—

Mr. Speaker: It is not supplementary to the original question.

Mr. Singer: In my opinion it is.

Mr. Speaker: And in my opinion, it is not. The member for Parkdale has the floor.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Health. Have the tenders been let for the beginning of the rebuilding of the mental health centre on Queen Street?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I would have to check to see if they have been let. I know tenders for the relocation of services were being called. I am not aware whether they have been let yet. They were being called and they were to be let late February or early March. I will check that out.

Mr. Trotter: By way of a supplementary, would the minister let the House know next week?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): A question of the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Is the minister considering taking any action with respect to certain newspaper advertisements urging people to become either salesmen or real estate agents in this province, thereby having the effect of driving up house prices?

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member that the last part of his question was not part of the question.

Mr. Lawlor: The hon. member was very cognizant of that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask that in future the members restrain themselves.

Mr. Lawlor: A little propaganda, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Does the member for Downsview wish the floor now to place a question?

Mr. Singer: Yes, I do, Mr. Speaker. Actually I have two. I will leave the Minister of Trade and Development alone—

Mr. Speaker: There is a very short time, so perhaps the member would get to his question.

Mr. Singer: A question of the Minister of Transport.

Could the minister tell us the nature of the intervention before the federal transport board which the province of Ontario is making in connection with the Smith Transport application to use the highways on Sunday for heavy trucks?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Would I tell the House the nature of the intervention?

Mr. Singer: That is right. The minister told us last Friday he was intervening, but he did not say how.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the government of Ontario has made a quite substantial intervention in the Smith Transport Limited application to the Canadian Transport Commission under the new national Transportation Act for exemption of its operations from The Lord's Day Act. I think it would be desirable in the interest of public knowledge of this matter to produce the entire intervention in this case and I will see how soon that can be done. I think the public ought to know the position of the province of Ontario in this intervention.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to say that the time has expired. I did my best to get the hon. member in.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the first report on the activities of the Ontario Council of Health.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Before the orders of the day and perhaps introduction of bills, I should advise the members that the bill which was introduced and given first reading yesterday, introduced by the hon. member for Thunder Bay (Mr. Stokes), Bill 32, has been examined not only by myself, but by the law officers of the Crown. While it is questionable, I have come to the conclusion that again this year it is proper for introduction by a member of the House not on the Treasury benches.

Introduction of bills.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, yesterday when I adjourned the debate at 6 o'clock, I had just finished putting on the record the story of the KVP company and its shameful, but successful, efforts over 20 years ago in thwarting the judicial processes in this province by appealing to the Conservative government of the day to allow it to continue to pollute the Spanish River.

Members may recall that the strategy at that time was to threaten to close down the mill and turn Espanola into a ghost town.

I was about to remind members that this KVP company is the same company now known as the Eddy Forest Products Limited. I was about to point out also that it was a rather remarkable coincidence that my colleague, the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel), had, on the previous day, asked the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) about reports that employees were being asked by this company concerning their willingness to move with the company to British Columbia. I congratulate my colleague for getting such a quick reaction from the company and thus allaying the fears of the people in that area.

The shocked denials of the company that it would think of moving are in striking contrast to the threatening tactics used almost a quarter of a century ago. Perhaps this augurs well for the future. Perhaps Eddy's will at last agree to stop polluting the Spanish River. Perhaps. Maybe.

Continuing my theme, which is the government's lack of a sense of urgency toward environmental pollution, I wish to make a few comments on this government's reluctance to deal in a forthright manner with the phosphate pollution of our lakes and rivers as far as detergents are concerned.

The need, of course, is for an immediate ban. If, however, there really is some logical reason for phasing out phosphates—and I confess I cannot see any—why does the government of Ontario not call for an immediate rollback in phosphate content to 10 or 12 per cent? One detergent, Wisk, has only 10 per cent now, and as far as I can learn, does a perfectly satisfactory job.

In 1952, according to figures I have obtained from The Department of Energy and Resources Management, the following detergents had only between 13.7 and 12.2 per cent phosphate content: Breeze, Oxydol, Tide, Surf and Cheer, in that descending order. Fab had only 9.6 per cent, while All had 9.2 per cent.

According to Pollution Probe's analyses, reported on February 12, 1970, in the *Globe and Mail,* these seven soaps or detergents now have a phosphate content ranging from 32 per cent up to 44.5 per cent. These detergents did the cleaning job adequately in 1952 with only 12 per cent phosphate content. Why not insist upon an immediate rollback to 12 per cent, instead of entertaining suggestions that have been made of going back to 25 per cent by August, perhaps to 10 per cent later, then declaring a total ban perhaps in 1972, as the Energy and Resources Minister J. J. Greene is reported to be planning?

Why is there any hesitation? If phosphates are destroying our lakes and if 50 per cent of the phosphates come from detergents, then ban them today. As yet I have heard no answer to the charge by Pollution Probe that soap companies have long-term commitments to buy phosphates from Erco and that this is the real cause of this foolish phasing-out policy.

I need not remind hon. members of the

great influence that Erco has with the Robarts government but surely it is not influential enough to mold federal policies too, or is it? A recent news item estimated that Erco's stake in phosphate sales to the detergent companies is $10 million annually. Are our governments more concerned with Erco than with Lake Erie?

The hon. member for Quinte (Mr. Potter) was recently reported as follows in the Belleville *Intelligencer* while commenting on the government's proposal to delay a ban on phosphates until 1972:

> He (Dr. Potter) pondered whether government was catering to big interests by allowing manufacturers time to get rid of any detergent stockpile.

Or he might have added, "in getting rid of Erco's phosphate stockpile."

Where, Mr. Speaker, is this government's sense of urgency? I predict that if phosphates were banned tomorrow, in a surprisingly short time all the soap companies would have substitute detergents on the market which they would be happily advertising as "whiter than the whitest white". In fact the Amway Company already has an all-purpose soap called LOC which contains no phosphates at all, and it is reportedly doing a good job.

Again, although the very serious threat to our environment by mercury pollution has been known for at least three years, questions in this House last spring showed that this government was not even aware of the mercury problem, much less concerned about it.

I should like to tell hon. members about another threat to our environment, perhaps of greater magnitude even than that of DDT. Although its existence has been recognized as a threat for over a year, a question I asked a few days ago revealed that the Robarts government has not yet concerned itself about it.

A group of chemical compounds—polychlorinated biphenals, now known as PCBs—has many industrial uses. Some of the products in which they are used are the following: rubber, electrical products, insulating fluids, printers' ink, plasticizers, coatings for fabric, coatings for paper, paints, automobile body sealants, varnishes, wax, adhesives, resins, asphalt, and they are used even in chlorinated insecticides.

In February, 1969, a University of California marine life researcher reported that certain species of birds around San Francisco Bay were being endangered by PCBs and DDT. In the fall of 1969, PCBs were held responsible for the death of tens of thousands of birds around the Irish Sea. Reports from Sweden, Britain, the Netherlands and the Arctic now indicate that PCBs may be as widely distributed as DDT. Their presence in human mother's milk has been confirmed, as well as their high toxicity. In Los Angeles, mother's milk was analysed and found to contain both DDT and PCB.

Like DDT, PCBs have not yet been proved to be harmful to humans during short-term exposure, although their toxic effect on birds, on experimental animals, and on humans at certain concentrations, has been clearly established. The hazard of PCBs, like that of DDT, lies in their passage through the food chains of various forms of life, providing long-term, low-level exposure to human beings. Similarly, in combination with other pollutants, their effects present man with new hazards.

Unlike DDT, however, which can be controlled through banning by legislation, PCBs present a greater problem because they are spreading throughout the biosphere by accident, not by deliberate intention as was the case with DDT. Just how PCBs escape into man's environment is not yet known, although the sources may be some or all of the following:

1. Chimneys of plants producing PCBs.

2. Emissions from the manufacturing process in which PCBs are used;

3. Incineration of the PCB product when discarded;

Immediate action must be taken and should include:

1. Establishment of a PCB tolerance limit in food;

2. Thorough investigation of harmful effects of PCBs on birds, fish and people;

3. A study of PCBs' intrusion into the food chains and the life cycles of animals and plants;

4. Pinpointing of the leakage of PCBs into our environment;

5. Prompt elimination of this pollutant.

PCBs, Mr. Speaker, are indeed a cause of concern and urgent investigation, and they represent another instance of this government's lack of a sense of urgency.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I wish to outline what I consider one practical, double-barreled suggestion that would promote a cleaner environment, both in the area of land pollution —which I have not had time to discuss—and in the area of air pollution. I suggest that the government select the worst air polluters, and

give them fair warning that at the end of a reasonable length of time the government will close down their plants until the installation of adequate control equipment is completed.

In the case of wealthy companies, or corporations, tell them they must continue to pay their employees who, incidentally, will not remain idle, but will be taken on for the duration of the shutdown by what I suggest could be called "an environmental protection task force". This would be organized by the federal and/or provincial government. These offending companies which are less affluent would be required to make some financial contributions to the payroll of their employees who join this task force.

The EPTS would work collecting the man-distributed garbage which now disfigures much of Ontario's countryside. Many members probably realize that within sight of the CPR and CNR tracks there is enough litter to keep a small army occupied for weeks. Depending upon the season, the task force might help in reforestation projects, or in the eradication of roadside weeds, or perhaps even in drainage projects.

The government might also devise an award for companies who achieve a high standard of pollution control. This seal of approval could be used as a prestige symbol by deserving companies in their brochures, on their letterheads and in their advertising.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, action is required instead of continued procrastination. Although many aspects of pollution are now global, nevertheless, we in Ontario must begin at home. As inhabitants of the most polluted continent on earth, the continent of greatest affluence and the worst effluence, we cannot afford to indulge in any smug complacency for many years to come.

The war against pollution requires money and research and a total commitment on the part of those who will be our leaders in this battle. Above all, Mr. Speaker, it requires a keen sense of great urgency.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased on this Friday morning, the 6th day of March, to engage in this throne debate. I could not help but think that this is a rather unusual debate in the sense that none of the government members is participating in the debate, with the exception of the seconder and mover. I could not understand this. I have to say that they have not only lost the will to govern but they have also lost the will to speak.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): No speakers. They are all ashamed.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): They are skulking in the corridors.

Mr. Gaunt: I could not help but think, Mr. Speaker, that perhaps the Conservative backbenchers felt a little bit embarrassed about the whole throne speech and therefore were somewhat reluctant to engage in its debate. I presume that must be the case because we have an obvious dearth of government speakers.

The throne speech, Mr. Speaker, was certainly a very innocuous document to say the least. It would be a very good document for one to read if one were having a little difficulty in going to sleep. Certainly, there is nothing in it that could tax the mind—no detail, it is just a very bland document that would allow one to sleep if he were having trouble in that regard.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): As a matter of fact, it set no taxes on anything.

Mr. Gaunt: That is quite true. It did not, and I suppose this is one of the things that commends it to the government.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: What is the member complaining about, then?

Mr. Gaunt: I said, "commends it to the government."

In any case, Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Speaker and the deputy Speaker, as well as the mover and seconder of the speech. I feel that your task, sir, and the task of the deputy Speaker is a very onerous one. Your position is very much like a National Hockey League referee. It is very hard to win, and sometimes the situation in the House here is created where the heat of debate runs rather high and you are placed in a very difficult position. I commend you, sir, on the job which you do and I urge you to carry on in the same vein.

Issues come and go in this House and in the public mind, but right now I think it is fair to say the key issue in the province, and indeed in the country, is pollution, its control, its prevention and certainly its correction. Indeed, if a public official issues a statement without mentioning the word "pollution", it is akin to a dereliction of duty. On the other hand, some of the statements we read are rather hysterical and do nothing for the speaker or the cause of pollution abatement.

However, I want to convey to the House my feelings in relation to a rather unique form of pollution that has appeared on the scene in the last few years—the disposable or nonreturnable bottle. This type of bottle developed as a result of a trend in North America toward convenience packaging, where the container was simply thrown away after its use. It is evident in everything from women's dresses to milk. This trend is creating major problems of disposal because land available for dumping is becoming scarce and air pollution control prohibits open burning. The public cost for garbage cleanup and waste disposal generally are increasing sharply and the more attractive parts of our countryside are often cluttered with this sort of litter.

Disposable soft drink bottles are one of the more unpleasant new introductions. They do not decompose readily. They are dangerous when broken. One could say they are one of the more unnecessary throw-aways. Sound alternatives to them do exist. People would not be robbed of any great convenience if they were to disappear.

The general introduction of the nonreturnable bottle was around 1962. Heavy introductions into the metropolitan areas appeared to start about 1967. This scheme was first devised by the American glass manufacturers who wanted a greatly expanded market. This was a good way to get it because the nonreturnable bottle is discarded or wasted and a replacement has to be made. Apparently soft drink companies were sold on the idea by the offer of higher profits through a bigger cut on the part of the glass manufacturer.

During the transition from returnable to nonreturnable bottles, one of Canada's largest soft drink companies reduced the contents of its large bottles from 30 fluid ounces to 28 fluid ounces. The full significance of that change can readily be seen when one looks at the sales of soft drinks in large bottles, which amounted to 52 million gallons in Canada in 1966. In 1968, half the soft drink bottles produced were throw-aways, but these bottles accounted for only five to 10 per cent of the soft drink sales. The reason for this is the fact that the returnable bottles are filled on an average of eight to 10 times before they are destroyed.

Inevitably, much effort has been made to try to convince the public at large that efforts to curb these bottles are unnecessary and misdirected. In fact, there is no problem at all, we are told. In order to add substance to what the glass container council was saying, three studies were done last year by an organization known as Canadian Research Services Limited. One phase of the study was on hospitals, for comments on injuries from broken glass. The second phase was along the lines of measuring the frequency of discarded bottles along our highways. The third one was in connection with discarded bottles in schoolyards. All of these surveys suggested that bottles are not serious elements in either roadside litter or hospital injuries.

The survey was supposedly made at 11 of the largest hospitals in Metropolitan Toronto. Officials at Toronto's four largest hospitals were questioned about the survey and only one official recalls, "some sort of survey may have been made". Toronto General Hospital, Metropolitan Toronto's largest, reports no trace of a survey concerning nonreturnable bottles.

Whether the hospitals were contacted or not, the important thing is that it seems unlikely that large hospitals would have detailed statistics on the cause of, what must be to them, minor cuts.

The study on roadsides covered sections of highway near Toronto and Winnipeg and Halifax, as well as two shopping plazas in Toronto. The Ontario results show glass running from 1.5 per cent to 3.2 per cent by item. Here again, surely it makes little sense to compare the number of bottles with the numbers of Kleenex tissues, popsicle sticks or pieces of paper? Bottles are hazardous; papers not. Bottles will stay there forever unless they are cleaned up.

In terms of weight and volume in the cleanup and final landfill operations, their proportion is far from insignificant. Glass is reported to account for eight to 10 per cent of the garbage collected, and 30 to 40 per cent of the weight of the residue after incineration, according to John Abraham in a paper delivered to the Soil Conservation Society of America in 1968.

An indication of the extent of injury caused by glass is the fact that Toronto Island first aid stations treated 60 reported cases of such, some serious, which were directly caused by broken glass in 1968.

In any case, the surveys to which I made reference, were surveys conducted only in and around Toronto and are, therefore, not all that useful from the point of view of determining the scope of the overall problem.

Broken glass is a growing problem in rural areas. I want to read for the benefit of the House, if I may, a few letters on the subject indicating the damage caused to livestock and

to farm machinery, and to generally set out the concern which people in rural areas feel concerning this matter.

The first letter is a letter from Jerseyville. It says in part:

> We had a flat tire on our car and the garage man took a sizable piece of broken glass out of it. One place especially bad for broken glass is the shopping plazas. Of course, the edge of the highway is also bad.

Another letter from a writer who says:

> I am writing in regard to disposable bottles that litter our roadsides and fields along the roads. I feel this is going to be a real menace in the future if something is not done about it now; not only to farmers, but soon everyone will run into some kind of trouble through people's carelessness.

Another letter from the riding of my leader, Mr. Speaker. It comes from RR 2, St. George, Ontario:

> We must drive a mile on the highway in going from one farm to the other. We dare not drive the tractor on the shoulder, due to bottles and broken glass.
>
> One day this summer we lost two hours on a dry afternoon with the combine due to running a tire on a broken bottle in the field.

So we can see that this certainly is a problem that causes a great deal of concern, both from the standpoint of actual damage and from the standpoint of time lost.

Another letter:

> May I add my protest against nonreturnable bottles. Recently I was cut on the foot and leg when a pop bottle shattered on the floor. This type of glass is definitely a hazard and I refuse to buy pop bottles in it.

There are many more letters here, Mr. Speaker, along the same line. Here is one here from RR 5, Mount Brydges, Ontario:

> In response to articles I have read in the paper concerning the nondisposable bottles, I wish to add my two cents.
>
> Three weeks ago my son put on all new tires on his car. Last week I borrowed his car and while driving down the country road on which I live, I drove over an unseen discarded bottle. The bottle broke and slashed one of the new back tires to such an extent that it was beyond repair.
>
> Recently I read an article that suggested it was not impossible for research to come up with an edible container, thus eliminating completely the disposable problems. It has been done with foods, so why not with drinks?

There are other letters here, Mr. Speaker. Here is one from Ethel, Ontario. This happens to be in my riding:

> I think disposable bottles are a terrible hazard to the country. Just drive down the road and see the broken bottles. We live across from one community centre and our field is not fit for a tractor and wagon.
>
> We have ruined a lot of tires. This year we ruined a new tire on our car that had only gone 100 miles. Last week our son ruined one of his by running over a broken bottle.

So it goes on, Mr. Speaker.

In addition to these comments one could add that municipal governments, as well as The Department of Highways, find themselves in the position of glass garbage collectors. The Department of Lands and Forests, I am sure, finds that the nonreturnable bottle is a hazard in its parks.

Perhaps the simplest answer is to come up with a container that disintegrates after use. Perhaps that is the easiest and simplest answer, if one could actually develop that kind of container. Sweden has come up with such a container, but at the moment it has not reached this continent.

In the meantime the province should impose a bottle tax on these non-returnable bottles, in order to encourage the use of returnable bottles. I think this could be done easily and simply. It would be a revenue producer for the province, while cutting down the use of the nonreturnable bottle. In my opinion, the amount of the tax is open to judgement, but I think the tax should be enough to encourage people to buy soft drinks in returnable bottles. Perhaps five or six cents per bottle tax on a nonreturnable bottle would be sufficient to induce people to buy soft drinks in the returnable bottles and thus reduce, to a large extent, this problem that we are having on our roads across this province.

I throw that out to the government. They are always looking for new sources of revenue and I think this is—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): The Treasurer should be paying attention at this point.

Mr. Gaunt: —this is one source of revenue which the Treasurer has not explored to the fullest extent.

Perhaps the Treasurer would rather go to Ottawa and try and persuade the federal people that he should have a bigger tax cut, than pursue the other avenues here in the province.

Mr. Nixon: We are used to the Minister of Trade and Development not paying attention to these important matters, but the Treasurer—

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): I have two ears. I am listening to the Minister with one and to the hon. member with the other.

Mr. Nixon: I can see daylight through there.

Mr. Gaunt: I want to throw that out to the Treasurer, because his budget —

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: If the member will turn around, I can fire a rifle through his.

Mr. Gaunt: —because his budget is coming down in April and the Treasurer still has time to consider this aspect.

While it might not raise a large amount of money for him, I am sure that it would help to look after a few of the caretakers around this building.

Mr. Nixon: Anything less than $100 million he is not interested in.

Mr. Gaunt: I want to turn to another aspect of public concern—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Come around here and I will tell the member what I will do for 10 bucks some day.

Mr. Gaunt: —and this relates to young drivers, Mr. Speaker, and the insurance rates they have to pay.

Drivers between 16 and 19 years of age constitute roughly eight per cent of all the drivers in Ontario. However, this age group, according to the 1968 statistics published by The Department of Transport, was involved in 11.8 per cent of all accidents and 13 per cent of all fatal accidents. In 1967 this group was involved in 12.1 per cent of all accidents and 14.6 per cent of all fatal accidents.

We have come to the point in this province, sir, where more attention should be directed toward the driver of the car. While the car and the car safety aspects of the problem are vitally important, I think that from the accident point of view it is just as important, and perhaps even more so, to try to prevent the accident in the first place. Just as the car safety check programme is important, it is not the only answer, because approximately 95 per cent of all accidents are caused by errors in judgement or some other fault of the driver, rather than by mechanical failure.

Further, I am not at all happy with the safety check system at present employed by The Department of Transport, and I wish the minister were in here now because I think this is a point which he should consider very seriously. In my opinion, it is costly, it is ineffective, and it leads to abuse of the rights of the driving public in the province.

The cars that need the safety check most often are those which go into cold storage when The Department of Transport safety check comes into town. The ones who get caught are the people who are passing through. As a result, the plates are taken off and, if the garage man cannot or will not fix the car quickly, those people are caused great inconvenience and discomfort. In some cases they are required to stay overnight in order to get the car repaired and rechecked.

The tidier and more effective way, in my opinion, would be to designate certain garages across this province for this type of work. The motorist would be required to submit a certificate of mechnical fitness on his car when he applied for his licence each year. This system is used in New Brunswick, with the result that all cars are checked, not just the few that happen to get caught.

So much for that. I wish to develop the point about young drivers. Most Canadians are surprised to learn that it is a good deal safer to drive in the United States than in this country. In Canada, there are 27.1 deaths per 100,000 population; in the United States it is 26.9. In Canada, there are 8.4 deaths per 100,000 vehicle miles travelled. In the United States, the comparable figure is 5.6. These figures are from the 1967 statistics of world automobile fatalities.

The Ontario Safety League believes the main factor accounting for the difference between Canada and the United States is a far greater proportion of United States drivers who were taught correctly in high school driver education courses. For this reason, rightly or wrongly, whether that opinion is valid or not, I still feel that it should be encouraged in the high schools, perhaps it could be a mandatory subject, that anyone receiving a provincial driving licence should be required to pass a complete course in

driver education based on the material of an approved driver course.

Last year, 100,000 teenagers reached 16; 22,000 of them took the driver training course offered in 450 of Ontario's 550 high schools. Obviously, the programme will have to be expanded, and I feel this driver training programme should be made compulsory in the high schools across this province. I think it would be a good idea. I think it would expose the young people to the development of the proper attitudes and the right knowledge of the rules. Certainly I think attitude is a very big factor in many of these accidents and this would be a good training ground for these young people. Obviously, from the figures I have cited, there are many young people, as a matter of fact 78,000 of them, who are not exposed in any way to this course.

Moreover, greater use of the point system should be part of the new emphasis toward driver training and driver education. A driver's licence is a privilege and not a right.

Further, a temporary licence should be issued to a young person 16 years of age provided the required driver education courses are completed. Instead of the regular 15 points, three points should be granted to a 16-year-old. If there are no driving infractions, then six more points accrue to the young person on his 17th birthday, and only after he reaches 18, provided there are no infractions, does he get the full 15 points.

In the event of the loss of licence, due to the loss of points before age 18, the provisional or temporary licence would be mandatory, pending two consecutive years of driving without a loss of licence after reinstatement. This recommendation follows closely the recommendation of the select committee on youth in this regard, and I urge The Department of Transport to accept this system, because the point system could be used effectively to improve driving habits.

In my opinion, it is time the department did something about this. Hopefully, this would help bring down insurance rates to young drivers, rates which in many cases are nothing but scandalous. When someone has to pay $500, $600 or $700 per year for insurance to drive a car, then I think it is about time that something was done. If The Department of Transport were to negotiate with the insurance industry for the lowering of premiums to young drivers upon the implementation of such a system as I have suggested, not only would the driving habits of the young drivers be improved, but the insurance companies hopefully would reflect lower accident rates among young people by charging lower premiums for coverage of young drivers. Surely this must be a priority of the government.

I was talking with an insurance man who represents one of the larger insurance companies just this morning, and he was indicating to me that as far as he was concerned, a system like this would certainly mean a reduction in insurance rates, because the accident rate of the young driver would undoubtedly be reduced and consequently the insurance rates would reflect that reduction.

As a matter of fact, I would like to broaden it even further than just applying it to the young driver, or to the driver 16 years of age. I would like to apply it to any new driver. I think any new driver should only be given three points at the outset. In that way, sir, the point system becomes a merit system, not a demerit system, and it is my feeling that this could be done with all drivers, because I understand 30 per cent of the accidents are caused by drivers who are in their first three months of driving.

It seems to me that if all drivers—for instance a driver who was 21 years of age and had never driven a car before; I am sure these people are not all that numerous but there are some who have never driven a car before—were to apply for a driver's licence, he would only receive three points. So I think that rather than confining it to just the 16-year-olds, I suggest that rather, to avoid discrimination, it would be an excellent idea to broaden it to include all new drivers, who would be issued three points rather than 15.

This system, sir, is in operation in Nova Scotia and it has reduced accidents in that province on the part of new and young drivers. Insurance rates have also come down—not greatly, but they have come down. This is a move in the right direction. So I urge the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett), in the event that he should happen to read my remarks, to study this matter and to give it his very serious consideration.

The last matter I wish to deal with is the use of studded snowtires. Engineers from The Ontario Department of Highways and a Montreal consulting engineer both came up with findings that called into question the use of studded snowtires. The problem is that the damage done to highways by studs may outweigh their safety features.

The Department of Highways in Ontario conducted a one-year study and this study

suggested that in two years the accumulated damage to Ontario highway pavement would be over $10 million, or about $7 per car. The highways' normal life span can be reduced by 50 per cent, or as much as 75 per cent if the pavement is bare. More frequent repairs and more frequent resurfacing because of stud damage would amount to about three per cent of the highway budget. Armed with these statistics it is only natural that government officials started making noises about banning the tires entirely.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the area which I have the honour to represent in this House is considered a heavy snowbelt area and studded snowtires are quite popular. As a matter of fact, I am told that 33 per cent of all the sales of snowtires are studded snowtires. I am told also, although I have no personal experience in this, that the studded snowtire makes a marked difference on icy and snowy road surfaces.

The people who have contacted me in this regard are concerned about a total ban. Without exception—and I say that, sir, and I underline it—without exception they are prepared to pay an extra tax on these tires to help defray the damage which they do. I think this would have a double effect. It would mean that the people who purchase such tires would be people who really felt the cost was justified. It would also reduce the sales of such tires, particularly in the areas of the province were the benefits were rather marginal. Hence, the damage done to the roads would be lessened.

Mr. Nixon: A very reasonable suggestion. Too bad there is not somebody here in the government to listen to it.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Speaker, I have come to the conclusion of my remarks, but before I close, sir, I just want to say a word about the amendment proposed by my leader. I think my leader has pinpointed perhaps all of the major concerns of the people of the province of Ontario at this point in time through his amendment.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I think pinpointed is the right word.

Mr. Gaunt: He has staked out the problem, sir, and this indicates a concern about those problems on the part of this party. We are prepared, sir, to do something about these problems. We are prepared to give the leadership and the direction in respect to these problems, and, sir, I can predict to you that after the next election, the Premier of the province, who now sits here, will be over there and doing the very things that we are suggesting in this amendment.

I urgently commend it to all the members of this House.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Give him a raise.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Middlesex South.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Mr. Speaker, since September 30, 1969, many references have been made—some amusing, some acrid, some entertaining, some slightly wearisome—about Middlesex South. At times, we on this side have speared the government with comments about that byelection and sometimes the government has wriggled on that spear. Analyses and evaluations have been offered, and even now, months after the event, research is still going on to determine why this riding, once a bastion of Toryism, returned a New Democratic candidate.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): More people voted for him.

Mr. Bolton: That is excellent logic from a surprising source.

Mr. Singer: The member should listen and he will get some more surprises.

Mr. Bolton: It is my wish to tender to this House, Mr. Speaker, an appraisal of that by-election and to do so with as high a degree of objectivity as the circumstances permit. Clearly the reasons for my election are not self-evident. Had they been, one would have expected some slight hint of its significance would have been reflected in the Speech from the Throne.

But 8,194 people gave me a message to bring to Queen's Park. It may be received or it may not be received, but the people of Middlesex South want it heard, they want it delivered. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the people of my riding want the government of Ontario to do what the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) requested Mr. Trudeau to do in his speech on Wednesday, March 4—that is to say, "Listen to the people of Ontario". My speech, of course, is not from the throne; it comes from the farmyard and the factory.

Let me say a word about Middlesex South riding itself. Of the electors, 31.9 per cent live in the city of London. The rest are spread over the townships of Adelaide, Metcalfe, Westminster, Caradoc, Ekfrid, Mosa,

Strathroy, North Dorchester, Dorchester, Lambeth, Glencoe, Appin, Newbury, Mossley, Delaware and Wardsville—places of that kind. Here work and reside Ontarians who are typical of this province. They are farmers with large and small operations; factory workers, union and non-union; small business proprietors; office workers; pensioners; indeed, the whole range of decent, hard-working members of the community, for whom we legislate and from whom we derive our taxes. They are, in short, Mr. Speaker, the people who deserve to be heard and who demand to be heeded.

There are some among them who have become so weary of political platitudes that they no longer listen to them. They have waited so long for promises to be fulfilled that they have learned to live with their quiet frustration. But others, Mr. Speaker, and they are in the majority and they are growing in numbers, are sick of empty phrases and deferred action.

Among those who voted for me were lifelong Conservatives—and I suggest that the government listen—who thought it safe to vote for me because they estimated that the election of one backbencher, more or less, would not topple the Conservative government. But they did believe, and they stated this belief and underlined it by their vote, that a local defeat might make the government aware of the needs and the mood of the people.

Mr. Speaker, there was nothing whatsoever in the throne speech to give them any assurance that this was the case. There is nothing to indicate to those watching and listening people that their signal might have been received by the government which formerly held their allegiance.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, it is neither my wish nor my duty to offer instruction to the government on campaign strategy, but I would suggest that unless the government is earnestly seeking retirement from office, it would be wise to offer and deliver something much more than the Speech from the Throne implies, that those whose minds are not closed may give some thought to the realities of the situation, as we have seen in Middlesex South, and as the votes would seem to indicate.

I propose to offer some specifics. First, I will speak of the farmers in the riding. They watch their income shrink as their costs rise. They observe that the results of their labour cost the ultimate consumer more while the primary producer gets less. They wonder increasingly about the power and the greed and the necessity of the middle men. I quote from the "Challenge of Abundance", as I say:

> Based on the return-of-the-resources approach of determining minimum income, we have found that farmers are not earning adequate incomes. The average farmer in Ontario receives less than $1 per hour for his labour. Rates of return on farm capital at current values are commonly below three per cent before income tax.
>
> By comparison, the average real wage in Ontario manufacturing industries was $2.48 in 1967. Rates of return on capital for non-farm industries, calculated on the same basis, average about 15 per cent.

Farmers are worrying. They are looking for a policy. They worry about the unjustifiably high price of farm machinery. They wonder when there will be a prices review board established to look into such things as the price of fertilizer. Mr. Speaker, when decent, hard-working, lawful farmers resort to tractor demonstrations, there is something gravely wrong in our system of communication. They wonder, are they being heard?

Let me speak now of the Indians in Middlesex South. There are three bands of them in my riding: the Chippewas, the Oneidas and the Muncies. In the 1967 election, they mustered, for the NDP, a total of nine votes. This figure was increased by almost 1,000 per cent in 1969, when they registered 86 votes for the New Democratic Party. They were sending a message to the Ontario government that they wanted their existence recognized and their claims considered.

Need I remind the House of their grievances? It would seem to be necessary, for no indication has been made in the Speech from the Throne of their real concerns. I quote from the "Poverty Wall":

> Across the rural ghettos of northern Ontario, the Indian bands feed bitterly off their own despair, all the while listening to the Ottawa and Ontario governments wrangle about who had constitutional jurisdiction over their lives.

Now to get nearer to home. Early in May, Chief Wilmer Nadjiwon, president of the Union of Ontario Indians, resigned from the Indian advisory council of the Ontario government's Indian development branch. He did so, he said, because he was convinced the government was not sincere in its programme to help Indians overcome poverty. A few days later, the government will recall—or has

it forgotten—the entire seven-man executive staff of the Ontario government's Indian development branch resigned, including the director, Joseph Dufour.

The Premier's first reaction was that the men had been looking for an excuse to do so. It was a weak defence, especially as it had been revealed earlier in the Legislature's debate on spending estimates that the responsible minister had spent only $400,000 of the $1.4 million he had been given to spend for Indian development during the previous year.

The area of the Indian administration—probably one of the most frustrating areas for any well-intentioned and dedicated person to work in—is that administrative no-man's land between the Indians of this country and the various levels of federal, provincial and municipal government. In the spring of 1969, Joseph Dufour, director of the Indian development branch of The Ontario Department of Family and Social Services, resigned from his $16,000 a year job, as did six of his nine coworkers. In the days that followed, they detailed with great honesty and bluntness, the political gamesmanship that had thwarted many of their attempts to help the 90,000 Indians in Ontario.

In a series of articles, interviews and television appearances, Dufour made some very telling points. His main argument, yet to be successfully argued against, was that his department, the Indian development branch, had been made impotent by being continually denied the authority to spend money on valid Indian projects—money that had been officially allocated by the government for such use. His budget was made up of an annual $1 million for expenditures under a provincial-federal agreement, and $4 million annually for administrative costs. He was never able to use even half of it.

When, in 1968, the federal government began its discussions on revising The Indian Act, one of the largest Indian organizations, the Union of Ontario Indians, realized that most Indians did not even know what The Indian Act was all about. So Chief Nadjiwon thought it would be a good idea to go out and explain the Act to the people on the reservations. The union asked Dufour for a $10,000 grant to do so. He, in turn, recommended the grant, but it was refused by the senior officials in The Department of Family and Social Services on the pretext that there were no funds available for such causes even though, as Dufour pointed out, "We were sitting on $1 million."

Again, consider the young Indians. For some time, university students of Indian background had been sponsored by the National Indian Youth Council to attend summer seminars at various universities in different provinces. One seminar was to be held in 1968 at an Ontario university, and the National Indian Youth Council asked if Dufour's department would contribute $1,000 toward the costs of the six-week seminar. Dufour was again refused, this time on the grounds that the money was not for excursions.

For some time, one of the most urgent Indian problems has been the Indian's first, and often disastrous, contact with big city life. Dufour's department, the Social Planning Council of Metropolitan Toronto, the Indian-Eskimo Association, the federal government's Indian affairs branch and the Canadian Indian Centre decided, after some discussion, that one of the best contributions they could make would be to turn a researcher loose on this specific problem for a year. The budget cost —$7,000. Once again Dufour was told: "The funds are not available."

He also went through the bureaucratic runaround which reveals the jealousy and ill-will held against his branch by officials in The Department of Social and Family Services. His staff spent hours preparing various guideline papers that were asked for by senior officials, but meetings to discuss the papers and projects were never afterwards held. As Dufour said in a television interview: "How could I keep going back emptyhanded to the Indians, and then ask them to believe we were sincere in our desire to help them?" As their member, I ask, "Am I to go back to them, emptyhanded?" This is a valid question.

The Indians are Canada's most economically depressed, socially isolated and educationally handicapped group. Mr. Speaker, 46 per cent of Indian families earn less than $1,000 a year.

While we debate in genial style and relax with our private conversations hither and yon, while a member makes a soliloquy, it might be well to look at the fact that the life expectancy of a Canadian Indian is 34 years against the national average of 62 years. They wonder, do we know, or do we care? What are we doing about it? The death rate among pre-school Indian children is eight times that of white children. Do we care? If so, what action are we taking? What can I say to the Indians in my riding, from this House? They have always deserved better, Mr. Speaker.

Quietly, patiently, they waited for it. But now, Mr. Speaker, they demand it.

Another message from Middlesex South comes from the labour force—and here, I must say, the Speech from the Throne has given some sort of indication; and what interests me is what is the meaning of this observation.

> You will be asked to approve measures that will facilitate collective bargaining, promote harmonious relations between labour and management, uphold and protect the rights and interests of all the people of Ontario in labour disputes. We will also place before you legislation which will provide collective bargaining procedures for Crown employees.

We will watch with interest! Of course the people of Middlesex South have not forgotten what happened when workers sought the right to organize in the Wolverine Tube Plant. Nor have they forgotten the most recent evidence of Ontario's unwillingness to understand that we have now entered into the 20th century in terms of man's right to determine something of his own condition. I refer to the most disgraceful events in Picton; the most recent indication of the old fashioned idea that workers should accept without question the pittance offered by the paternalistic management.

I refer to the delightful little town of Picton where the Proctor Silex Company, now known as the Proctor Lewyt Company, paid wages to about 75 per cent of its employees at the incentive base rate of 93 cents an hour, seven cents an hour less than the Ontario minimum wage at the time of the strike and 37 cents less than the minimum is now.

In a case like this, here is a man who worked for the company for six years as a receiving inspector in the plant; I refer to George Leblanc, who was earning $44 a week. Fred Blower, for example, 37 years old, father of two sons in high school, who had worked for three years repairing irons, received $54.12 a week which, after deductions, amounted to $39.73.

Are we surprised that when the organizational drive for a union began, people quickly signed cards, and soon 162 of 227 employees had signed up? Are we surprised too that the company was not in the mood for meaningful bargaining? Are we surprised that the company imported strikebreakers—brought them in by helicopter!

And where was the government in all this? Where is the regulation that will allow us to support our people in their own homes when they try to get a decent wage for the work they do and not permit strays to be brought in and allowed to vote in a cancellation procedure? When will this desperate loophole in labour relations be plugged?

We will watch to see what happens, as we have watched before.

Still fresh in the memory of my people in Middlesex South, Mr. Speaker, is the protest created by the Rand proposals. Any man of good sense knows that there must be genuine, thoughtful and fair discussion of many issues as between labour and management. This is no time for management to do a job on labour or for labour to attempt to do a job on management. We know they must learn to work together. But the responsibility of the government is clearly not to support one side against the other, but to act as a referee in the inevitable power struggle; to remove the provocation of allowing newcomers, imported strikebreakers, to interfere in the essential liberties and rights of those who have a legitimate grievance with the company for which they have worked for some considerable time. The Rand report is an invitation to dissent and clamour in labour-management relations.

I notice too, Mr. Speaker, that the throne speech makes no reference, except in a most oblique sort of way, to young people. We should do well to remember that people under the age of 25 will soon form the majority of this population—they now form I believe 50 per cent—and they are giving increasing evidence of their alienation from this government, from society.

Why? With very good reason. They find that we who are older are not listening to them. They find that we who are older seem unaware of the urgency of our times.

This is one of the main themes running through my experience in this House to date. I fail to get any real sense of urgency. It seems like some kind of genial club for occasional parry and thrust. I detect in this House no real sense of what is going on outside the House, of the movement for change, the need for understanding of what our people are experiencing in their daily lives.

The young people, and I know them reasonably well, having been with them in the university, find an ever-widening gap between the haves and the have-nots, between the weak and the strong, the favoured few and the neglected many.

They believe that we live in a world of words, unmatched by action. They think, of course, because we give so little evidence

of our understanding of the pace of our age, that we should be replaced.

London, that delightful city where I live—and I have neighbours who from time to time sit across the way—is beautifully treed and known as the forest city. It is also known, and I regret to quote this, as "speed city," because so many young people there are on amphetamines. It is one of the major sources of supply.

No small part of this alienation, Mr. Speaker—the alienation indicated by drug experiments and other demonstrations—no small part of it is that they have lost confidence in us who are older. They think we neither understand nor care about the world into which they have been born. They believe we are still trying to preserve a world that used to be and can never be again. They are not satisfied that we have tackled, with any sort of understanding or vigour, the problems of poverty, injustice or war.

In their own way they are saying, and we would do well to listen, that we need to re-examine the quality of our life. Canada is still ridden by inequalities; it still has wasted resources, human and material; it still lacks adequate social justice. Many young people are indicating that they believe the drive for private gain and special privilege is basically and fundamentally and dangerously immoral.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): And hon. members of the government are there to capitalize on it.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Not for much longer, not for much longer!

Mr. Bolton: They believe that society must have a moral purpose and that this moral purpose calls inevitably for social planning. They believe there is a place for private enterprise, but they also believe there must be public ownership where the alternative would be private monopolies that grasp with greedy hands what should be more evenly distributed among those who earn these gains.

Mr. Lewis: Especially in the mining field.

Mr. Bolton: Society in the western world cannot survive without eliminating poverty. We have the power to do this if we have the will—get rid of poverty and all its implications in terms of housing, health and education. I quote from David Critchley's brief to the special Senate committee on poverty.

> The challenge of poverty is not just that of guaranteeing the survival and growth of the human body; a society that is fit for humans must also assure the survival and growth of the spirit.

Our record with regard to psychics of survival is, if anything, worse than it was 20 years ago. Certainly using one fairly reliable measure, self-esteem and self-congruence, my experience suggests that the Canadian poor are worse off than they were 20 years ago. It is my contention that Canada has failed the poor, having increasingly become a place where human values and relations are being debased and being replaced with economic values and consumer relations, with a resultant demoralization and dehumanization of all Canadians.

There is much heartache, perhaps heartbreak, among social workers over many of the practical practices and policies they are called upon to implement. Often they are put in the position of having to act as paid mercenaries against the poor, or else quit. What are we in this government really doing about poverty?

We speak of tax reform, and meanwhile toss the ball back and forth between here and Ottawa in a new kind of Hepburnism. But are we doing anything about poverty? We speak of tax reform, and a great deal of the message from Middlesex South comes from those who live on fixed incomes, those older people who survived the depression, who did their best to raise their families and pay their way and now find themselves with an income that is increasingly inadequate to support them in the dignity which their industry deserves. They have listened to comments about tax reform as they watched their taxes climbing. They are not impressed when one government attacks another; they simply look for a way of maintaining their honesty and their dignity, from time to time trying to find the price of a little birthday gift for some grandson or granddaughter, but finding it hard to do.

The Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) declared quite honestly, "We acknowledge that the present property tax is grossly unfair, regressive and inefficient." He referred to a need for:

> —a fundamental reform involving provincial income taxes, provincial capital gains taxes, etc., none of them politically very tolerable, I suppose, but essential if we are to solve the financial problems of Ontario's governments at the provincial, regional, and municipal levels.

But our poor are saying, "When will we have some sort of tax relief? When will our money spread a little further?

Mr. Lawlor: Not as long as they have got the Tories over there.

Mr. Bolton: Mr. Speaker, there is more, much more, but—

Mr. Lawlor: Did you ever see such obfuscation coming out of that cesspool?

Mr. Bolton: There is more, much more, that I could say, Mr. Speaker, and that I will be saying in the course of time in this House, in my attempt to convey something of the mood of the people of Middlesex South—who are not different, but are typical of the mood of the people of Ontario and indeed Canada.

Mr. Speaker, without yielding to the mistake of the "Canada Almanac," I speak as a conservative, because I am a conservative. I do not belong to the Progressive Conservative Party, nor do I ever expect to do so, but I speak of a more basic and fundamental and rather lost conservatism. I believe this society has a duty to conserve many things—to conserve the ancient virtues of honesty, compassion and justice, for example.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): His leader calls those Victorian concepts.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): That is nonsense.

Mr. Bolton: I believe that each generation has a duty to conserve the environment in which it lives.

Mr. Pitman: It is "initiative" that I think he used.

Mr. Bolton: No matter if some companies threaten to go to Georgia with their polluting devices. This generation must answer for its polluted streams and lakes and ravaged land and poisoned air. What a monument to our free enterprise system—

Mr. Lewis: Free to despoil the entire environment.

Mr. Bolton: —that man in his use of the land committed to his charge has reaped so much public destruction. That lovely old word "conservative", implying a sense of stewardship, the safeguarding of ancient landmarks and the upholding of eternal verities, has become debased into a blind reverence for the *status quo*. The car is really sticking in the mud, remaining in the rut. They are not really seeking to uphold and maintain the essential things.

Let me go far back into history for a very brief moment. Moses, for example, was truly conservative when he resisted the exploitation of his people by the Egyptians. When he organized their strike against their oppressors, he demanded an unfair quota with inadequate provisions.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Then the bullrushes grew there and the place was polluted.

Mr. Bolton: Why? Because he would not allow people to be used as things, or the tools for exploitation.

Mr. Lawlor: More progressive.

Mr. Bolton: He conserved the ancient value and the dignity of man.

Mr. Lawlor: We have not yet come to it.

Mr. Bolton: Mr. Speaker, no matter what party label may be worn by those that respond, it is my contention that the people of this country are asking of all levels of government that we listen – that we listen to the voices of the exploited, that we listen to the voices of the alienated, that we listen to the demands for justice and equity between the employer and employee, and that we find a way to bridge the increasingly dangerous gap, and I use this word advisedly, Mr. Speaker, the dangerous gap between the governing and the governed.

These are not the days for political posturing, nor are they the days for bureaucratic delay or irresponsibility. The people, once patient, even apathetic, are demanding of us something better than they have experienced in terms of our ability to understand the questions and to begin to provide the answers.

Mr. Speaker, it is my firm belief that we are not concerned here just with the downfall or survival of the Conservative government of the province of Ontario, but with a deeper question. How much longer will the people of Ontario and of this country tolerate our evasions, our equivocations, our delays, our deafness and our apparent blindness?

There was a time when children played with toys while parents worked. There are those outside this House, Mr. Speaker, who believe that while they work to try to solve the problems of the day, we in this House play at politics, word games and oneupmanship. They look for something better. This, Mr. Speaker, is in my view, part of the message of Middlesex South. We will neglect it at our peril.

Mr. Lewis: Quite an impressive array of throne speakers the government has there! Really a lively, involved government.

Mr. Pitman: They will not govern, they will not come, and they do not speak.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Mr. Speaker, the first few days of this week were designated as leaders' day, and it appears that today is preachers' day. On the other hand—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Not another sermon, please.

Mr. Ferrier: Oh well, we have a few words to say on that kind of subject.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): The minister needs it!

Mr. Ferrier: We noticed there seems to be a lack of speakers from the other two parties. I suppose they are not ready to tackle the throne debate, just as they are not ready to tackle a lot of the problems of the province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: It is my privilege to participate in this throne debate on behalf of my constituents and my party caucus. As this 28th Parliament enters its third session, the crisis in municipal financing is as acute as it was at the beginning of the first session.

During the recess I had occasion to be present at many local meetings and again and again the cry went up: "We need more assessment; we must have more taxation revenue; we cannot go ahead with that programme or course of action because our municipal taxpayers cannot afford it."

Traffic studies, pollution controls, sewage treatment plants, street paving and other programmes are delayed because their implementation will push the mill rate up far too much. Yet other things cannot be shelved, such as salary increases and cost of service, so the fear of being caught in a big trap faces our municipal councillors.

We are told that we will be getting a better deal in northern Ontario from this government, and yet when the shelter exemption programme is revised, almost every municipality in northern Ontario will find its grants cut back by at least $5.

Mr. Speaker, when a programme is amended so that the north loses while the south gains, it makes one really wonder if the proposed creation of a department of northern affairs as outlined in the Speech from the Throne is nothing more than window dressing. Can we expect the minister to be anything more than the ombudsman of the north, as he describes himself?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I did not describe myself that way.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Oh come on.

Mr. Ferrier: If this is what his role is to be then one wonders if this role in cabinet, supposedly carried out by the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) and the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), has ever really been carried out by these two hon. gentlemen. On the other hand, is he saying that other northern members have not been forcefully presenting northern problems, as well as helping their constituents get some of these problems remedied with the various government departments?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Just some of the northern members.

Mr. Lewis: What does the minister mine in St. James Town?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: We have a lot of gold diggers there!

Mr. Ferrier: Really, Mr. Speaker, this government, during its 26 years or so in office, has been made aware year after year of northern problems, by countless northerners. What we need is not an ombudsman so much as a department that will come forward with new programmes and policies that will begin to meet the particular needs that we in the north face.

The Minister of Mines did not present any new proposals to the north at his three development conferences held last fall. What he did do in Kapuskasing a month or so ago, as the *Globe and Mail* editorial of February 14 pointed out, was to accuse *Monsieur* Marchand, federal Minister of Regional Development, of drawing an iron curtain west of Quebec. The editorial goes on:

> His remarks about the choice of projects and the staffing of the regional incentives programme leave the suggestion that there is some collusion or Quebec plot to exclude Ontario.

This is an old ploy the minister is using to blame the federal government for something that his own government should have rectified during its 27 years of office. The north is as it is because the Tory regime has never been adequately concerned about the north. "The snide attacks and accusations of French favouritism", made by the minister as that editorial said are unworthy of a man in his high office.

Whether he means it as it sounds or not I do not know, but to pit Ontario against Quebec with all the undertones that this involves is a very dangerous approach, especially in the north. Personally, I want to see all the people in the north, as everywhere else in this province live, work and play together in harmonious relationship.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: That was my speech.

Mr. Ferrier: If the Minister of Mines feels the same way, then he should be much more tactful in things he says, particularly in northern Ontario.

Mr. Lewis: Right, or he will become minister of southern affairs.

Mr. Ferrier: I say to this government, Mr. Speaker, that their new department had better be more than a co-ordinating body. It had better initiate programmes to meet the pressing problems of the north. Nothing less than effective action to redress much of the imbalance between the south and the north will satisfy us.

Nothing much has been said in the last year about the 11th province, but make no mistake about it, Mr. Speaker, you will be hearing a lot more about it if this government does not move with despatch on the north's behalf.

On Wednesday of this week the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) wrote the councils in the Porcupine to tell them that there would be no upward adjustment in their mining revenue payments for last year because they did not allocate a sufficient amount of what they had received for education expenditures. Of the $480,000 Timmins received they allocated only $20,000 for education. Because of this, the minister says, Timmins is out of luck for any additional revenue.

It seems to me that an adjustment should be in order no matter where the municipality uses the funds; the same taxpayers are benefiting!

I have been advised that Texas Gulf Sulphur paid the province of Ontario $7.2 million in taxes last year; yet all Timmins got back was $480,000, with the refusal of any additional amount. When one considers what the other Porcupine mines contributed to the consolidated revenue fund of this province, then the attitude of this government to our mining camp is inequitable and exploitive. When we generate that much taxation and yet get so little back to meet our growing municipal expenditures, it says to me that the northeastern municipal association must proceed with all haste in its study of the feasibility of an 11th province.

Mr. Lewis: The minister must be the greatest disaster to ever befall this government.

Mr. Ferrier: At present, district government is being discussed in the north in response to the Pearson report. The people I talk to are cautious on the matter, but at the same time they find their role as municipal councillors so emasculated by Queen's Park and the crisis in taxation so great that they are willing to consider the matter, provided that their responsibility to make decisions on behalf of their municipalities is enhanced and tax reform is brought about. The politicians in my area do not like being rubber stamps for Queen's Park, nor do they wish to have their programmes forever curtailed because of a lack of revenue.

As I said before, the crisis of municipal financing is getting worse rather than better and this government must meaningfully reform our tax system to ease the burden on our municipal property taxpayers in northern Ontario and redistribute the burden on a progressive and equitable basis. The introduction of the foundation tax programme, as outlined in this House by my leader in 1968, will, I believe, bring about the help our municipalities desperately need.

Another problem that needs to be tackled is the level of provincial pensions and welfare payments. There was nothing in the Speech from the Throne to help those who need help most. I find it entirely unconscionable that while the cost of living continues to escalate there has not been an increase in these payments for three years.

We suspect that the government will not do anything to raise payments until the election year in an attempt to impress welfare and provincial pension recipients of the generosity of the Tory government. Such callousness may be considered good politics but as far as I am concerned it is hardheartedness equal to that of the pharisees of new testament times, and it deserves a condemnation equally as scathing as that which our lord gave to the pharisees.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I knew it; a sermon!

Mr. Ferrier: Surely we can help the poor and needy in our province by raising their welfare payments now because we believe justice and morality demand it, rather than

wait for an election because political expediency dictates that it be done then.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): What a government!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: At this time I wish to raise the problem of the installation of sewers in Mountjoy township in my riding. A study was made by the OWRC, who subsequently reported to the township, in 1965, of the urgent need for immediate installation of sanitary sewers. The upshot was that the Ontario Municipal Board approved a capital expenditure of $180,168 for the sewage work project. This amount included the construction, engineering, interest during construction, land, legal and survey costs, and other miscellaneous items. I am pleased that the work got under way in 1967, I believe, and the system was placed in limited operation in 1968.

In a letter to me dated July 9, 1969, the vice-chairman of OWRC, the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root), said:

> You are probably aware that the contractor experienced some difficulties in installing the works.
>
> In accordance with the contract executed with the contractor, it was essential that the sewers be installed to certain specifications. Several meetings have been held with the contractor in an attempt to rectify the unsatisfactory work. Arrangements are now being made to have rectification work undertaken during the remainder of the current year.

For your benefit, Mr. Speaker, I should like to give you the background of how this particular contractor came on to the scene. When the project came up for tendering, it is my understanding that the usual contracting firms made their tenders, but the amounts were far too high to suit the township council. At this point, the reeve at that time and the clerk took a trip to northwestern Quebec to see a contractor over there. This contractor was not experienced in installing sewers, and he did not have any extra equipment beyond what was basically required. The reeve and clerk, smooth talkers as they were, conned this contractor into making a bid on this project at a figure the council felt it could afford. The man tendered, it was accepted and he proceeded with the installation.

As the member for Wellington-Dufferin pointed out in his letter to me, "The contractor experienced some difficulties". That is a gross understatement. The contractor did not know how to do the job, and he made a real mess of it. The original contract was for $180,168, but the rectification work has already cost over $120,000, for which the government has assumed responsibility for recovering from the bondsman.

There are a number of questions that arise. The reeve and clerk may have thought they were giving good service to their municipality by their con job in getting an incompetent contractor to the job at a reduced price. Not only has the contractor probably gone bankrupt over this deal, but the citizens of that township have had to have their streets dug up more than once to repair a system that would not work properly. Moreover, its proper operation has been delayed far beyond the target date. It would have been better to have paid more to have the job done right the first time round.

Another question is why did OWRC allow a contract to be let to a firm that was not competent to do the job? Further, as the job progressed, why did the inspector for OWRC not become aware of the mess that was developing, and why did he not take steps to see that the job was done properly or else stop it until it was, or call for the revoking of the contract? The whole project was bungled from start to finish, and the interests of the people of Mountjoy were not adequately safeguarded.

There is another dimension to Mountjoy township and its sewage system. The study in 1965 stated that the situation was serious and fast action was needed. Septic tanks just will not work in the kind of soil that exists in Mountjoy. As a consequence, the health problem from sewage in ditches worsened.

While there was so much difficulty with stage one, stage two was deferred. However, the township council began to move toward the implementation of stage two, and as things now stand, has had its project approved by OWRC. It is necessary for stage two to proceed with all haste, so that a serious problem can be rectified.

I hope that the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) and the vice-chairman of OWRC will use their influence and authority to get this project completed by the end of 1970, if this is humanly possible. The health hazard is great. A motel, a school and numerous homes have septic tanks that do not function adequately, so that sewage water from these tanks comes to the surface and runs in open ditches throughout the community and even into the watershed.

I want to make another request of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, and that is this: This time will he see that only a reliable and competent firm is hired to do the job and that a provincial OWRC inspector makes sure that the job is being done as it should be done. There must not be any repeats of the other fiasco.

To the Minister of Municipal Affairs, I would make this request: I understand moneys have been or soon will be allotted to Mountjoy township to engage in one stage of an urban renewal scheme. If this scheme is to be proceeded with, then I ask that he take special care to see that the work done under this scheme is adequately supervised by the province, so that people do the jobs correctly and money is not misspent by hiring a cut-rate incompetent firm.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: What was the member saying a few minutes ago about local responsibility?

Mr. Ferrier: This kind of thing happened before. Why does the government have inspectors when they allow that kind of thing to go on? Does the minister want to make an excuse for that kind of misspending of government money?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: That was under municipal jurisdiction.

Mr. Ferrier: If municipal councils will not do the job properly, someone else has to do it.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Tell that to the municipal council up there.

Mr. Ferrier: And in this case—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Oh, this is a special case?

Mr. Ferrier: Not in this case.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: This kind of thing happened before, and I am therefore calling on these two ministers to make sure there is no repetition of such a fiasco.

Mr. Martel: What do we have government inspectors for?

Mr. Ferrier: I turn to the need for highway work in my riding. In reply to my letter of September 9, concerning Highway 572, the minister informed me that his department has arranged a programme to reconstruct the road between Ramore and Holtyre at an estimated cost of $500,000. Then he went on to say:

> Inevitably, the heavy pressure of road needs on our restricted funds tends to seriously retard work priorities. The best that can be said is that prospective work on Highway 572 will be brought forward at the earliest moment we can justifiably allocate funds for that purpose.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this work will begin this year on this road, which has deteriorated badly and needs reconstruction.

Another road that has caused a great deal of dissatisfaction from the users is Highway 577 between Monteith and Ansonville. Again, in a letter of November 26, the minister has assured me that a programme of complete reconstruction has been arranged for this road, and that a planning report on the project is scheduled for completion by summer of 1970. The minister states:

> In view of the relatively minor function of the road and the heavy demands on our restricted available funds, we cannot give high priority to the project. We shall, however, continue with the various aspects of precontract engineering so that the work can be brought forward at short notice when funds can be justifiably made available.

I appreciate what the minister has planned for this road. However, I would say, Mr. Speaker, that the road is very important to the users of it, and fulfils a major function as far as they are concerned. I hope that this work will not be shelved indefinitely, but can be undertaken without too much delay.

A great deal has been said about the condition of stretches of Highway 101 west of Timmins. Reconstruction has been proceeding west of Timmins to beyond Highway 144, and I hope that this work continues, so that the very deteriorated road is replaced right up to Foleyet, and the dangerous curves are eliminated. At present, tourists are discouraged by the condition of patches of Highway 101 between Foleyet and Chapleau. These tourists have told the Timmins-Porcupine chamber of commerce that they will not drive over this road again. The tourist trade in our area has been hampered by the condition of sections of this road. Therefore, I hope that as much of this part of the road will be paved this summer as is possible.

Some residents of the Porcupine have tended to identify only the problems of Highway 101 as it stretches west of Timmins, but really, Mr. Speaker, sections of Highway 101

east of Timmins have shown real deterioration recently. Last year, hot mix patching was done in the particularly bad spots, but there must be a reconstruction programme in the works for Highway 101 east of Timmins in the foreseeable future.

We are looking forward to the day when Highway 144 between Sudbury and Timmins is completed, and perhaps the new minister of northern affairs will cut the ribbon that day. That will probably be next year. Surely, though, as that road nears completion, the next logical step for The Department of Highways to take is to commit itself to the building of a highway to link up Timmins with Smooth Rock Falls. This road has been talked about for years and years. The former member for Cochrane South, the late William Grummett, put forward over 20 years ago the need to link up Sudbury and Timmins and Smooth Rock Falls. We have talked about it ever since. As one stage reaches near completion, I would say, Mr. Speaker, that the minister is now in a position to proceed with this new section of the road. We shall await his announcement of this road with a great deal of anticipation.

Mr. Lewis: Let him divert some of the southern Ontario highway building.

Mr. Ferrier: There is one final local problem I wish to bring up before launching into the main section of my speech.

The reeve and council of the township of Playfair have been doing a very splendid job in administering the affairs of their municipality. They have had a sewage system and treatment works in operation for 10 years or more.

Their financial picture is considerably better than many municipalities, to the extent that the neighbouring municipality of Black River-Matheson decided that they would like to annex Playfair. Accordingly, the wheels were set in motion and an Ontario Municipal Board hearing on the matter was held and then postponed, pending further information.

For some reason, The Department of Municipal Affairs and the Ontario Municipal Board always needed prodding to give information to Playfair that Black River-Matheson had ahead of time. Personally, I deplore the kind of treatment given here, where a government department does not give the same information to both municipalities at the same time. It leads one to believe that the government has prejudged the issue before the hearing is even completed.

In dealing with The Department of Highways, Playfair township was given a raw deal on the purchase of a grader. They needed a grader—they wanted to buy a grader and had the money to buy a grader—but they were refused permission by the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme). Why preferential treatment is given one municipality over another, or why a decision of the Ontario Municipal Board is anticipated before the hearing is held is beyond me.

For the records, I shall read a letter of the clerk of the township of Playfair and the reply he received from the Minister of Highways. It reads:

To the Minister of Highways:

I have been instructed to forward to you a clipping from a local newspaper, showing a grader recently received by the township of Black River-Matheson and which also states that a subsidy of 75 per cent is to be received by the township of Black River-Matheson on said grader. Council for the township of Playfair had been led to believe that the township of Black River-Matheson had made application and that their bylaw had been approved without any unusual difficulties.

However, as you, sir, have been so set on the township of Playfair proving need, we also must assume that this also must have prevailed for the township of Black River-Matheson, which is exactly as stated in resolution of Playfair council dated June 23, last—our letter dated June 24, for which this council never did receive a direct answer.

This letter is dated November 18.

We also must draw your attention to a special meeting of the Playfair council of June 9, 1969, attended by your district municipal engineer, New Liskeard, Mr. Stewart, and DHO road superintendent, Mr. Scratch, to discuss the supplementary bylaws for the grader and installation of storm sewers and paving, as submitted May 29 to the district office. Council was advised at this meeting, by Mr. Stewart, that the township of Black River-Matheson was also considering making application for another grader, but could only justify half a grader.

What the council of the township of Playfair now wishes to know is, on what grounds was the purchase of a grader granted by yourself for the township of Black River-Matheson, as has been stated, was not justifiable in June, and at which time the township of Playfair had already

made application and, further, the fact that this grader would cost the province more with approval of the Black River-Matheson application on the basis of a 75 per cent subsidy, as compared to only 60 per cent subsidy for the township of Playfair?

Further, council wishes to know what has become of our supplementary bylaw 466, for the purchase of the said grader, passed by this council on May 28, 1969.

Awaiting your reply, I remain,
Yours very truly,
T. E. Monahan,
Clerk.

And the Minister of Highways wrote back on November 24.

Dear Mr. Monahan:

Please inform your council that your letter of November 18 has been received. While it is not my practice to answer correspondence which attempts to question my exercise of ministerial judgement, I would like to point out to you and the council of Playfair that there is some 230 miles of road in Black River-Matheson, while Playfair has but 30 miles.

I understand that there is now a request before the municipal board for the amalgamation of Kingham improvement district to Black River-Matheson, and also a request for the annexation of Playfair to the larger municipality. If this consolidation proceeds, then the equipment fleet of the new municipality will have to be reviewed in the light of new responsibilities. If it does not proceed, then the responsibilities of the continuing municipalities will have to be examined.

At this time, therefore, I am not prepared to approve subsidy on the purchase of a grader for Playfair township. Once the decision of the Ontario Municipal Board is known, I will again review the situation.

In the interim, you can rest assured that the services of a department grader will be available to the township, as it has been in the past.

Yours sincerely,
George E. Gomme,
Minister.

I just happen to believe that this government, for some unknown reason, has been discriminating against Playfair township, and this is not right.

On the matter of the request for the annexation of Playfair by Black River-Matheson, let me say that it is not for me, nor for the government to take sides, but rather to let the two municipalities present their arguments to the OMB for their decision on the basis of the arguments presented.

I want to turn now to two aspects of The Department of Health, the department for which I am to be the critic for our party. First of all, may I thank the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) for the co-operation which he has given me, which includes the offer to visit any of the institutions under his jurisdiction without prior notice having to be given.

One of the items in the Speech from the Throne that I expected was an indication that the OHSIP legislation would be amended, but alas, no such indication was given. What a pity, since the OHSIP legislation has put into operation a deficient form of Medicare which has properly incurred the wrath of a great many citizens of this province. The number of problems that have arisen because of this plan is legion. I am sure that every member of this House has had problem after problem to straighten out for constituents, if their experience is similar to mine.

We all know that the government did not want Medicare. When it became obvious that they could not resist it, they brought in this plan, which is basically defective and grossly inadequate, as this caucus pointed out when the legislation was being considered.

A few nights ago in Timmins, certain critical comments were made at a meeting by a municipal councillor on the monopoly that the government has on transportation into northeastern Ontario. The Ontario Northland Railway controls rail and bus transportation, as well as trucking, through its subsidiary Star Transfer. Many argue that shipping charges are thus kept inflated while competitors are not permitted to exist.

One of the senior officers of Texas Gulf Sulphur was at the meeting, and he said to me as he left: "That does not say very much for socialism, does it?" My answer to that statement is that there is a vast difference between a socialist undertaking that is run by a capitalist and one that is run by a socialist. While the socialist believes in the particular enterprise and sees that it is truly run on socialist lines, the capitalist sees it as a threat to his ideology and runs it as reluctantly as a capitalist can. This means that many road blocks are placed in the way to keep it from operating as it should operate.

That is what has happened with Medicare in this province. This Tory government has been manoeuvred into doing something it has

not wanted to do, and, as a result, its corporate capitalist mentality has led it to introduce a scheme of Medicare that is deficient and inadequate on several fronts, because of the roadblocks placed in the way of its just and efficient operation.

The present scheme is inefficiently administered by a mixture of private insurance carriers and public bodies. The sooner the private insurance carriers are eliminated, to be replaced by one government agency, the better it will be for the citizens of this province.

Tom Claridge, in his *Globe and Mail* article of February 6, refers to the administration hodge-podge that exists and refers to some solutions of the mess as suggested by the plan's management. He says that "a division of powers among OHSIP, HIRB and OHSC confounds the staff of the three agencies as much as the public", and the solution offered is the replacement of the three government agencies by one body with separate divisions for hospital and medical care. This has merit provided that on premium collections, the hospital and OHSIP payments are handled together until premiums are eliminated.

Another problem raised by Claridge is that there are at least three unintegrated computer systems which do the work that one large computer could accomplish for a fraction of the cost. It would appear that one large computer would produce savings that would pay for itself in due course.

Another bone of contention is that the government has not used the $176 million federal grant to reduce premiums, but is using it to enable the government to pick up an extra five per cent of education costs. Of course, the money given by the federal government to reduce premium costs should be used to reduce premium costs.

The Ontario government likes to point out that this province produces a large share of the wealth and taxes of this country. Yet the ironic thing is that the wealthiest province charges the highest premium for hospital and medical insurance of any province in Canada.

Nova Scotia funds its plans, not by premiums, but by a seven per cent sales tax. The NDP government in Manitoba charges only $99.60 for a family for medical and hospital services, which is less than one third of Ontario's premium. The next highest premium to Ontario's for both medical and hospital services for a family is charged by British Columbia, whose total amount is $150 —less than 50 per cent of Ontario's $309 for family coverage.

If the poorer provinces can fund their schemes with a lot lower premium, Ontario, the wealthiest of the lot, can well afford to do so as well. The people of this province are now paying more for less coverage than before OHSIP came into force. The truth of the matter is that the OHSIP scheme is grossly inadequate and requires a complete overhaul, yet the government has given us no indications that it will do so.

It should be made clear that the OHSIP scheme, with all its glaring deficiencies, received the support of the Liberals last June by way of their vote in favour of it. Their *status quo*, establishment-oriented mentality led them to again accept inadequate legislation rather than hold out for what is good and right.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: They learned the gravity of their mistake when the results of Middlesex South were in. Since then, they have changed positions so many times that I doubt if even they know where they stand.

Mr. D. M. DeMonte (Dovercourt): We did—

Mr. Ferrier: They have done all their shifting without putting forth researched background papers—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Ferrier: —to show that their positions are feasible and responsible.

Mr. Martel: Has the member read *Hansard* lately?

Mr. Ferrier: As their political plight worsens, they are offering more and more pie-in-the-sky in a desperate effort to win back the lost ground that has slipped from under their feet.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: Unlike the Liberals and their growing irresponsibility, the New Democratic Party put forward a thoroughly researched, viable, and workable alternative to the OHSIP legislation last November 26 in a news release—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: If they would just listen they would have a chance to hear it.

In addition to saying what we propose, we said how we propose to do it and included

seven appendices showing how our plan would be funded and how it will affect the citizens of this province. It is a workable, responsible plan to provide additional health services paid for on a much more progressive and equitable basis.

We believe it is clearly necessary and desirable for Ontario to remove the inequities in the financial structure of the existing schemes and, in addition, act immediately to include more services in a comprehensive health-care package.

An hon. member: They voted against Medicare.

Mr. Ferrier: To achieve this double objective, the New Democratic Party, when elected as the government of Ontario, would enact the following:

1. The reduction by 61 per cent of the combined family premium for hospital (OHSC) and medical (OHSIP) coverage from the present $309 a year to $120 a year, or $10 a month. The single person's premium will be reduced on the same basis to $5 per month.

2. The extension of existing coverage to include prescription drugs, chiropractic services and nursing home care.

3. The combining of an increase in the personal income tax equivalent to a two per cent income tax, plus a three per cent—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: —corporate income tax with the sharply reduced premiums of $10 a month for family coverage, so that total health care costs will be dropped below the present level of OHSC and OHSIP premiums for over 90 per cent of the people.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: This means, for example, that an average family of four, where the family income is less than $13,000 a year, will pay less for health insurance, even with the extended coverage for drugs, chiropractic services and nursing home care, than they do under the present government scheme.

The increase in the personal income tax, moreover, will be raised through an eight per cent surcharge on present income tax, in order to make the tax progressive, rather than simply proportional. This surcharge will raise the same revenue as a flat two per cent tax on total income, yet it will conform to the principles of taxation equity, since it will be tied directly to the progressive income tax scales established by the federal government.

To give the members some idea of the amounts involved, as an example, this surcharge will result in an extra tax of $24 for a family earning $5,000 a year and $111 for a family with $10,000 a year, but they will pay $189 less in premium taxes.

As startling as this new package may sound, it is nevertheless completely realistic. Here are the facts:

Cost involved in the NDP health care package: medical and hospital costs not covered by federal and provincial grants amounts to $433.7 million. The additional cost of prescription drugs, based on four prescriptions per years at $4 each by 7,682,000 population, plus five per cent administration, is $128.1 million. The additional cost for chiropractic services is $10 million, which means a total of $571.8 million.

The premiums at the rate of $5 and $10 will yield $204 million. Personal income tax —two per cent average, but collected as an eight per cent surcharge—will produce $260 million. The corporation income tax—3 per cent—will produce $108 million. Which comes up to an amount of $572 million. The break-even point with current cost—for a family of four, $13,300; for a single person, $6,700.

Now the assumptions for the above calculations: First, that the Ontario government will continue to pay into the plan the same amount that it is now paying, plus a reasonable increment for normal cost increases. This means that mental and TB care and hospital grants will be fully covered out of general revenue, and the amount to be raised from premiums and other special taxes will be the cost of insured services—including administration—less current federal and provincial contributions.

However, it is assumed that the rate of the general provincial contribution to the hospital plan should be maintained at the level attained in 1968-1969, which was $97 million, plus a normal increment, rather than at the drastically reduced rate provided in the 1970-71 budget in an effort to balance the budget at the expense of premium payers. The figure used in these calculations is still far below the one third promised by the Frost government.

Second, that administrative costs of five per cent of payments are reasonable if the NDP policy of combining the two plans and eliminating private insurance companies as agents is adopted.

Third, that each per cent surcharge on the personal income tax will yield $32.5 million

and each additional per cent on corporation income will yield $36 million in 1970-71.

Fourth, that all welfare recipients and all persons with no taxable income will be covered but not required to pay any premiums, and that premium subsidies would be available to low income groups.

Further to these cost factors, each component of our comprehensive health care package is vitally important for the following reasons:

Medical coverage: In order to keep costs to the patients at the levels set out above, the threat of double-billing beyond the 90 per cent of the doctor's fee schedule at present covered by OHSIP must be eliminated. That is, the New Democratic Party would amend the OHSIP legislation to provide that all medical practitioners who operate within the Medicare plan will accept the 90 per cent as full payment. This has been done in other provinces and there should be no question that it is a reasonable approach, in these inflationary times, for a profession whose average net income, according to the 1967 income tax returns, was just under $31,000 a year.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: On hospital coverage: Hospital bills and doctors' bills are both included in the monthly premium of $5 for a single subscriber and $10 per family. At the same time, the complete or partial subsidization now available for low income families subscribing to OHSIP will also become available for hospital coverage. In this way the grave injustice involved in subsidizing OHSIP premiums while denying subsidization for the equally burdensome OHSC premiums, will at last be eliminated.

Premiums: In the long term, the ultimate objective of the New Democratic Party is the complete elimination of premiums, first because they are a regressive form of taxation and second because it will mean that the possibility of being uninsured will no longer exist for any person in Ontario. It will be possible to eliminate these premiums when the entire provincial and federal tax structures are finally brought into line with Carter report principles. Until then, the present NDP health care package will lighten the burden considerably with the 61 per cent reduction.

Prescription drugs: The Ontario Pharmacists Association—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ferrier: For prescription drugs: The Ontario Pharmacists Association, appearing before an October 30 meeting of the Legislature's standing committee on health, estimated the 1968 costs for this kind of drug coverage at $143.4 million, including five per cent administration costs. On the basis of 1970 population forecasts and some increase in drug prices, their figures would produce a 1970-71 estimate of $147.6 million total cost. In our opinion this total cost can be somewhat reduced, to a level of some $128.1 million, through governmental action to reduce inflated drug prices and by encouragement of the use of generic drugs for prescription purposes.

Mr. Lewis: The government is running around to find 30 private carriers.

Mr. Ferrier: We based our estimate of four prescriptions a year at an average of $4 per prescription on the pharmacists' own estimates of prescription usage in the insured and uninsured population.

Mr. Martel: Five hundred per cent markup on the average!

Mr. Ferrier: Nursing home care: Because of a shortage of hospital beds, many patients are discharged from hospitals in circumstances where they need convalescent nursing care but they cannot obtain it in their own homes or in nursing homes without great financial hardship. The obvious answer is to extend hospitalization coverage to the much less expensive nursing home facilities.

There will, of course, be an added cost in the first few years of this extended programme. However, this should be more than offset by the relief given to the many active treatment hospital beds often used for these convalescant purposes. In other words, a large number of the extremely expensive active treatment beds will be made available for active treatment purposes without costly new construction.

Mr. Martel: That is why the member for Quinte (Mr. Potter) did not get to be Minister of Health.

Mr. Ferrier: Chiropractic services: There is little added cost for chiropractic services since these services are, for the most part, alternative rather than added expenditures. Patients seek out a chiropractor instead of visiting the doctor in circumstances where they believe they can obtain more effective relief. The most conclusive proof that the inclusion of chiropractic services results in little extra

cost is the behaviour of the private insurance companies, which a few years ago extended their medical coverage to include chiropractic without increasing their premiums. The $10 million we have budgeted for this service, as suggested by the chiropractors themselves, will be more than sufficient to cover any extra cost.

As we enter the 1970s there will be many important and exciting changes in the conduct of man's age-old war on disease and illness. Data banks linked to every hospital and available to every doctor will revolutionize the keeping of medical records and will greatly improve the diagnostic potential of every general practitioner.

Group practice in community clinics will relieve some of the burden of individual practice, while enabling the patient to receive superior services from a group containing a number of different specialists. Combined with universal and comprehensive health insurance of the kind we suggest, these community clinics will enable doctors to practise preventive medicine to the benefit of the patient and the benefit of society as a whole.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the hon. member could find a suitable place for moving the adjournment of the debate, because I think it desirable that we do not go past the normal adjournment time.

Mr. Lewis: You are right, because were he to stop now, Mr. Speaker, there still would not be a government member to participate.

Mr. Ferrier: With the Speaker's permission, I would move the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Ferrier moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, Monday we will resume the debate on the Speech from the Throne.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Will the government have any speakers on Monday?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Oh, we will have them, do not worry. The NDP should worry about themselves, do not worry about us.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Even if the listeners to my left do not wish to let their own members speak, they might perhaps give the Speaker the opportunity to place the motion for adjournment.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1 o'clock, p.m.

No. 10



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Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, March 9, 1970

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CONTENTS

Monday, March 9, 1970

Provincial intervention re Sunday trucking, statement by Mr. Haskett 337

Studies re need for income supplement in Ontario, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon, Mrs. M. Renwick 337

Study of Metropolitan Toronto boundaries, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 338

New central bureau of information, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 339

Division closedown at Dunlop (Canada) Limited, questions to Mr. Bales and Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon, Mr. J. Renwick, Mr. De Monte, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Gisborn 339

Gilewicz case to standing committee on health, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Shulman 343

Numerous meetings on Harbour City, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Singer 344

Ross McClellan memorandum re Hearst assault case, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. MacDonald 345

Industrial pollution by Barrie tannery, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Good 345

Letter from Mr. Shikaze of OWRC to Mr. C. A. Tamlin of Barrie, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald 346

Service Employees International Union and Ontario Jockey Club, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. De Monte, Mr. Lewis 346

Hiring and promotion of correctional officers, questions to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Shulman, Mr. Pitman 346

Uniforms for correctional officers in Don Jail, question to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Shulman 347

Clients who have lost money through stockbroker and mortgage broker firms, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Deacon, Mr. Deans 349

Compensation for loss of revenue from Bell Telephone and other companies, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Deans 349

Increase in assessment on property held by conservation authorities, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Good, Mr. T. P. Reid 350

Registration under public law for professional social workers, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mrs. M. Renwick 350

Reading and receiving petitions 351

Presenting report, agricultural institute, Mr. Welch 351

Schools Administration Act, bill to amend, Mr. Pitman, first reading 351

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Ferrier, Mr. Potter, Mr. Ruston, Mr. Young, Mr. Root 351

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Root, agreed to 382

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 382

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: This afternoon in the east gallery we have as guests students from St. Francis Xavier Separate School in Downsview, St. Benedict Separate School in Rexdale and the Frank Oke Vocational School in Toronto; in the west gallery are students from King Edward Senior Public School in Toronto and St. Jerome Separate School in Downsview.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, last week I intimated to the House that I thought it might be useful for the people of Ontario to know why this province has intervened in certain applications before the Canadian Transport Commission relating to Sunday trucking. I wish to advise the House that the province of Ontario has filed with the Canadian Transport Commission interventions opposing the applications of Smith Transport Limited and Norman's Transfer Limited for exemptions from the prohibition against Sunday trucking contained in The Lord's Day Act.

Under a recent amendment to The Lord's Day Act, a trucker is permitted to apply to the Canadian Transport Commission for such exemption. Our opposition to opening the door to Sunday trucking is for the following reasons:

1. There has been no demonstrated need for the expanded service.

2. If these two trucking companies were granted such authority it is only reasonable, in order to avoid discrimination and monopolistic advantage, that all public commercial and private commercial truckers be granted a similar exemption.

3. Increased Sunday traffic volumes on the provincial highway network would grossly overtax the existing facilities and create an additional Sunday delay which would displace up to 250,000 people for up to four hours.

4. Such overtaxing of the highway network would not only impair optimum use of the recreational facilities in the province but would adversely affect the tourist industry in Ontario.

5. The Ontario Law Reform Commission is holding hearings in the province on Sunday observance, the first of which was held on February 23 of this year in Toronto. Any decision with respect to Sunday trucking prior to the commission report would be premature.

Our intervention therefore urges the Canadian Transport Commission to dismiss these applications out of hand or, in the alternative to hold a public hearing so the applicant companies can be examined under oath to determine if the granting of these applications is for the benefit of the citizens of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry.

Oral questions.

Have we a statement?

Well if you will advise Mr. Speaker the name of the member who gave the question then the answer will be given in the question period.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker I have three questions for the Premier. Perhaps I can ask them separately, whatever is convenient for you and for him sir.

Would the Premier inform the House what special studies are being made in connection with the need for an income supplement in the province of Ontario? He is reported as having referred to such studies over the weekend.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Well I do not think I need say much more than that.

We are looking at various methods of meeting some of the problems we have and this is one of them. It was mentioned in the budget papers presented to this House a year ago and the studies are continuing. The question came to me on an open line radio programme in which it was pointed out that with prevailing wage rates in some areas of the province, a man might be better off, particularly if he had a large family, not to work

and to accept relief or welfare, call it what you will.

In connection with that situation which I know exists and we all know exists, I said we were examining the whole structure of minimum wage across the province and also looking into such matters as negative income tax and so on, whatever you may choose to call it.

Those studies are going ahead to determine what effect they would have on other welfare programmes and so forth. But beyond that I cannot say very much, other than they are being considered as an alternative to some of our present welfare plans. I believe on other occasions I have said I think this approach has some merit, but it would have to be implemented in light of other welfare plans as well so that we do not just add another layer of welfare costs to those already being borne by the taxpayers.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker; actually, it is the same question placed in a different way, perhaps, in an attempt to get more information.

Would the study be taking place from the standpoint, let us say of the recommendation by the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White) in his former capacity as chairman of the White committee, at which time he was talking about tax credit; or from the standpoint of the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) where it would in fact be a part of the welfare programme, rather than specifically a guaranteed minimum income concept as is normally understood?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is being considered in every context. It is not something that you can characterize in one department or the other because it cuts across both. If we were to go to—

Mr. Nixon: Would it be in the Premier's department?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No it would not.

It is being done primarily in The Department of the Treasury, but like so many functions of government it is not limited to one department just because that department may have the conduct of the matter. Because if we were to go to an income tax, a provincial income tax for instance, it would have a large bearing on that. So it cuts across several departments.

I am not trying to withhold any information, I am trying to make it as clear as possible that it is a broad study.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough Centre has a supplementary. Has the hon. leader completed his supplementaries?

The member for Scarborough Centre.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask if the Prime Minister could inform the House as to when his first study might be completed, or at least a report made on it available to members?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am not in a position to indicate any such date.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. leader may proceed.

Mr. Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Also to the Prime Minister and really in the same vein — associated with studies and investigations that he has either announced or which have been referred to.

The second one is the review of the Metropolitan Toronto boundaries. He has undertaken to make a study of this, which has pretty much put that issue on the shelf, I think very properly. Can he tell the House how extensive this survey and review is, and whether it comes under the jurisdiction of himself and the Prime Minister's department, or one of his colleagues specifically?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I never referred to a study of the boundaries of Metro *per se* as a separate study. When the last amendments to the Metropolitan Toronto bill were introduced, I said then that in three years we would undertake a broader view of the functioning of the whole system.

Mr. Nixon: That is under way?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The study is in the process of being set up. It will come under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough).

What I pointed out was that undoubtedly a part of that examination will include the boundaries of Metro Toronto. That is how that reference was made.

It is part of that broad study which I undertook to bring into being after the first election, which was January 1 of this year.

Mr. Nixon: By way of a supplementary, will there be a specific announcement made when personnel undertake that study and will there be an opportunity for the public to make submissions?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, it is not our intent—and I think I made this clear

before — to institute another examination similar to the royal commission, the Goldenberg royal commission. What we want is an examination of how it is in fact working. We want an examination of the system as it presently exists.

I am inclined to doubt this is going to take the form of asking for opinions from all and sundry. What we want to know is how what we have is working. The question of changes, of course, would automatically arise from the results of this study.

Mr. Nixon: So it will be an internal study in The Department of Municipal Affairs?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is right.

Mr. Nixon: The last question of the Premier, Mr. Speaker, if you will permit, is somewhat similar. Can he give any concrete information about plans or decisions relating to a new central bureau of information that has been referred to in the press?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I really cannot. I do not know whether you would refer to it as a central bureau of information, but, in any event, at this stage it is a pretty wide look at the whole situation. We are not making any recommendations. We are not building up to what was established in Ottawa.

I must admit we did look at some of their studies. We have drawn some conclusions from that which led us to look at some of the situations here. But they are being done on a very broad basis and we are not starting with any preconceived ideas.

Mr. Nixon: I wonder if the Premier could give us some further information as to who "we" are. Is it the Prime Minister's department, or is it an *ad hoc* group in the cabinet, which is investigating the information services of the government?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is personnel from two departments. I believe it is done under the aegis of the minister—who else?—of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld).

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, might—

Mr. Speaker: Fine. Has the leader completed his questions?

Mr. Nixon: I wanted to ask the Minister of Labour if he could give any information as to what consultation was entered into with his department by Dunlop rubber in their decision to close down one of their divisions, involving the unemployment of 600 people?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the president of Dunlop (Canada) Limited was in contact with me toward the end of February and asked for an appointment. The deputy minister and I spent some two hours with him.

It was at that time that the president advised me of the adverse situation in the industrial rubber division of that company. While that is their business—as to the economic situation—I was concerned about the employees and that they should be properly treated.

In our meeting we had a thorough discussion as to the provisions if the closure did come about. I may say at that time it was confidential information and I took it that a final decision had not then been made. The president of the company told us that if it was decided to close the plant we would be advised.

We were advised on Friday last. Today I received a copy of a statement from Mr. Proctor, the president. In fairness, I would say he gave every indication, at his meeting with me, that this would likely be the decision, but it had not finally been made.

In our discussion with reference to the employees themselves, I was assured that all provisions of the collective agreement as to early retirement or severance pay would be met and that the employees would be given adequate notice. Mr. Proctor assured me that the plant would continue in operation for at least two months, and perhaps longer, dependent upon the orders that they had. They would complete their orders, and did not expect any employees would be released from employment for a period of, probably, four weeks.

It was my understanding, on questioning him on that matter, that the employees would be brought in individually within a short period of time, if the plant were to be closed, and told of the individual provisions for them. We urged on Mr. Proctor that there be a union-management committee established so that they could work these matters out. I made sure that he had been in touch with the Canada manpower offices and he told me that had been done. We were given the names of people we would be able to contact if this situation did come about.

From our department's standpoint we are very willing—and we told him so—to do all we could to assist the employees to find alternative employment through retraining. We will work closely with the Canada Manpower office in that matter, and we have

assigned one person in the department to work directly with the union and the company and Canada Manpower to assist in the arrangements for alternate employment.

It is a matter, I am sure the hon. members appreciate, in which we have to assess the individual. I was told by Mr. Proctor that a limited percentage of the employees would be offered alternate work in the other divisions of the company. This morning, Mr. Walker, of our department, met with Canada Manpower officials and with the union representative. I believe they are meeting also with the company today and later on I am meeting with representatives of the union themselves in my office.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. Is there any way that the minister can use his good offices to see that these people who are laid off would have priority in new positions that might open up with other rubber companies that move into this area of the market that would be absorbed by them?

Hon. Mr. Bales: That is one of a number of matters that will be explored in the discussions to follow.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Riverdale. A supplementary.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary question. Am I to understand that the Minister of Labour considers that his only responsibility was to have a pleasant chat for two hours with the president of Dunlop Tire? Or does he have a written plan and proposal before him, from the company, as to the methods by which this government will co-operate with labour in making certain that these men in that plant are properly dealt with?

Mr. Speaker: May I point out to the hon. member that he did finally ask a question. The preamble was unnecessary.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): He asked both questions.

Mr. J. Renwick: I asked two questions.

An hon. member: He said, "Am I to understand . . . ?"

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's first question was not in order and would not be allowed if it was a question. The minister may answer the second question.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, my discussions with the president of Dunlop were in reference to my concern for the employees and to see that they were properly treated. It was not just a pleasant conversation.

We were concerned with this matter—as concerned as any member of this House is—as to the closing down of a large, industrial development that has been in operation for 70 years. We went into this matter very fully. We assigned a person in our department to work very closely with Canada Manpower and the union and the company so as to be of assistance to these people.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I simply ask the Minister of Labour does he consider that the unilateral decision of a company to shut down a plant is a matter of confidence that cannot be discussed in advance in this Legislature; and is the Minister of Labour aware that on Tuesday of last week I asked Mr. Neville Proctor specifically the state of his order book and he told me that it was improving?

Hon. Mr. Bales: With reference to the latter statement by the hon. member, I have no knowledge of that and have never had. I have not seen nor talked to Mr. Proctor since he was in my office on February 23, and at that time he told me of the general plans and intentions of the company, but that the decision was not final and we would be advised when it was final.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question: what specific authority has this minister, by way of legislation or government initiative, to ensure that the men in this plant will be properly treated in terms of the shut down operation of the Dunlop Tire Company?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, my responsibility and authority, if he wants to put it that way, is through the industrial training branch of the department so that we can work with the Canada Manpower centres to provide retraining for the individuals to fit them for job opportunities when they become open.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Dovercourt.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Was the minister aware whether Mr. Proctor had spoken to the union about these matters prior to speaking to the minister?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Proctor indicated to me the matter was confidential. The company officials had not yet made a final decision at the time he spoke to me; and

none of his own officials or the company officials or the union had been spoken to.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Leader of the Opposition completed his questions?

The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: This question is to the Prime Minister.

Since the Minister of Labour indicated that his sole concern was with reference to the men, may I ask the Prime Minister whether the government considered in advance the full consequences, human and economic, of this kind of a move?

If so, what is government policy in dealing with this specific case and this kind of general case?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, as a government we are concerned, in a general way of course, with the location of every plant that comes into this province, with the closing of every plant and with every shift of our economic activity in the province that eventually translates itself into an effect upon the lives of the people of the province.

We have been through this many times before. I recall when Ford of Canada decided to close one of its plants in Windsor. We stated our policy very firmly at that time. We said then and I will say again—

Mr. MacDonald: What was it?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member knows what it was because we debated it right in this House, but I will put it on the line again.

We do not think it is the function of this government, nor do we think that it is in the best interests of the economy of this province and the development of job opportunities for our people, that we should say to any company that it can or cannot locate and operate in any area it wishes in the province. Nor are we in any position to tell a company that decides that it is uneconomic for it to operate any unit of its operation in this province that it shall continue to operate. Now that is the policy and the position of this government as clearly as I can put it, and as I have put it many times before.

The Minister of Labour has pointed out that against that background of policy we have no power, we have no legislative power, to tell any company that it shall or shall not operate unless it is under some licence arrangement such as distilleries and things of that nature, but we do have various ways of cushioning the impact of these events on the individuals concerned. The Minister of Labour has told the House what has been done in this regard as far as this particular instance is concerned.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question, may I ask the Prime Minister whether the government accepts, without any further investigation, the contention of a company that it is not economic for it to continue to operate? In other words, is the government's role simply that of picking up the pieces after a unilateral action has been taken?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker no; our role is not that of picking up the pieces after a unilateral action has been taken.

Mr. MacDonald: Well what is it then?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The basic policy of this government in relation to economic development in the province has been that we provide those things that are best provided by government. Decisions as to what individual businesses are to do are left to them, and we are firmly convinced, and always have been, that the fastest way to cut off all economic development in this province would be for the government to attempt to find some means of saying to businesses: "Thou shalt do this and thou shalt not do that," and so on.

We do not think it would work. We would think that the great growth we have had in the economy of this province would not have taken place under these circumstances. We recognize that if the member's party were in power this is what it would do, because basically, it is a socialist group that wants to control individual initiative and wants to take all these courses of action, but our policy—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: But our policy remains the same, and under that policy we have established facilities for looking after individuals through retraining and cushioning the blow of the incidence of technology. I remember debating this in this House in 1957, 1958 and 1959 when I was Minister of Education, and we instituted, at that time, training programmes directed toward alleviating the weight and incidence of technological advance. These things we have done, but we do not intend to put ourselves in a position where we are going to dictate to industry what it is going to do, because we cannot think of a faster way of bringing economic growth of this province to a halt.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): That is the policy Mr. Schreyer was following—

Mr. Speaker: The member for Dovercourt is on his feet for the purpose of asking a supplementary question.

Mr. De Monte: By way of supplementary; does not the Prime Minister think that the company should have given him sufficient notice, so that these schemes that he suggests could have been brought to play before the employees got hurt?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would point out that the announcement was made on Friday. It is going to be a phased programme. There are certain conditions laid down on the terms of employment which will be followed, and, as I understand it, the company has stated that it is going to go beyond the absolute letter of its agreement in this regard. As the Minister of Labour has stated, we have access to the manpower training plans of the federal government, and we have our own retraining programmes. We put a man in there, but this is all—now just wait, wait, wait—

Mr. De Monte: That should have been done six months ago.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The members in that party always want to ask the questions but never want to hear the answers.

Mr. MacDonald: There are no answers, that is the problem.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: But certainly, all these men are not going to be out of work as of this morning. It is a phased programme and we will do everything in our power, in the ways that we have set out here in this House today, to make sure that the impact is as gentle as can be on the lives of the individuals involved.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Riverdale, a supplementary question.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question, would the Prime Minister tell us when he first heard of the unilateral action of the Dunlop Tire Company to shut down the plant?

Mr. Lewis: With the government's concern, the cabinet's concern, when was the Prime Minister's office notified?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I think the Minister of Labour informed me about as soon as he knew about it, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MacDonald: Was it discussed at the cabinet level?

Mr. Speaker: I think that is enough supplementary questions on that subject.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, in my riding, 700 men are going to be out of work and I do not think that this is the time to shut off the supplementary questions about it.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member will let me hear what his supplementary question is—

Mr. J. Renwick: My supplementary question is: Will the Prime Minister in the future be as solicitous of the men and women who are employed in this province as he is with companies who are about to vacate the business—

Mr. Speaker: This is not a proper supplementary question. This is not a proper question supplementary to the original question.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Will the Prime Minister inform us as to whether or not the full ramifications of this were discussed at the cabinet level?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows full well that when I joined the cabinet I took an oath of secrecy. I do not discuss what goes on in the cabinet. Would he or would anybody else?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am telling the member that this is not the first plant that has closed in the province of Ontario. We have faced this problem before.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Now the hon. member for Riverdale is making a big song and dance about it because it happens to be in his riding.

We have dealt with this problem, Mr. Speaker, all over the province. We have as many as 200 new industries coming into this province every year. I do not know how many get into one kind of difficulty or another through bankruptcy, through relocation, through a whole host of reasons, but, of course, we are used to dealing with this type of situation.

I rather resent this whole inference that you are the only people who ever care for anybody.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will bring into this House a recitation of 10 or 15 closings that were never mentioned here by hon. members opposite, but they have brought this one up. The hon. member wants to make a big song and dance of it.

I say we care about them all, and we have policies to deal with them all, and, of course, this one is being dealt with according to practices we have established and used in other cases and on other occasions.

I can assure members, once again, that we will do everything in our power to ensure that the impact of this on the individuals concerned is as small as possible. But, we cannot extend that to the point where we are going to take unto ourselves the right to attempt to tell industry it has to continue operating when it decides that it cannot.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question. The member for Hamilton East has the floor for a supplementary question.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): A question of the Prime Minister, supplementary to his latest remark.

Mr. Speaker: The question must be supplementary to the original question.

Mr. Gisborn: It is in regard to the answer to the previous question regarding—

Mr. Speaker: The question must be supplementary not to the answer, but to the original question.

Mr. Gisborn: My supplementary question to the Prime Minister is: does the Prime Minister not remember the great concern of the previous Minister of Labour (Mr. Rowntree), regarding the move by Studebaker in closing down their plant on a unilateral basis without notification?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If the question is "do I remember," the answer is yes.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Dovercourt.

Mr. De Monte: A question of the Minister of Labour.

Mr. Speaker: Is this a supplementary question?

Mr. De Monte: No, it is not, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Then the member for Scarborough West. A supplementary question?

Mr. Lewis: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

In the context of Dunlop Tire, Mr. Prime Minister. Has it become the policy of Ontario Hydro in his government to award contracts to foreign firms, thereby causing Ontario firms either to close down or to lay off large numbers of workers, as in this instance?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, of course it is not, Mr. Speaker. Hydro has certain purchasing policies regarding Canadian and Ontario content. On the other hand, we have to be competitive too.

I think you would be the first to criticize Hydro if they were to pay large premiums for certain purchases just because they happened to be made in the province of Ontario. This is not a policy that we have followed. But Hydro, in its purchasing policies, has certain standards and requirements regarding Canadian content.

Of course, we try to buy, wherever possible, within the province of Ontario, but we find that as a policy of this government we will only carry that so far, because we do not intend to erect any kind of barriers between free trade within this country.

Mr. Speaker: Will the member for York South continue?

Mr. MacDonald: My question is again to the Prime Minister.

Inasmuch as the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) has disputed the truth of the Gilewicz case as presented to this House last week by the hon. member for High Park (Mr. Shulman), would the Prime Minister have this case referred to the standing committee on health, so that there may be an examination of the record in detail?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am rather inclined to doubt that I will do that.

In due course the Minister of Health will make a statement in this House regarding the matter. I am inclined to doubt that this is the proper forum for the type of investigation the member is asking for.

I have not yet made up my mind whether such an investigation is called for or warranted. I would like to hear what the Minister of Health has to say. I do not propose to use the standing committees of the House as a reference spot for an investigation of any allegation that any member of this House might like to make.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, I would simply say that at the moment I am going to wait

until the Minister of Health tells this House the facts.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question?

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): A supplementary question—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Dovercourt might just as well restrain himself, because the member for York South asks all his questions before I come back to opposition members.

The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: As a supplementary question to the Prime Minister.

Inasmuch as one set of facts has been related here by one of the members, and these have been disputed by a second member, both of whom apparently have had access to the records, would the Prime Minister not agree that perhaps some nonpartisan body should have an opportunity to look at that record?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, if that conclusion is reached I have no doubt we will not have any trouble finding a nonpartisan body to look at it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Minister of Trade and Development.

Would the minister comment on the contention of Toronto chief planner Dennis Barker that the minister misled the House in his statement in reply to a recent question of mine with regard to the so-called numerous discussions that have been held on Harbour City?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member, there have been numerous meetings held. I read off the list of meetings, I believe, when the question was asked last week.

The last time we met with Mr. Barker, I believe, was October, as the hon. gentleman said. Since that time we have met with his superiors—the mayor and the four members of the Toronto city council. We have met with chairman Campbell. And just recently—I think as early as last week—we received a draft position paper from the city of Toronto and the harbour commission with regard to setting up a committee such as we have talked about to look after Harbour City.

We have another meeting scheduled with the Metro mayor, Mr. Campbell, I think in the next 10 days. When that meeting is completed we hope to produce the conceptual plans. We hope that the Treasury board will be through examining the financial picture, as we have presented it, on this conceptual plan.

I am sure that Mr. Barker, and anybody else in the lower echelons, will be invited to participate in further discussions, though I do not know who misled who. I read off the list of people we met with, and Mr. Barker was one of them, on October 24. We have had a number of meetings since—not with Mr. Barker, but with his superiors—and I do not think we are in a position to talk lower down the echelon until the conceptual plan is presented and agreed upon by the four people involved—that is the province, the chairman of Metro, the mayor of Toronto, and the chairman of the harbour commission. As soon as that is ready we will be making further announcements.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary question.

The minister refers to a conceptual plan. I am authoritatively informed that such a conceptual plan has been completed by a government department—or for the government departments. Would the minister not make that plan available so that all those interested can discuss it?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Yes, we intend to, but the time is not right at the present time because we are checking out, as I said earlier, the financial implications of the plan. It is in the neighbourhood of many hundreds of millions of dollars, and it is going to take 10, or 15, or 20 years to complete.

I do not think even the hon. member wants me to throw it on the table and say, "here it is. We do not know what the cost is and we do not know how we are going to finance it." I think before that plan is released we in this government want to know what our participation is going to be, and what our responsibilities will be.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a final supplementary question on this, if I may, Mr. Speaker.

Would the minister not consider it advisable to have appointed a committee with a designated representative from each of the jurisdictions or organizations involved, so that this matter can be dealt with openly and above board, instead of behind the scenes in briefings that are described as consultations?

Hon. Mr. Randall: That was the proposition we put forward last year to the city of Toronto and our other authorities. On the basis of that they presented us with a proposition, just as I said last week.

We are looking over this brief they presented to us and out of this we will come up with a committee such as you are talking about. At the moment it is premature, and we are not going to release this plan until we have got some idea how we are going to set up this committee, and who is going to be on the committee, and how it is going to operate.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary.

How can the minister possibly reconcile his remarks in answer to the question from the member for York South, when he told this House during his estimates last fall that there were going to be houses in this area, probably in the year 1970?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I think that probably the hon. member is stretching the truth. I do not think that I said anything about houses in 1970. I said I hoped that before the end of 1970—

Mr. Singer: Yes, that there would be people living there.

Hon. Mr. Randall: We could put together a programme and get it under way, and I would just say to the hon. member, I never start anything I do not finish.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Randall: And he can walk down to the harbour and he can look at Ontario Place today—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member for York South has a question.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: May I ask the Minister of Social and Family Services whether or not he can respond after a week to my request for the tabling of the memorandum that was presented to the heads of the Indian development branch by the community development officer, Ross McClellan, in Hearst concerning the assault case last April?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, I have taken that question as notice. I followed it up immediately. I have located the memorandum, an unsigned copy, and the matter of presentation is under consideration at this moment.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, may I ask for clarification of "the matter of presentation." Does the minister mean he is trying to decide how it should be tabled?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I am trying to get all of the facts within the department relating to this particular memorandum.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, all I asked for was the tabling of that memorandum, not any supplementary comment or document. Will that memorandum be tabled in the House, just as written?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I have not located the document as written as yet.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): The minister just said he had.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I have located—I think the hon. member knows more about the document than anybody else in this House.

Mr. MacDonald: I would say, Mr. Speaker, if the minister does not move soon, I shall.

Mr. Pitman: That minister must be a terrible embarrassment to all of you over there.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member a further question?

Mr. MacDonald: I have a final question to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Would the minister respond to my question of a week ago with regard to what, if anything, was done by the Ontario Water Resources Commission when it made a survey and discovered that the Barrie tannery was discharging effluents seven times the permissible level of BOD under the bylaw, and five times the permissible level of solid substance?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, the plans have now been made and the financing arranged for the construction of a plant at the tannery. I understand that the cost is going to be around $195,000. Financing has been arranged with CMHC and the municipality will put up the remaining 25 per cent, or one third, and operate the plant. As the hon. member knows, there is a 25 per cent forgiveness portion for any CHMC loan.

To answer the hon. member's question, construction of a plant will commence immediately and I expect that the contract will be let at any time.

Mr. MacDonald: I have two supplementary questions, Mr. Speaker. 1. Would the minister explain why nobody in the community, apparently, knows of these plans although that survey was taken last fall? 2. Am I correct that the company is getting a loan from CMHC for 75 per cent of the cost and the other 25 per cent of the cost of the industry's antipollution measure is going to be picked up by the community?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, it is my information, Mr. Speaker, that the municipality will build, own and operate the plant on lands to be leased from the company. It has arranged the loan with CMHC, and the repayment of the loan and the charges, the cost of the plant, will be paid by the tannery to the city with interest at 7.5 per cent. This is over a 20-year period and then the plant will revert back to the company.

Mr. MacDonald: In other words, the 75 per cent is going to be repaid to the city but the remaining 25 per cent is going to be picked up by the municipal taxpayers.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The whole amount of the loan, the whole amount of the cost, less the 25 per cent, will be paid by the company back to the city. It will not cost the city anything.

Mr. MacDonald: What is the 25 per cent? I am sorry, I do not understand.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is the forgiveness part of the CMHC loan.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Waterloo North—a supplementary.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Supplementary question of the minister.

Would this mean that although treating the effluent of a private industry, since the plant was owned by the municipality, this would eliminate the sales tax which other industries have to pay on anti-pollution equipment?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the municipality pays sales tax on pollution abatement equipment.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management has an answer to a question by the member for York South, from the other day.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In response to the hon. member for York South's question regarding a letter dated November 10 from Mr. Shikaze, of the Ontario Water Resources Commission, to Mr. C. A. Tamlin, of the city of Barrie, I wish to table that letter, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Dovercourt.

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour.

Could the minister tell the House whether there was an outstanding collective agreement between Local 528 of the Service Employees International Union and the Jockey Club prior to the employees being fired on Friday?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the previous agreement ran out at the end of December. Negotiations have continued since that time. I may say that an application was filed on Friday with the labour relations board in reference to the matter and hence is to be dealt with there. I make no further comments on it at this time.

Mr. De Monte: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker, is that an application to decertify the union?

Hon. Mr. Bales: No, Mr. Speaker, it is not.

Mr. De Monte: May I ask the minister, then, what type of an application is it that was filed?

Hon .Mr. Bales: I have not seen it, but I understand it was an application under section 65 of the Act.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker, regardless of the outcome at the OLRB, how will the minister guarantee that the entire work force is not replaced by the Jockey Club?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the matter is before the labour relations board at the present time. Until such time as that case is heard and dealt with, I make no further comment.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Correctional Services, I believe, has answers to questions asked by the member for High Park last week.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

On March 3 the hon. member for High Park asked me two questions. The first one asked whether The Department of Correctional Services had lowered its educational

requirements as they apply to the hiring and promotion of correctional officers. The answer is no. What we have done is to stipulate that any man who has the necessary qualifications to act as a correctional officer or a training school supervisor, in accordance with our statement of purpose, but is unable to prove a Grade 10 education, is not necessarily precluded from joining our staff. Might I add too, sir, that a man who is an obvious candidate for our staff, but is slightly below the presently required height, is no longer precluded either.

Also on the same day, the member for High Park asked a question as follows:

> Is it correct that new uniforms were issued to all the correctional officers in the Don Jail at the beginning of December without premeasuring, as a result of which neither shoes nor uniforms fit most of the men?

The answer is no. We did not issue new uniforms to all correctional officers. We are in the process of replacing the old type of uniform with a new one that is more up to date in cut and design. The new uniforms consist of grey slacks and green jackets or blazers, replacing the para-military khaki uniforms of the past.

Once more, sir, this is in keeping with our philosophy as outlined in our statement of purpose, to increase the interaction between staff and inmates. We have instituted a gradual replacement programme with new uniforms being issued as old ones wear out. These uniforms are not custom made but are ordered in stock sizes, and as is normal in buying any suit of clothing in stock sizes, it is necessary to finish off the cuffs of the slacks and make minor alterations at the time of the issue. So far, at the Toronto jail new uniforms have been issued to about 20 senior officers. I am advised that no one is walking around the Toronto jail in shoes which do not fit, and that the storekeeper has not had any complaints to that effect.

Mr. Shulman: Supplementary to the first question.

How does the minister reconcile his answer that, no, there was not a lowering of the educational requirements, with a notice that has gone up on the bulletin board of the Mimico Reformatory and the Don Jail, saying that educational requirements have now been lowered from Grade 10 to Grade 8?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is not correct, Mr. Speaker, and if the hon. member would like, I would be glad to read the bulletins which have been posted.

> To the Staff,
>
> From the Director of Personnel,
>
> Dated February 13, 1970.
>
> We have been advised by The Department of Civil Service that because of changes in the educational system, the education tests which have been in use over the past several years are no longer appropriate. Therefore the tests will not be used after this date. In order to qualify for promotion, proof of education is not required for correctional officers and training school supervisors, and for the present at least competition notices will read: "Elementary school education: preferably secondary school graduation,"

Mr. Shulman: Just what I said.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: To continue: "instead of specifying a Grade 10 education"—

Mr. Shulman: Is that not what I asked?

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Listen, just listen!

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Perhaps the hon. members would allow the minister to complete reading the bulletin.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I once attempted to answer a question, and after trying for half an hour I made some remark; the *Globe and Mail* editorialized on it. I am now trying to answer this question.

"However, if staff members have proof of education"—well I will not bother, Mr. Speaker, if they do not want to hear the answer.

Mr. Shulman: I would like the answer, Mr. Speaker, if the minister would be kind enough. I promise that I will not say anything; I cannot speak for everyone else here.

Will the minister be so kind as to complete his answer?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I will attempt to, Mr. Speaker, with the permission of the hon. member's colleague.

> However, if staff members have proof of education, they should request superintendents to forward photo copies to the personnel branch as the information may be of future value. You will note that secondary school graduates are preferred, and in fact any education above the elementary school level will be a consideration in selecting for promotion. Staff are reminded that completion of a certificate course in corrections

is accepted as an alternative to secondary school graduation for purposes of classification and promotion.

Perhaps the hon. member may be referring, so that I will not be accused of keeping anything back, to the fact that on February 11, 1970 there was another bulletin posted.

Qualifications for Correctional Officers and Training School Supervisors

We have been advised by The Department of Civil Service that because of changing education standards and methods the education tests we have administered as an alternative to proof of a grade ten education are of dubious value; therefore effective immediately use of the education tests is to be discontinued. Also, instead of Grade 10, The Department of Civil Service has specified that correctional officers and training school supervisors must have, "Elementary school education, preferably secondary school graduation".

Because it is impossible for some persons to obtain proof of their education and as there will be no alternative tests to take, proof of education will not be required. However, staff should be asked to obtain proof if it is available and copies should be forwarded to us for the employee's file. The word preferably in the revised educational qualificational standard is not to be disregarded. That is, preference should be given to those with high school education if they are otherwise suitable. All of the above refers to applicants for promotion as well as new employees.

In other respects the former criteria for selecting staff still apply. The Otis test will be administered and new staff applying for correctional officer and training school supervisor positions must obtain an acceptable score. We have a limited stock of French language Otis tests and a small number of these is being issued to those institutions most likely to use them.

The balance of this, I do not think Mr. Speaker, is applicable to this particular question and I will not trouble the House with reading it. It has to do with the method of tests to be made in French and English.

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if I could ask a supplementary question? I am just wondering why at this point in time in correctional services, the minister would wish to lower the standards for hiring and promotion. That is essentially what all that material he read to us states.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker I do not agree that it is lowering the standards. As a matter of fact if the hon. member will read our statement of purpose, the statement of purpose points out that one of the best methods of rehabilitation is for a system whereby there is a greater interaction between staff and inmates—where there is a greater rapport.

We may have people applying for positions —let us say if we have two at one particular time—and one has Grade 10 education, another one may not have a Grade 10 education, but is obviously more suited for the job. He is intelligent and his ability to handle this kind of work indicates he would have a better rapport between himself and the inmates so that he can carry out his rehabilitation work. We are now, sir, according to the civil service regulations, permitted to choose such a man.

But we are not lowering the standards. We would rather have more of them with a better education, more formal education qualifications. But it is not going to be the main objective that a man has a degree. The main objective is that a man is suitable for the job we want him to do, and preferably if he has the educational qualifications.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to ask a further supplementary Mr. Speaker: does the minister intend to accompany this policy with some upgrading on the part of those that are going to be hired on this basis, so that they can advance and can take courses in psychology and sociology and the types of information which I think someone involved in corrections is desperately going to need in the next 10 years?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker I think I reported in the earlier bulletin I read—

Mr. Pitman: A real programme!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: In the earlier bulletin I read I referred to the training programme we have. I referred here to those who are able to qualify by way of getting a certificate from our own correctional training school, our own staff training school, and this of course is very important as well. It is an on-going course we have for any staff we hire. The hon. member knows that. As a matter of fact, he knows there are now on the drafting board plans for an enlarged staff training school so that precisely what the hon. member is mentioning will be accomplished.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has a supplementary.

Mr. Shulman: Yes. Has the Minister lowered these educational requirements which he said he had not lowered because of the difficulty of getting correctional officers who had Grade 10 education.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I have said that in my view sir, we have not lowered the educational requirements.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kitchener, a supplementary.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Great bunch of academic snobs in the NDP!

Mr. Pitman: "Academic snobs;" what a stupid comment!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Trade and Development. Is the minister considering increases in the accounting staff of the Ontario Housing Corporation so that the eight and one-half months delay for the 1968 audit will not be repeated, as the provincial auditor has noted in his most recent report?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I will take notice of that question, Mr. Speaker, and get the information.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York Centre.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs: What progress has the department made toward assisting clients of stockbroker firms and mortgage broker firms which were licenced by the department and whose clients have lost moneys, or have moneys owed to them by these firms that they have been unable to recover? I am speaking specifically of the Greenaway case and of the Ord-Wallington case.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): I cannot report on that today, Mr. Speaker, but I understand that in the Ord-Wallington case there are concrete proposals coming forward to me with regard to a fund of some sort being established.

Mr. Deacon: Supplementary to that: would the fund that the minister speaks of relate to or assist those who have already suffered, or is it just for those in the future? Does the department intend to do something for those who suffered as a result of dealing with organizations licenced by the department?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, the matter has not reached the point where I could advise in that kind of detail.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, in regards to the Ord-Wallington case: Can the minister tell the House why the people who were involved in the Ord-Wallington case are having such difficulty in getting their documents returned from his department in order that they might be able to proceed to civil suit?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is the first I have heard of this difficulty. I will check into it and advise the hon. member.

Mr. Singer: Could the minister advise whether his department is going to take any further action in view of the comments by His Honour Judge Dayman when he dismissed the criminal charges and said in effect: "While there may be a criminal offence it certainly does not relate to the charge which was before this court."

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Which prosecution is the member referring to?

Mr. Singer: The Ord-Wallington prosecution—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will find out. I cannot recall whether there is an appeal launched or not.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs: Can the minister inform the House what action his department has taken to compensate for the loss of revenue from Bell Telephone and companies that are taxed in a similar way, as a result of the reduction in the mill rate as a result of the re-assessment?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Yes, Mr. Speaker, this is one of the matters we have before us. I think I have answered this question before, but in particular there is a committee established under the chairmanship of a member of the staff of Treasury and Economics. There are large constitutional

issues at stake here, as well as Dominion-provincial fiscal tax-sharing arrangements. I would hope we would have some answer to that problem from the committee, and possibly legislation in the next few months.

Mr. Deans: May I ask as a supplementary question? Will whatever action is taken be retroactive, in order to compensate the municipalities that have indeed lost their revenue as of last year because of reassessment?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: There are all kinds of municipalities that could be said to have lost money on a reassessment from a particular property or class of property. No, I am not contemplating anything retroactive.

Mr. Speaker: Any further supplementaries?

The member for Waterloo North has the floor.

Mr. Good: A question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Has he had any questions brought on by The Department of Energy and Resources Management regarding the tremendous increase in assessment on property held by conservation authorities, some of which has amounted to 600 per cent?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I prefer to keep pressures from my cabinet colleagues unto myself and not necessarily to share them with the members opposite. We have had discussions from time to time, yes.

Mr. Good: As a supplementary question, is the minister aware that in the opinion of many people these conservation authorities—

Mr. Speaker: The question is not supplementary. The question was pressure from a minister.

Mr. Good: Yes, regarding the assessment on conservation properties.

Mr. Speaker: That is right, but the question had to do with representations from a minister of the Crown, not from somebody else.

Has the member for Rainy River a supplementary question?

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): By way of supplementary, does the Minister of Municipal Affairs intend to take any action to alleviate this heavy burden of taxation on the conservation authorities?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: No; The Conservation Authorities Act was changed two or three years ago because there had been repeated representations from the municipalities about the loss of revenue from large areas of certain municipalities which were put into conservation land.

By the same token, we are receiving representations from a number of municipalities—the member for Huron-Bruce (Mr. Gaunt) would be aware of this—which are somewhat disadvantaged because areas have been purchased for crown land. I am referring particularly to St. Edmunds township, I think it is. As part of the white paper on taxation reform which the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) introduced a year ago, the Crown will move progressively to pay taxes on those properties.

We think that a good justification can and should be made that conservation authorities which spread out over a larger area should also pay taxes, because the taxes may be paid in one municipality whereas the area served may cover a number of municipalities. It should also be pointed out that this is a sharable expense under the grants paid by The Department of Energy and Resources Management.

Mr. Good: As a further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, does the minister agree that some of these conservation-authority lands are being assessed as potential private estates and subdivisions because of their location?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I would not be in a position to answer that. To be very fair to the member, not only have I not had any pressure from my colleague, but I have not heard from any of the conservation authorities that this was a particular problem. If they do feel they are overassessed, then they have the normal right of any other citizen and should take action before the court of revision or a higher court if they feel so inclined.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has a question?

The member for Scarborough Centre.

Mrs. M. Renwick: A question of the Minister of Social and Family Services.

Will the minister refer to the social, family and correctional services standing commitee the proposals received recently by the Minister from the professional social workers' association requesting that they be able to secure registration under public law for professional social workers?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the matter stands as follows.

A bill was in preparation of being brought forward. We had continuous discussion with the Ontario association, and representations from that group, but there is also a group of social service workers and I have involved them to the greatest degree in order to see if there can be a consensus evolved. If a bill is brought forward as a result of that consensus, then I believe that that bill would go to that particular committee so that all points of view may be placed. It would depend upon the bill's coming forward, at the present time.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, does the minister realize I was asking if the minister would send the problem to the committee first, so that some of the problems could be ironed out there and the bill come after?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, it is my responsibility to have these problems ironed out.

Mr. Speaker: This completes the oral question period; the time has expired.

Petitions.

The following petitions were brought up, laid on the table, read and received:

Of the Excelsior Life Insurance Company praying that an Act may pass authorizing the company to apply to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs of Canada for letters patent continuing the company as if it had been incorporated by an Act of the Parliament of Canada.

Of Robert Frederick Smith praying that an Act may pass reviving the charter of Dennis Realty Company Limited.

Of Robert Frederick Smith praying that an Act may pass reviving the charter of Wentworth Radio and Auto Supplies Limited.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Hon. Mr. Welch begs leave to table the annual report of the Agricultural Institute of Ontario covering the period April 1, 1968, to March 31, 1969.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION ACT

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Schools Administration Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is identical to the one given first reading last year—to encourage the development of a community school where the needs of the total community can be accommodated and focused to encourage wider use by social welfare agencies. This school would have the purpose of providing supportive services to those needing assistance. Another section of the bill focuses on the need for some method of providing an appeal opportunity for any child expelled from a school in this province.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, so there will be no confusion, I understand that the whips have been able to arrange the business of the House so that it will not be necessary for the House to sit this evening. I thought perhaps it would be of some interest to clarify that particular point.

Mr. Speaker: I think we might also have the House leader advise us whether the Tuesday and Thursday nights are still contemplated.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I understand they still stand.

Mr. Lewis: Well we may have a dinner on Thursday night so we may want to reconsider—

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): When I adjourned the debate on Friday, Mr. Speaker, I was addressing myself to the question of OHSIP and the alternative health care package that the New Democratic Party is proposing to the people of this province.

Two interesting developments have taken place since then that deserve comment. New Brunswick has announced that it will introduce a Medicare programme on January 1, 1971, on a premium-free basis. Another province with far less resources than Ontario has done what we refused to do. Not only do we have premiums in Ontario, but we have premiums that cost the people far too much.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Could I ask the member a question, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: Only if the member agrees to accept the question.

Mr. Ferrier: I will accept the question.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I just wonder if the member would quote the percentage that will be paid by the federal government in New Brunswick, and the percentage that the province will have to raise itself?

Mr. Ferrier: I think, Mr. Speaker, if I read the article correctly, it was about 60-40. But the fact remains that there is far more wealth here in Ontario than there is in New Brunswick and they merit a good deal more support from the federal government.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): The government is all for Confederation on one hand, is it not?

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, could the minister intervene regularly in the course of these remarks?

Mr. Ferrier: Not only do we have these premiums, but the *Globe and Mail* on Saturday, at the top of page one, came forward with this lead headline, "OHSIP profit may be $39 million this year", and the article stated in part:

> The government's own figures indicate that OHSIP will amass $39 million over costs if premiums stay at their present level.

The Minister of Health made certain comments in the Toronto *Daily Star*. If we were to take his figures in the October 2 *Hansard* of last year, the excess of revenue over cost would be $43.3 million. The new figures that he gave in the Toronto *Daily Star* would be $44 million, and the government has added to these costs the expense of the health resources plan, and has taken off, I believe, the revenue that the province itself contributes, which would mean $25 million more, I think it is.

The revenue that the province of Ontario is contributing is $9 million less than the estimate he gave in *Hansard* on October 2, 1969, and many of us still wonder why the health resources plan is taken out of the money that should be allotted for premiums. But even if we accept the minister's figures and his calculations, there is still a surplus of $10 million in that particular item.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will send the member an adding machine.

Mr. Lewis: We will send the minister an insurance company to make up—

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, the government has its fair share of those.

The people of this province are paying federal taxes for Medicare—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): We will not send the minister a computer; the government cannot handle the ones it has now.

Mr. Ferrier: —but when this money is returned to Queen's Park from Ottawa, it is not completely used to apply against premium costs. In fact, we now discover that our premiums are set at a figure to make money for Queen's Park to pay for other programmes than Medicare.

We all know that a premium form of raising money is a regressive form of taxation, since the high taxpayer and the low taxpayer pay the same tax with no recognition given to their ability to pay. The people of this province are fed up with having to pay taxes and premiums for a specific purpose, only to have the revenue so extracted not completely used for this purpose at all but for something else. They are tired of such deception by this Tory government and they will let this government know at election time what they think of such double dealing.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Is the member for or against premiums?

Mr. Ferrier: We are getting our interjections, Mr. Speaker, from the party that also voted for the present OHSIP scheme.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: The gentlemen would be better to sit quietly, to sit humbly and quietly.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member for Thunder Bay (Mr. Stokes) wishes to take the floor over from his colleague I would be glad to give him the floor, otherwise the member for Cochrane South has the floor.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Speaker, one of the acute problems facing governments today is the rising costs of health care. The rate of increase can be seen when one considers that the health and personal care index for Canada from DBS between 1958 and 1968 shows a 35 per cent increase, whereas the total consumer price index increase was only 24 per cent. Health costs are rising at a rate much

above other items that we pay for. Canada's *Health and Welfare* publication of January, 1969, shows that health care prices increased 12.1 per cent over a three-year period ending April, 1968, as compared to an 11.9 per cent rise in the consumer price index for all items in the same period.

The highest measured price increases among categories of health services are to be found in dentist fees which rose 22.1 per cent in the three-year period, while physicians' fees rose 15.7 per cent. From Canada's *Health and Welfare* publication of December, 1968, from a DBS survey, the average cost per family for prescribed drugs in 1964 from 11 cities in Canada totalled $36.30, which represents 14.5 per cent of personal expeditures. Other non-prescription drugs averaged $13.70, which represents 5.4 per cent of personal expenditures. In other words, in 1964, the average family paid 19.9 per cent of its personal expenditures for prescription and non-prescription drugs.

There are some interesting statistics to be found in the federal task force report on the cost of health services in Canada. The annual average rate of increase in total expenditures by all governments in Canada between 1955 and 1968 for health services was 15.4 per cent. In 1955 the percentage of the gross national product of health services was 1.62 per cent; in 1968 it was 4.18 per cent, while in 1981 it is projected that it will have jumped to an astronomical 7.59 per cent. When these figures are seen as total government expenditures, in 1955, total health services costs us six per cent, in 1968 they had risen to 12.1 per cent, while in 1981 they will be 19 per cent.

Interestingly enough, hospital care jumped from 59 per cent of health care costs in 1955, to 78 per cent in 1968, while the projection for 1981 sees a real drop to 60 per cent.

From the tax structure committee report published February 17, 1970, as recorded in the *Globe and Mail* on February 18, we are told that for all provinces together, hospital insurance costs have risen 15 per cent a year for the past two years. Between 1969 and 1972, health expenditures are forecast to grow at more than 20 per cent annually, twice as fast as any other broad area of spending. For the current fiscal year, health service spending is estimated at about $3.5 billion.

The provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) made the following estimate of the increases that Ontario faces in health programmes in the coming fiscal year, as reported in the *Globe and Mail* of February 18: that Medicare in the first full year—fiscal 1970-71—will add $200 million to provincial expenditures; that hospital costs, including per-bed capital grants, operating grants and mental health facilities, will rise by $123 million.

In the face of this rising cost of health services, the Premier (Mr. Robarts) of the province is reported to be in favour of opting out of shared-cost programmes. He suggests the other alternative of turning over the entire responsibility of these programmes to Ottawa, an alternative which he did not consider to be a real option.

These statistics point up the growing problem that we face in this very important area —the rising cost of delivering health services. Various recommendations have been made recently for dealing with soaring costs in the health care field. It might be worth looking at these recommendations and comparing them with the proposals we have already made and opportunities available for implementing them.

The report published last week of the Metropolitan Toronto Hospital Planning Council served to highlight the need for overall planning of health services. The council was set up by the government four years ago because it was feared that Metro hospital care was developing in an illogical and disorderly way. But the government has apparently been allowing the hospitals to bypass the council and deal directly with the OHSC or individual ministers. As a result, plans for expansions have not been developed in accordance with the community health care needs, and the council is unable to fulfil its intended function of co-ordinating programmes.

The report gives examples of duplication of services in the various districts of Metro, while other urgently needed facilities are not being provided. In district one, St. Joseph's Hospital and Our Lady of Mercy are planning to add to the number of chronic beds, although the council considers that the district already has an adequate supply. In district three, there is an adequate number of active treatment obstetric and pediatric beds, yet all these facilities are to be expanded at Sunnybrook Hospital.

The council also asks that the government give it the power to fulfil its co-ordinating function and to frame such terms of reference so it can be, in the words of the report, "a

regional planning council in fact and not just in fiction".

In its analysis of hospital needs, the council recommends that building priority be given to hospitals for the chronically ill and nursing homes. By mid-1968 it was apparent to the council that many active treatment hospitals were planning expansions not based on true community needs. More active treatment beds were being provided, because chronically ill patients were taking up the beds in general hospitals, having no where else to go. The council was aware of this situation almost two years ago but the government has not acted. Not only has it done nothing, but it has made it impossible for the planning council to take effective action.

As stated in their self-evaluation—"no matter how broadly interpreted, they"—the terms of reference—

> do not give the council any jurisdiction over the planning of nursing homes and homes for the aged. The development of a co-ordinated and balanced hospital system cannot be achieved if the two types of facilities mentioned are ignored for hospital planning purposes."

The task force reports on the cost of health services in Canada recommend that, to effect cost savings, public provision be made for levels of community care alternate to acute hospitals, and that the patient be cared for at an appropriate level that is suited to his condition.

Old people are taking up a quarter of the beds in Ontario hospitals at costs ranging from $40 to $60 a day. The NDP has been asking that nursing home costs be included under OHSC since the scheme first went into operation. Our alternative to the government's health insurance programme would extend hospitalization coverage to the less expensive nursing home facilities. We hope that this step will be taken without any further delay.

Another method of easing the demand for active treatment hospital facilities is to encourage the expansion of home care programmes, as recommended by the federal task force on the cost of health services. Government subsidies to cover the cost of nursing care in the homes could take the pressure off the general hospitals.

An example of how effective such a programme can be was given last year by Dr. R. M. Cherniak of the Winnipeg General Hospital, as reported in the Toronto *Daily Star* of January 7, 1969. A home care programme for patients with chronic respiratory diseases has provided, for 50 cents a day, the type of care provided in a hospital at the cost of $50 a day.

The federal task force also recommends that special consideration should be given to looking after sick children at home. The Toronto *Daily Star* recently reported on the success of an experiment at the Hospital for Sick Children where the mothers are to help the nurses in the care of their children. Perhaps some attention should be given to the possible cost savings and the greater security provided for the child in nursing him in his home surroundings wherever the specialized hospital facilities are not required.

These are some examples of steps which might be taken to reduce costs, but in trying to get an overall picture of the health care programme, one has to take a more critical look at the general usage of hospital facilities. The success of the community health clinics in the United States, Saskatchewan and here in Ontario, in reducing the number of hospital days per patient is well known. Of one million United States government employees and their dependents, patients of health centre doctors, in 1966, spent fewer than half the days in hospital compared with the patients of doctors who were paid through the doctor-endorsed Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans.

The group practice patients averaged 408 hospital days per 1,000 covered persons, and the private doctors' patients averaged 876 days. In Sault Ste. Marie, during 1963-1964, health centre patients were using hospital beds at the rate of 680 bed days per 1,000. The figure for the total population was 1,400 bed days per 1,000.

Finally, in the Saskatoon community clinic in the year 1967-1968, the clinic doctors each ran up 1,000 fewer days of hospital stay than did no-clinic doctors. As pointed out by Dr. Samuel Wolfe, director of research, Saskatoon community health services:

> If we take the experience of the health centre family doctors in Canada, we estimate that each one will save the Canadian people about $35,000 in in-patient costs during 1970 compared to non health centre doctors. If 10,000 Canadian family doctors practised the way these doctors do, the saving would be $350 million—far, far more than enough to pay the total cost of the prescription drug service for every man, woman and child in Canada.

There are a number of factors involved in this saving, but one of the most obvious advantages offered by the community health

clinic is the availability to the doctor, through sharing of resources, of costly diagnostic equipment to be used for preliminary investigations which would otherwise have to be carried out in the hospital. As recommended by the federal task force:

> When a patient is to be admitted to hospital for elective treatment, the necessary investigations should be carried out prior to admission, and not be repeated unnecessarily. The facilities of clinic and group practices in particular may lend themselves to satisfactory performance of such investigations.

Incidentally, the task force felt that physicians in training should be imbued with the virtues of discretion and restraint in employment of diagnostic procedures, in ordering drugs, and in scheduling return visits or hospital admissions. Not only out of consideration for dollar costs, but also for the dislocation of families resulting from the logistics involved.

It is a refreshing change, Mr. Speaker, to hear the suggestion that the medical profession itself might share responsibility with the much maligned consumer for abuse of medical facilities.

Other areas where duplication can be avoided and savings made for the individual doctors are in the sharing of administrative, nursing and paramedical staff.

These are areas where it is very apparent that costs can be reduced, but one should also consider the savings in time, which must result in financial savings, which are brought about by such simple devices as the maintenance of complete medical records of all patients of the clinic. These records are immediately available to all family physicians and specialists in the centre and no time is wasted when a patient is referred to a specialist, or when he has to be seen in an emergency by another doctor in duplication of medical history.

Time is saved in the availability within the clinic of specialists in various fields to whom the patient can be referred immediately, and with whom the family physician can confer when in doubt.

Here I would like to stress again the advantages to the doctors participating in such a group. A stimulating environment provided by close contact with colleagues in the same field. The incentives to keep up with the latest medical advances. Time provided for continued study and research. And a schedule which allows adequate rest and recreation time for the doctor, while still providing 24-hour service for the patient.

Another very significant area where savings can be made, and in which the community clinics are pioneering, is the prescription of drugs. The federal task force proposed that the Canadian Medical Association be requested to formulate guidelines for the rational and practical prescription of drugs. The NDP has proposed governmental action to reduce inflated drug prices and encouragement of the use of generic drugs for prescription purposes.

The Ontario Pharmacists' Association estimated the 1968 costs for prescription drugs at $143.4 million. We would estimate from this a figure of $147.6 million for 1970-1971. We think the measures we propose could bring this figure down to something like $128.1 million. Experience in bulk purchasing of generic drugs by health centres has resulted in prescription price cuts of from 30 to 40 per cent.

The Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) talks about a total approach to health care. Surely this total approach must be preventive, as well as curative? But what attention has the government paid to the preventive aspect in providing an insurance which pays the bill and does nothing to encourage detection of the ailment at a stage when it might be less expensive to cure?

Assuming, as we must, that it is the cost element that interests the government, we could save by encouraging examination at a stage when early treatment could save the individual suffering and anxiety.

Here again, great emphasis is placed in the health centres on regular check-ups when the patient is healthy, and on early diagnosis and treatment.

Looking at the cost of health care to the individual, the NDP has proposed a scheme which would reduce the combined family premiums for hospital and medical coverage from the present $309 a year to $120 a year. In order to keep costs at this level, we would amend the OHSIP legislation to provide that all medical practitioners who operate within the Medicare plan would accept the 90 per cent as full payment.

The government was perhaps sincerely confident that doctors would hold the line but they have been proven wrong, with 85 per cent of the doctors, as early as September, 1969, charging the extra 10 per cent. A plastic sign made available to the extra billing doctors by the Ontario Medical Association warns that OHSIP payments will not completely cover the fee, but invites the

patient to "discuss these with your doctor to avoid any misunderstanding." I wonder how much energy and enthusiasm he can summon up at that moment, and with what degree of confidence he can enter into a discussion over costs, when he knows, and the doctor knows, that he simply has no choice.

The government is not prepared to offer any guarantee that doctors' fees will not further increase. From 1958 to 1966, doctors' income in Ontario went up by an average of 6.3 per cent a year. In the same period, the manufacturing sector had an annual increase of 3.9 per cent, on the average. Construction workers had 5 per cent and the service industries, 4.1 per cent.

According to the latest statistics released by The Department of Health and Welfare, the average gross professional income of Canada's physicians is now $38,675 a year. Physicians' average net earnings rose more rapidly than those of other self-employed professionals in the 1957-1967 period. Ontario's physicians continued, in 1967, to earn the highest average net professional income among Canadian doctors, averaging $29,354.

It would be possible for the government, Mr. Speaker, to establish an overall ceiling percentage increase, within which the medical profession would have to work, with the aim of keeping payments under the insurance programme in line with changes in the cost of living and with wage levels.

Two recommendations of the federal task force are worth noting. Before each revision is undertaken, a total percentage change in physicians' net income before the payment of income tax which the new schedule will likely bring about should be discussed, and, if possible, agreed upon by the provincial medical association and the insuring agency. And, further, that once these schedules and overall costs of physicians' services have reached an acceptable level, further changes should be based upon agreed economic indices, so that fees and costs move in proportion to the economy of the country or province. Some method must be devised to regulate increases and perhaps we should be considering some form of wage negotiations.

In the area of doctors' remuneration, a very significant change has been brought about in the method adopted by the community health clinics. In all cases, the fee-for-service principle has been abolished. Methods of remuneration vary. The medical group may distribute doctors' pay among its members by partnership agreement, or there may be salary or contract arrangements between physicians and the health plan administration.

The basic principle is that no member of the group has a financial interest in any specific service to any individual. Furthermore, no doctor's income is directly related to the amount of business he brings in. A further rationalization introduced in the health clinics is the abolition of the differential in salaries paid to doctors in different branches of medicine. This can result in a serious shortage of family physicians.

The federal task force recommends that, because, in general, the value, to society of equally well-trained and hard-working doctors in the different branches of medical practice is similar, the average net lifetime earnings after income tax of doctors in general practice in the various specialties should also be similar. The principle worked on in the clinics is that various doctors with equal lengths of training and experience are equally valuable to society and should not be paid differentially.

In the field of medical training, savings could be made by maximum use of training facilities on a year-round basis. The co-ordination of training facilities, province- and country-wide, and the use of paramedical personnel in hospitals to take over duties now performed by newly graduated doctors. This latter also applies to functions performed by experienced doctors, which could be taken over by less expensively trained and paid allied health personnel.

Once more, in the question of total community health care, we should recognize the inadequacy of the present programmes and stress the training of efficient public health teams with, not only social workers but doctors skilled in community health problems.

One final recommendation of the federal task force is that the federal government might encourage the provinces to introduce some variety into their medical plans until one or other method of providing insurance has demonstrated its superiority. Could it be that the province of Ontario is entering into the spirit of the federal experiment with the ultimate example of how to organize the most inefficient and costly method?

When I was at home with my constituents on the weekend, I was reminded of several things which I should bring forward on their behalf. Thus, I shall return to some northern issues to conclude my contribution to this debate.

A year ago we were fighting to have Texas Gulf build their zinc refinery in our area. Through the co-operative efforts of many, we were successful in our battle. Now we are on the verge of the construction boom that will see the refinery come into being.

A number of problems emerge. One of the first things that is happening is that many landlords are jacking up their rents by as much as 20 to 30 per cent. One pensioner and his wife have had their rent raised from $75 to $95 a month for a two-bedroom house. An owner of 27 apartments will considerably raise the rents in all of his apartments.

These rent increases will hurt badly those on fixed incomes, such as the disabled, widows and old-age pensioners. They will hurt the goldminer, whose wages are lower than those in other forms of mining and considerably lower than those of construction workers.

In view of the hardships that these rent increases will cause, I have written to the Timmins town council to recommend that they set up a landlord-tenant advisory bureau under The Landlord and Tenant Act, to look into these rent increases, that are, and will be, taking place.

The sad thing is, Mr. Speaker, that this bureau may not be able to do anything effective to curb these increases, since this government refuses to make this body effective as a rent control body. Again this Tory government's refusal to pass legislation with real teeth in it will hurt our people.

Of course, the construction boom will again cause the cost of groceries and other staple products to go away up in price. While those in construction work and others in higher-paid jobs will be able to pay these prices, again the goldminer, and particularly those on provincial pensions, welfare and old age pensions, will be hard hit.

In view of the crisis that soaring prices will cause in my community, especially for the aged, I believe that the Ontario government must come up with a plan to supplement the income that they receive from their old age pension.

We are also faced with a heavy housing shortage. Not so much to accommodate the construction workers, as to provide for the new employees that Texas Gulf will be taking on as their operation expands. And as other service related jobs are created in the community, it is estimated that this year we will require another 100 homes. Next year, something like 200, and possibly another 100 the next year or more.

A delegation from the community has been to Ottawa to meet with the Hon. Robert Andras to discuss our problems and a number of suggestions have been made. At present, a survey has been requested from CMHC and OHC to determine the housing requirements in the Timmins-Porcupine area, other than for rent-geared-to-income OHC units, with special concern for the medium income level.

The big problem so far encountered has been the availability of mortgage money at a reasonable interest rate—a problem that is country-wide. Mr. Andras suggested that the conventional lenders be approached to secure funds, but this is easier said than done.

At a development conference in Cochrane, held last spring under the auspices of Ralph Stewart, MP, a trust company president stated that his firm was not in the habit of making loans in the north, since they did not have an office in the north and would find it too expensive to service the loan. I am sure other trust and insurance companies follow the same policy.

So that we in the north are at a distinct disadvantage in competing with other areas for loans from the conventional lenders. This irks northerners, since our savings through insurance and trust funds and so on have been taken out of the north and are not reinvested sufficiently in the north.

There are two suggestions that I wish to put forward. The Premier stated to the Ontario Federation of Labour delegation that met with him that consideration was being given by the government to extend the operation of the provincial savings bank to raise money in the form of savings to be used for mortgages. If he follows through with his suggestion, then a good case exists that a branch of the provincial savings bank should be opened in the northeast, preferably in Timmins, so that our money in the form of savings could be put into mortgages that could be serviced at reasonable cost.

The second suggestion comes from the Timmins town council in a resolution proposed by councillor D. D. McKinnon and seconded by A. G. Couture. I shall read it to you, Mr. Speaker:

> Whereas the province of Ontario draws funds from the Ontario municipal employees' retirement system fund at the rate of 6½ per cent per annum.
>
> And whereas funds are presently in short supply for low cost housing in Ontario.

> Now therefore be it resolved that the province of Ontario review the Ontario municipal employees' retirement system plan, with the view to allowing pension funds to be made available to Ontario Housing at current interest rates, thus helping to alleviate the serious housing shortage in Ontario, while, at the same time, giving municipal employees a better return in the form of increased pensions.

This resolution makes a lot of sense, Mr. Speaker. It means that pension money that comes from the various municipalities could be invested in some of those municipalities in the form of mortgages to benefit the residents therein. I hope that the government will give full consideration to this proposal which will get, I am sure, widespread support across the north.

It is my wish during the construction of the zinc refinery that as many local residents be hired for the work that are capable of doing it. Unemployment has been high in our area during the past couple of years. Sometimes we have had 2,000 and more unemployed, this being not an unusual figure.

When jobs become available locally, I believe that, where possible, local people should be hired, rather than jobs given wholesale to those from outside our area at our expense.

I am, therefore, directing a formal request to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) to do what he possibly can do to have the various construction unions, now centred in Sudbury, open a hiring hall in the Porcupine. This will mean that those applying for work at the refinery will be hired and serviced in Timmins, rather than from Sudbury, which is over 300 miles away.

If this is done, our workers will have a fair chance at the jobs and the problems that arose during the concentrator construction will be kept to a minimum.

One of the problems that northeasterners face is the inadequate way that our area is serviced by government agencies. The rehabilitation section of The Department of Social and Family Services has been doing some very essential and worthwhile work for certain citizens with handicaps or impediments of one kind or another in our section of the province. The major drawback is that there is only one worker for the northeast stationed in Kirkland Lake. This man is co-operative, diligent and capable, but he has such a large territory to cover, with such a heavy work load that referrals take three or four or more months before they can be seen.

How can one man adequately service the whole of northeastern Ontario? And yet, this is what the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) expects him to do.

I wrote him about the matter and received a very courteous reply that it was not possible to hire another worker at the present time. No wonder welfare costs are high, when the rehabilitation side of the department's work is understaffed. Many people could be helped and money could be saved in the long run if this aspect of the programme was to be further emphasized.

Of course, it is not only Social and Family Services that is delinquent. The Department of Labour is just as bad. They have an officer working out of Kirkland Lake to service the apprentices of the trades in the northeast. His territory covers the area from Timagami to Moosonee, the Quebec border on the east and Hornepayne in the west. He has to service all the apprentices in this area.

This is a job with considerable magnitude, as you can well imagine. This gentleman will be away from his home base a considerable amount of time. The man is conscientious and does a good job, under the circumstances.

The deplorable thing is that the department has not seen fit to provide him with a secretary in his office—even a part-time secretary. As a result, young people applying to be accepted as apprentices have to wait an inordinate amount of time to find out if they are to be accepted or not.

They are supposed to be certified as apprentices after working for an employer for three months. In point of fact, the person and the employer can be fined if the young person works after three months. Yet some of our young people say they are working up to seven months without knowing whether they are certified apprentices or not.

The fault is not the labour officer so much as the conditions under which he must do his work. The Department of Labour should take immediate steps to at least hire him a secretary, even if only on a part-time basis.

Mr. MacDonald: He needs the help of that ombudsman, the Minister of Mines.

Mr. Ferrier: The Department of Labour has always taken an unrealistic attitude towards the north in that there has been, and is, only one human rights officer stationed in Thunder Bay to serve all of the northwest and the northeast of this province. How any one man can possibly do an adequate job is beyond the imagination. And yet, the minister is expecting him to do so.

Mr. Lewis: The minister left a trail of thousands of discrimination cases in his wake.

Mr. Ferrier: The recommendations contained in the report of the Ontario Council of Health deal in an equally passing manner with the problems of the north.

The responsibility of the council is to "advise the government on the provision of health services to meet the health needs of the people of the province of Ontario." In considering "approaches to the implementation of a regionalized system of health services," the council recommends that the province be divided into regions and each region into a number of districts. And then it goes on to say: "It is recognized that special arrangements might be necessary for northern Ontario." Could we not perhaps have something more specific on the health needs of the people of the north of the province of Ontario?

But the council does make a further recommendation on the needs of the north: If no health sciences centres are anticipated soon for northern Ontario, substitute arrangements for the needs of Ontario should be explored. Is it beyond their terms of reference, Mr. Speaker, to enquire as to what services are anticipated and to make suggestions as to what we might expect?

The gold mining communities of this province are facing a serious crisis as far as their future is concerned, as the federal government is in the process of reviewing The Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act. The possibility is that this assistance may be cut off at the end of this year. If it is, my understanding is that there are only two mines in the province that can continue to operate. If this were to happen, the municipalities of the Porcupine would be particularly hard hit.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Glad the NDP has changed its mind.

Mr. Ferrier: The gold miners of our camp average 48 years of age and many of them have known nothing other than mining all their lives. For their sakes and the communities' sakes, it is essential that the assistance under the EGMA be extended at least for another three-year period. The particular point that I wish to make, which I hope that the Minister of Mines will make to the federal government, is that the subsidy should be extended to the companies, provided that strings be attached which require that the companies be required to meet an adequate standard of wages, pensions and employee benefits—something similar to those of other mining areas of the province.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister is glad to do that—

Mr. Ferrier: The gold miners have never received the wages and benefits that have gone to other workers, and it is time they were given a break even if, figuratively speaking, it is late in the day. For them and their families, particularly, and for the municipalities as a whole, we request the Minister of Mines to make his representations to the federal government on this matter on this basis. As far as I am concerned, the miner must have priority over the shareholder.

Mr. Lewis: Well, when?

Mr. MacDonald: When is this government—

Mr. Ferrier: Cottagers in my area—

Mr. Lewis: You are going to have to be Minister of Labour, you are going to have to be Minister of Health, you may have to become Prime Minister.

Mr. Ferrier: Cottagers in my area, Mr. Speaker, particularly those on Keefer and Star Lakes, have been trying to get hydro lines to serve their cottages for a number of years. But always the cry comes back from Hydro, "You have not enough users for us to provide you the service." Surely the residents of the north deserve some break as far as their recreation needs are concerned. It seems reasonable that Hydro could modify its regulations to help our citizens who wish to take advantage of what good weather we do have in the spring, summer and fall months; get hydro into their cottages and thus have the amenities that come along with hydro. These cottages are just about up to the unit level required, so surely, some reconsideration can be given. In point of fact, with the advent of snowmobiles, many people go to their cottages on weekends all year round. So what a boon it would be if they had hydro power; and a great deal more hydro would be used, so that their investment in the hydro lines will be justified.

I feel Hydro should give this kind of extra service to northerners. Since so much of the hydro generated in the north is water power —the cheapest form of electricity of course— we do not get any break as far as cheaper electricity is concerned. Oh no; there must be an equalization of costs throughout the province. Northerners invariably wonder why the cost of gasoline and other products, such

as beer, cannot be equalized across the province as well.

You can buy a load of lumber that has been processed in the Porcupine area cheaper in Toronto than you can buy it in Timmins. It pays you sometimes to come down here to buy the same load of lumber that is produced in our area. If we are charged higher for electricity so that the south can get cheaper power, then why not raise the price of gasoline the necessary amount in the south, so that we can have gasoline at the same price in the north that you have it down here? What is good for the goose should be good for the gander.

Mr. Lewis: Yes. That is some gander over there.

Mr. Ferrier: One final problem in the northeast is that of pollution by the older pulp and paper mills. There are three mills in our section of the province; Abitibi has mills at Iroquois Falls and Smooth Rock Falls, and Spruce Falls Pulp and Paper operates in the Kapuskasing area.

The two that I am directly concerned with are the two Abitibi mills, since one is in my riding and the other is on a river that flows through my riding. The town of Timmins is paying dearly for a sewage treatment and pollution control plant to clean up our sewage and return it to the Mattagami River in a treated condition, but Abitibi at Smooth Rock Falls merrily goes on its way, severely polluting the same water some miles away. If the municipality must control pollution, so should industry. I am concerned about the situation at Smooth Rock Falls and Iroquois Falls, so I wrote to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) about the subject and here is his reply:

> Further to your letter of December 4 last regarding the Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company, I am informed that most of the companies' mills are progressing well in co-operation with the Ontario Water Resources Commission. However, we are having problems at Iroquois Falls and Smooth Rock Falls and the company is aware that it is required to comply with the commission's recommendations and enter into a definite programme of pollution abatement.
>
> I frankly think that Abitibi, along with certain other companies, are waiting to see if there is any change in policy regarding incentives, particularly with provincial sales tax. We are going to have to make a decision as soon as possible, and just as soon as this is done, we will set up our enforcement programme.

I recognize that for older mills, the cost of pollution control is very great, and as a result, complete control measures cannot be installed overnight. I am prepared to admit that a phased programme is essential to these plants. What disturbs me is that if I read the minister's letter to me correctly, Abitibi has been making little effort to meet any deadlines for pollution control abatement, and has been using the possibility of tax exemption as its way out. I even wonder if it has set any period under which to operate controls.

Mr. Lewis: When is the government going to charge Abitibi?

Mr. Ferrier: The time has come, as far as I am concerned, that the programme be laid out over a reasonable period and that the company be required to meet the schedule set out for it. Abitibi cannot be permitted to merrily go on its way doing what it likes with the government turning a blind eye. It seems to me that if Texas-Gulf Sulphur will have to spend a considerable amount of money to build pollution control devices before its refinery goes into operation, then Abitibi, over a reasonable period of time, can control its as well.

Mr. Speaker, I have dealt with many areas where this government's policies and lack of same are causing hardship for the north and are continuing to result in alienation. These are continuing neglect of our roads, inadequate supervision of work projects, continuing lack of development in secondary industry, and inadequate servicing of the north by a number of government departments, so that we do not get anything like the services that others get.

As well, there is inability to control rents and provide money for housing, no real effort to make the pulp and paper companies meet any schedule for pollution control, and by operating under a double standard we pay higher rates for hydro to subsidize the south and we pay higher rates for gasoline and other commodities because the south refuses to subsidize us.

We are providing a great deal of tax revenue to the province, and yet our mining municipalities are being crushed by the heavy taxation burden, because the province refuses to give us fair mining revenue payments. These injustices, that I have again enumerated, show how much the north is neglected and misunderstood by this government, and how

its policies for 27 years have caused the ever-widening gap between south and north.

Our problems are not being met by regional development conferences or by the appointment of a northern affairs department under The Department of Mines, whose minister is from the south—he is the member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), right here in Toronto. His forays into the north have not taught him an appreciation of the northern mentality, he still represents the exploiters coming to the exploited.

I see no bridging of the gap under his leadership. The northern alienation brought about by the neglect and insensitivity of the Tory government plus a defective, deficient, unjust Medicare programme, show how little this government really represents the people of this province and how, at the next election, they will be soundly defeated.

Mr. R. T. Potter (Quinte): Mr. Speaker, first of all—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Potter: Whose turn is this anyhow?

Mr. Speaker: Order please! Let us hear from the member for Quinte.

Mr. Potter: First of all, I would like to assure the hon. members who still have guts enough to remain here that I am not going to take very long to say what I have to say this afternoon.

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of the throne speech was the indication that the taxpayers could sit back and relax, so to speak, with the understanding that they would not be burdened with any further increases in taxation this year, particularly at the provincial level.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): We got them all last year!

Mr. Potter: We are on this year now, the member is way behind.

It was also encouraging, Mr. Speaker, to hear that pollution is now considered to be of prime importance. But this has all been said before, repeatedly, with few visible results. Suddenly, Mr. Speaker, everyone is becoming very concerned about the problem of pollution in all its aspects; and this is very gratifying, since we have been told by our experts, in no unmistakeable terms, that unless we take drastic action immediately our world will be uninhabitable 25 years from now.

Now, my great concern is the time it takes to get an effective programme functioning. Certainly Mr. Greene's pronouncement some weeks ago that phosphates would be banned by the end of 1972, far from being encouraging makes me wonder if he really realizes the magnitude of the pollution problem. Does the protection of certain areas of business take precedence over the preservation of our natural environment? And is Ontario going to follow blindly along with this programme?

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Yes; the answer is yes, I am afraid.

Mr. Potter: Surely if we are convinced that phosphates are responsible for the major portion of our pollution, then I think we should take drastic action now and not two or three years hence.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Too bad the responsible minister was not here to hear it.

Mr. Potter: The Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) has been quoted in a publication by the Toronto-Dominion Bank, called "Priorities for People", as saying:

> There can be no greater concern for all levels of government in the next decade than the kind of environment that is to be left to the next generation.

And again he is quoted as saying:

> The great task and trust for Canadians of the 1970s will be to hand on to next generation a better natural environment than now exists; to do so will cost everyone money and effort.

In view of these statements by the Premier, I am confident that we can look forward to the institution of far reaching changes in The Department of Energy and Resources Management.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Right, starting with the minister.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): I would not be too sure about that.

Mr. Potter: The announcement of a new policy for northern Ontario will certainly be warmly received by the residents of that part of our province.

Mr. MacDonald: The House just heard from one of them.

Mr. Potter: But I cannot help but remark, Mr. Speaker, on the continued poor quality of health services that are available. I wonder

if the people would not have welcomed a specific promise of assistance in this field, with particular reference to insurance coverage for nursing homes rather than the overall generalities in the Speech from the Throne.

The recent announcement that the *per diem* rate for indigent patients in nursing homes is to be increased by $1 per day I am sure will be appreciated by all nursing home operators. But unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, this offers no relief to the thousands who must continue to meet their own expenses. In my opinion, it is essential that all patients requiring nursing home care receive benefits comparable to those received by patients treated in active and chronic treatment hospitals.

Mr. Lawlor: They need more people like this member.

Mr. Potter: I suppose like the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) I shall have to make this an annual appeal, but I am not easily discouraged and I am always hopeful that sooner or later our government will recognize the need for such assistance.

Mr. Lawlor: The member will have to live a long time.

Mr. Potter: Perhaps at this point, Mr. Speaker, I should refer the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) to the *Globe and Mail* of March 3, wherein the report of the Metropolitan Toronto Hospital Planning Council was submitted. In this report the council stressed the need for extending the accommodation for chronically ill and for nursing home facilities. They recommended that each district should have a balanced structure of acute treatment, convalescent treatment, chronic and nursing home facilities. The council had made a detailed analysis of each planning district in Toronto before submitting the report.

Last fall when, as chairman of the standing committee on health, I tabled a report in this Legislature on the activities of that committee, the Minister of Health stated that the Ontario Council of Health, involving over 200 people, had been working on this problem for two years. Last Friday the minister tabled in this Legislature the first report from this committee.

Mr. Lewis: The most fatuous document ever tabled in this House was that report and the member knows it. The most asinine—

Mr. Potter: But I would ask the minister if he would refer to the report of the committee of physical resources, which was submitted to the Ontario Council of Health. After reviewing that report, in conjunction with all other reports which have been submitted, I am confident that the minister would have no difficulty in convincing his colleagues in the government that changes in our health programme are urgently needed and that any resultant budgetary increases would be more than justified.

Perhaps this a good time, Mr. Speaker, to again suggest that we try to streamline our health services programme a little bit.

Mr. Makarchuk: Starting with the minister.

Mr. Potter: At the present time, we have three separate departments, we have HIRB, OHSC and OHSIP. Would it not be simpler and more efficient to have one Ontario health services plan?

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): The member should come over here!

Mr. Potter: Would it not be simpler to have one identification number, one premium per person or per family unit? Perhaps this would be over-simplification, but I have yet to hear one sound argument against such a programme. I am convinced that in addition to being much more efficient it would be a great deal cheaper to administer.

Now this brings us once again to the question of economizing. We are being asked by the federal government to hold the line on taxation and our government has assured us that they intend to do so. I wonder if we might not look at some of the methods of private enterprise in this field and perhaps take a lesson from them. In industry today a constant review is made of production costs in order to remain competitive and to show a profit for the shareholders. The plant manager must ensure that each worker is producing to the height of his capabilities; and by the same token a review of his administrative staff is necessary every few years. The president of a very large corporation assures me that this is necessary because of the tendency toward empire building by members of the executive staff, and that this must be broken down and the drones removed in order to stay in business.

We are told, Mr. Speaker, that the complicated business of government cannot be compared to ordinary business, and in the main I agree. However, I do believe that it is just as important for us to control our expenses in the interest of the taxpayer, as it is for large corporations to do so in the interests of their shareholders. And in this

area we may well take a lesson from them.

I am convinced that there are just as many empire builders in governmental departments as there are in any business corporation. An instance of which I have personal knowledge is the case of a young lawyer in one of our departments who left his job because, as he told me, there was so little for him to do besides read the paper and drink coffee that he was beginning to suffer from dry rot. Ironically enough, I saw an ad recently in the *Globe and Mail* requesting applications for a lawyer to head up a subdepartment of three lawyers who were to act as advisors and assist the deputy minister of one of our government departments. Surely, Mr. Speaker, it cannot be necessary for each department to have its own private setup of legal advisors. Surely this must be a case of the empire building that I discussed a few moments ago, and is not general government policy. In this specific case, I am convinced that the programme was set up by the deputy minister himself.

I would like to comment here on an excerpt from a speech made by the Premier on the occasion of his receiving an award for the furtherance of brotherhood.

Mr. Makarchuk: Mr. Speaker, is this after reviewing the speech on the tape or before?

Mr. Potter: I quote:

> We must ensure that any innovation introduced into our parliamentary system does not alter the ultimate sovereignty of the people through its elected representatives. It is the elected representatives who must deal with society in a manner which the people consider to be best suited to their needs and protections.

Mr. Speaker, is there a possibility that the Premier is intimating that all the elected representatives are to be allowed to assume some of the authority now vested in the approximately 130 completely independent boards and commissions, as well as the civil service generally, thereby enabling the members to effectively represent their constituents? I am very hopeful that this is indeed what he was referring to.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Well put!

Mr. Lewis: It is just a statement he made.

Mr. Potter: One other area which I had hoped would receive consideration in the Speech from the Throne is that of welfare. Last fall I spoke of a proposal referred to as a "work activity" programme, whereby we concentrate on rehabilitating those on welfare and returning them to a useful place in society. I need not be repetitious; my views on this, as well as on total health-care programme, are already recorded in *Hansard*. But once again, Mr. Speaker, I ask this government to revise its system of priority and let us see health and welfare assume their proper position in any review of our needs.

I have one last comment to make, Mr. Speaker, and this time it is one of congratulations. The suggestion, and it is purely a suggestion, I understand, of the transfer of the Indian affairs to The Department of Citizenship seems a logical move. Here it will receive the attention of one of our most able cabinet ministers, and we can assuredly look forward to reforms in this field.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Speaker, I come at a time when we are all in a pretty good mood after hearing the remarks of the hon. member for Quinte (Mr. Potter). He has some very good suggestions, and having sat on the health committee last year, which he chaired, I feel that he is one of the higher-calibre men who sit in this Legislature and I am sure from the brief talks that I have had with him that he is also of high calibre in his own profession, and it is nice to hear him every so often here.

With regards to talking on the throne speech, it is rather difficult to talk on something that did not have very much in it. Of course, it did say that there would be no tax increases this year, and that, of course, can be shuffled around according to how the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) wants to work it. But, since we are in kind of an open forum I guess it is, where as the fellow said, "We kind of speak our minds," and someone has just finished—whether they are part of the policy making or not—it is nice to have the opportunity to speak on items that are of interest to people at this time and to discuss, in a way, some of the problems that we see are facing the people of Ontario.

I have a number of items I want to talk on, Mr. Speaker. I have such a lot of paper here, I am not sure of what I am doing, to be honest with you. However, I think I have about eight or nine items of subject matter that I want to speak on briefly, and I hope they are brief. I will begin with one of them that I think is called taxes.

Mr. Speaker, it is almost unbelievable the way the Premier (Mr. Robarts) of this province is shouting and roaring about federal tax

reform, and that it will ruin this country. I can say here that the present system of taxation in Ontario, as it pertains to education costs and the particular people who have to pay it, is, in my opinion, just plain rotten, and the Premier himself is to blame. How can he, being the leader of the richest province in Canada, stand in his place in this assembly and defend a tax structure of the like we have in Ontario, where some farmers are forced to pay as much as $1,000 in school taxes even without having one red cent of profit in a year's operation.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier has had his day and he is no longer the great defender of the people of this province, for he has failed to have equitable taxation in his own backyard. Just imagine his great education fiasco announcement of November, 1967, in Galt. This must haunt him on many occasions: Headlines in every paper over the past year, and here are a few of them here: "Farmers press the bid for school tax reform." "School tax bill fires up council." "Soaring school taxes spark hefty uproar." "Area and national farmers' union threaten school levies revolt." They are all over. "School programmes swell the taxes." "School trustees cornered over government budget limitations." "School taxes force increase in taxes." "Chatham city council—10-mill rate increase." That is where the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) comes from.

May I say that all the cabinet ministers have left. I suppose they did not want to hear what I have to say, but that is, I guess, their privilege.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): They will be gone shortly. They are just getting ready to go right out. They are on their way out.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Speaker, I do not defend or wholly accept the federal tax reform, but I do accept that there is a way of letting people know of what might be expected of them and of hearing their opinions. Too many times in the past, far-reaching decisions have been made without any prior warning to the residents, and this government is one of the worst offenders, and especially the Premier himself.

I believe we should call a spade a spade, and be honest when we compare taxes in the United States with those in Canada. I quote from the Windsor *Star* "Now" column of March 2, 1970:

> "The American Valley isn't that green," says a steady reader of the *Star* who lives down in Columbus, Ohio. He saw a column note here on the tax gap Canadians and Americans will have in 1972 if "reforms" on both sides of the border go through. "The $958 U.S. tax cited for an American with two children on a breadwinner's income of $10,000 doesn't tell the whole story," says J. W. Eberle from Columbus. "The fine print on the tax return ups the tax demand when social security, the 10 per cent surcharge, and city income taxes are considered. And the American tax structure will have nowhere to go but up," he says.

Mr. Speaker, this is from what I call "the horse's mouth." He should know. He lives there. And it should be most reliable.

Of course, we have social benefits here in Canada that they do not have in the United States, such as family allowances, automatic old age pensions at age 65, plus a form of Medicare and hospitalization. These far outstrip the benefits available to many American residents, so let us not fool ourselves about mass migration to the United States of true Canadians.

It would appear to me that inflation as we know it today, is, in effect, much different to what it was at one time, where too much money was chasing too few goods. Today, we seem to have too many services and goods chasing after the available money, and the hue and cry seems to be, "More money." I believe part of this is our urge to have things prior to our acquiring the money, so then credit in all forms takes over in exorbitant interest rates, which in turn makes the cost of goods much higher. The bank interest rates have never stopped climbing since the six per cent limit was removed.

Where do we stop the spiral? I believe interest rates and the amount of down payment on goods may be one place to start, but we are reluctant to hire more bureaucrats to tell us what to do and I myself have this feeling.

The wide-open credit buying, with every kind of charge account you can dream of, is with us today. The last one I saw was the other evening. I dropped in to have a beer in a downtown tavern and there I saw a couple of men paying for three beers they had; they used a charge account. Now, I do not know if they use it for expense-account living, or just do not carry any cash with them, but someone has to pay for the extra work this entails for the collector, as well as the final paying of the charges.

As has been mentioned here last December by the hon. member for Sarnia, the earnings of the banks and the near-banks are increasing

by enormous amounts. So it would appear that a restriction on interest charges would help the majority of people and still allow these institutions to make a reasonable profit.

I have a few comments I want to make on welfare. It appears to me, sir, that we really are losing in our so-called battle to bring a standard of living that should be in keeping with a country that is, in effect, living in an affluent age. Is society in general, and especially the poor and the near-poor, willing to accept the type of environment that is falling their way? Are we really interested in bettering the lot of our fellow man, or are we really immoral and irresponsive to the conditions that are around us?

As someone who has been, in some way, serving people and their problems for some time, I really am disturbed when I am called upon to visit someone who does not have enough groceries on the shelf to take care of the next meal, or adequate living accommodations for their family. Is this really what should be happening in a country such as ours, where food surpluses plague our farmers, and stock market manipulators or speculators can make a million and pay no taxes due to our 19th century laws? Only yesterday in the city of Windsor at the race track there were over 6,000 people there and they bet a half million dollars. So are we so poor, or are we immoral?

I believe we should use some of our surpluses in Canada. First, let us make sure that every man, woman and child has the necessary food to supply their body needs. Why not use some of our dairy and milk surpluses to see that every boy and girl up to the age of 14 is supplied with at least a quart of fresh milk a day? This can be arranged if we are willing to accept it, and we, as legislators, are willing to accept our responsibilities to the children of today and the men and women of tomorrow.

I might add that this can be arranged, and could only be arranged, through the co-operation of all the people of Canada. It must not be paid for at the expense of the farmers, who have in the past furnished low-cost food to our people.

I wish to quote some of the remarks of the administration reports—Department of Social and Family Services—for the county of Essex. I am sure the reports from larger cities would even be far more serious and degrading than this one:

> This past year has proven to be a very difficult year. Many of the clients who do seasonal work could find no work, due to problems such as crop failure, and so on.
>
> Desertions by husbands from their families has reached an epidemic level and creates much more work for the department.
>
> Housing continues to be a problem in the area, as well as the high cost of housing. The Ontario Housing Corporation agreed to build 116 units for senior citizens in the country. Only 12 of these units have been completed to date, but the balance are expected to be built in 1970.

In the rehabilitation officers' report:

> A breakdown of the dominant factors which most often create the situation which places people on our files: 24 per cent are caused from alcoholism; 16 per cent from accidents, with traffic heading the group; 13 per cent financial difficulties, with garnishees first; 12 per cent mentally retarded; 10 per cent illness, with heart attacks heading this group; 10 per cent jail sentence and similar experiences; 6 per cent desertions and broken homes; 8 per cent for other reasons.
>
> In most cases these do not apply singly, but several of all these factors are found operating in the case of the unfortunate. The most difficult to work with are the alcoholics, when motivation for a better life is lacking.

What are we going to do for these unfortunate people? I see by the estimates that we are spending $7 million in the province for alcoholism and drug addiction research. This is ridiculous, when we collect $190 million in taxes from the alcoholic products sold in the province.

If we were as interested in bringing people back into society as we sometimes try to appear, it seems to me we would double our budget for the treatment of alcoholics. This government is willing to accept the money from liquor taxes, but is not willing to accept its responsibilities to society to bring the victims of what most of us can use as a purely social drink, but some cannot, back into the mainstream of a renewed life.

To bear out what I have just said about some of our welfare problems in our present system of handling it, which is far outdated, I was noticing in the Toronto *Daily Star* of December 12, 1969, where it told how three families eat depends on income. The family on welfare cannot afford milk or fruit. The most serious omission is the lack of milk for calcium and protein and lack of fruit for

vitamin C and other vitamins. So these are very essential for the proper growth of the human body.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to make a few remarks on the Ontario Hospital plan and Ontario Health Insurance Plan, and its administration, and draw attention to some of its inequities. The method of paying claims through the service agents is most disturbing. I will explain it in detail.

A patient attends at a doctor's office and gives him his or her number, as well as the name of the service agent. The doctor's office fills out a claim card, which has at least 11 key items filled out on it, and mails it to the service agent. The service agency then check its claim card against the history card in their file as to eligibility of claimant and to make sure the doctor's office has filled out all parts in full, especially the diagnosis.

The service agent then sends these claims in a special envelope supplied by OHSIP to the Toronto office of OHSIP. The Toronto office then rechecks the claim against the history card, which is an original copy of the history card in the service agent's office. If the OHSIP office is satisfied everything is in order, it then processes the claim at 90 per cent of the Ontario Medical Association tariff fees as set in 1969.

The cheques are then mailed out *en bloc*, all signed and ready for the doctors, to the service agent's office. The service agent then mails these cheques out to each individual doctor. A similar process is necessary, but a different claim form is used, if the patient has paid to the doctor directly and then filed the claim.

So you can see, the amount of paper work that is involved in that is terrific. I would think that a card similar to a credit card would be the easiest—the simplest to use for doctor's claims. This has been suggested by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon). We have been plagued with complaints about failure to receive replies from OHSIP, plus cancellation of coverage because of mislaid or misfiled mail at the OHSIP office.

With our modern accounting methods and records, as set up under the computers, many of the older people have great difficulty in keeping up with them. The changing of the family status creates many problems in the OHSIP and hospital coverage, and many of the older people become totally confused by a computer continually sending out duplicate notices, or something similar.

I would strongly recommend that everyone over the age of 70 be issued with a permanent medical and hospital coverage number. Surely we owe this much to the residents of Ontario who have been the backbone of this country for the past 50 years—that is, no more worry for them as to premiums. Surely, if they have been paying taxes for 50 years, they deserve some peace of mind in their later years?

I had a complainant who called me only yesterday about a problem with OHSIP. I checked into it and found that a nine-year-old had a tonsillectomy operation and, since I have the 1969 Ontario Medical Association fees book, I looked up the rates that could be charged. Specialist's fees are $50 for the operation, plus the anaesthetic fees. The doctor charged $70 for the tonsillectomy—

An hon. member: Highway robbery!

Mr. Ruston: —which was $20 over the specialist's fee. So, naturally, the member got a bill from the doctor for $25.

Now, even if we are paying 100 per cent, this would not solve the problem. I think that this is something that, if the doctors do not solve it, will probably have to be solved through legislation. But I think that when professional people set up tariff rates that they should abide by them—not just 90 per cent of them, or 80 per cent of them. I think that all of them should abide by their own fees.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to say a word of two on local government and the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough).

Everyone seems to talk today about regional government and yet no one really knows what a region is. Everyone has a different interpretation of the meaning of it. The federal government has regional areas and they consist of two or three provinces, in some cases.

This government has formed the Ottawa region, the Port Arthur-Fort William region, the Niagara Falls region and is studying a number of other areas. I would warn the minister that, from some of the reports that are coming from the Ottawa region and Niagara Falls region, he better give a close look at the problems coming up or he may find himself in deeper trouble than the Minister of Education.

The hon. minister from Chatham-Kent is changing his style in local meetings on regional government. He is opening up from the previous attitude of coolness and "I am the boss." I take it, from some of the jokes

he tells, that he is attempting to change his image. But I would warn the local people to keep a sharp eye out, because it could be a big snow job to suck you in.

An hon. member: Right! The snowman cometh, he arrives—

Mr. Ruston: If the local people want changes in local government, let us at least tell them what it is going to cost and who is going to pay for it. We cannot afford to blunder along with our eyes shut to something we know nothing about.

Are we really going in the right direction in encouraging the rapid growth of the "golden horseshoe" area in Metropolitan Toronto where there are 60,000 people a year moving in? Where is this going to put us in a few years? Is it going to be a mass of towering skyscrapers and concrete? Is this really the life we want? Ask someone who has lived in a seven million population city, like New York.

I have a clipping here from the Windsor *Star* of March 2, 1970, written by Richard Rossi, United Press International writer:

> New York? You can keep it. Moving to company headquarters in New York once was a career dream come true for business executives.
>
> Today, according to a recent report by the National Industrial Conference Board, it can be the first stage of a nightmare. Corporations are finding it increasingly difficult to lure top men to New York "where the action is," according to the NICB. Mortgage rates, soaring living costs, crime, pollution and commuting problems cause many key employees to turn down assignments and even promotions to many big cities.
>
> The problem is especially acute in New York, where 133 of the nation's 500 largest corporations have headquarters.
>
> The high cost of living and the harrowing transportation difficulties top the list of complaints many transferred executives have about the Big Town. "If I were to go back to Detroit," said an automotive executive who has been here for two years, "it would be the equivalent of getting a $4,000 a year raise."
>
> He noted that he now pays $23 a month in tolls just to cross bridges in travelling to and from his home in northern New Jersey to New York city every day. "My heating bill in Detroit averaged $21 a month," he said. "Now it is $90." It now takes him three hours a day in travelling time—an hour and a half each way. "In Detroit it took me 20 minutes each way."
>
> Leonard Dalquest, a General Electric executive recently transferred here from St. Louis, will never forget his first ride on the New Haven Railroad, a 1¼-hour trip from New Canaan, Connecticut. "The shock was pretty great when I had to stand all the way in to New York on my first day," he recalled.
>
> Difficult as the physical problems of New York living can be, the psychological adjustment can be even more troublesome for the transferred executive and his family.
>
> Dalquest said the city seems to be loaded with "supercynics" who complain a great deal but really do little to solve the problems of the city. In other parts of the country, he said, "the guy living in the suburbs 25 miles away is doing things to help his city. You really cannot escape from, in some way, participating in improving the city itself."

It would seem to me that if we had proper planning of future cities in areas such as Kingston, Peterborough, North Bay, London, Windsor and perhaps others, we could eventually bring these cities up to 300,000 people or more in each one. This, according to the most reliable information available, is supposed to be the ideal in decent living—where the individual would feel that he had some identity, or local say in his future environment.

We could then, with this, build strong local government surrounding these areas in place of the deterioration that the government of Ontario is now encouraging. We must have strong local government if we are to maintain our democratic system, for, as soon as you remove it farther away, such as is happening today, people have a feeling of "what can I do, where do I go from here?" It becomes very frustrating for the individual.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention briefly a few observations with regards to the slaughter on our highways. And I wish to support the statements made by the hon. member for Huron-Bruce as to car insurance and driving credits. This sounds like an excellent idea that could be used here in Ontario.

Something that amazes some of us is that, in the United States, every year, there are more people killed by automobiles than have been killed in the Vietnam war from its beginning. Yet we seldom see a protest march

over the bad driving habits of the automobile drivers and the shameful waste of life and property. I humbly believe that the attitude of drivers has a great deal more to do with accidents or collisions than any other single item.

We could, of course, restrict the type of cars manufactured and this may help. If you put a 400-horsepower motor in an automobile weighing 5,000 pounds, you have in your hands a potentially very dangerous weapon, if it is not used with care. Another area is the amount of horsepower put in a relatively light automobile, such as a 2,900-pound sports car with a 350-horsepower engine. I would think we should limit the amount of horsepower in relation to the weight of the car. There have been numerous single-car accidents which have been due to loss of control and, no doubt, can be traced to being overpowered.

I also believe that automobiles used for general highway use should have speed limited at the manufacturing stage to 90 miles per hour. What is the use of making cars that will go 130 miles per hour when we have no highways for this type of speed? We would then allow police cars to be made with a special speed of, perhaps, 100 or 110 miles per hour. They then, would have no trouble apprehending lawbreakers.

Mr. Speaker, we have, in the past years, in the past two years, spoken in this House on a number of occasions on problems facing agriculture and I do not want to repeat them here today. However, Mr. Speaker, I must stress some areas of concern to me.

I was interested to hear the comments from the Premier on the remarks of my leader, Mr. Nixon, on education costs and how they should be paid. The Premier says, "Where are you going to get the money to pay 80 per cent of the costs of education by the province?"

Well, Mr. Speaker, the Premier should open his ears and eyes and see what is going on around him. Money is already being paid. All we ask, is it to be collected on a wider base through the provincial taxes, such as income tax, corporation tax, sales tax, instead of the stupid method he and his colleagues use now, on the land real estate tax?

I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if the Premier really believes himself that the present method of paying school costs are really fair and equitable? If he does, then I suggest that he is not capable of leading the people of this province.

An area of concern in farming is the high cost of doing business. I feel that the agriculture committee of this Legislature should make use of the powers it may have to investigate a wide range of costs pertaining to farming in general.

Farming in my riding is, in my opinion, at about the lowest ebb it has been in a number of years, mainly because of the severe rainstorms in 1969. We have had the cancellations of some cash crop contracts, such as tomatoes and string beans, and this will further complicate the position of our farmers.

The financing of farm operations for 1970 is most acute and I feel it is still the responsibility of this government to assure these people of adequate financing for the 1970 crop operations.

Farmers in the livestock operations are facing the problem of pollution regulations being brought in for discussion at this time. The zoning of agricultural and residential land and a fair assessment on land zoned for agriculture is one of the ways to help a farmer who is tied into an agricultural zone. His farm then is saleable only for farming purposes, which, of course, brings less money than if sold for other purposes.

Farmers are reluctant to change to livestock at this time as they are apprehensive of what may happen to production of beef and hogs in western Canada due to the unsettled wheat market of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to discuss pollution at any great length as I feel that my leader has already done this and the hon. member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid) will go into it in detail later on.

I believe that if this government is really sincere in its efforts to attack water pollution and supply safe water to the people of Ontario that it would revise The Municipal Act and its connection with the Ontario Municipal Board as it pertains to water and sewage projects in our municipalities.

Due to our present financial structure of municipal government, the time involved from the application for a new project or addition takes from two to four years even to make a start on construction. Many municipalities have found that prices have increased for these projects by as much as 50 per cent from the time of the initial application until the calling of tenders. I will further document these when the estimates of the OWRC come before this House.

Mr. Speaker, an area of concern that may not affect too many but has been brought to my attention on a few occasions, is our inadequate laws governing bankruptcies. I realize

that this is, in fact, a federal statute, but I do believe that if this government asked that it be reviewed with Ottawa officials, that they would listen and give consideration to the suggestion. Mr. Gene Whalen, member of Parliament for Essex, has pressed this matter and did have some changes made a few years ago.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): A good fellow too.

Mr. Ruston: It seems to the layman that something must be wrong when the defaulter can wipe his hands so easily of past debts, and that our laws are made for the irresponsible. I talked to a man only last week who lost money in a bankruptcy and he happened to see the person in question driving around in a brand new car. This made him a little perturbed to think that this can happen under our present laws. There was the case of another bankruptcy spending two months on a foreign vacation shortly after he had filed bankruptcy.

Mr. Nixon: Swiss bank account.

Mr. Ruston: Swiss bank, or United States bank, maybe.

Mr. B. Newman: He was checking on his Swiss bank account.

Mr. Ruston: Another area of concern in business practice is the advertising of giveaways. We read advertisements for Sportsman cigarettes. Are these winners published in newspapers and are the prizes distributed throughout Ontario, or only put in areas of high sales promotion? I believe it is a must that these and other similar companies publish the actual winners, where they live, how often someone wins and how much. I believe the public should have this information or the practice should be discontinued. That concludes my remarks.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, as I voice the usual commendations to you and to others, I do it in all sincerity. I think you, sir, are doing a job this year which is commendable, particularly in the realm of getting us started on time, even though this does catch us with our timing down just occasionally. But I think this is good, it is a wholesome thing to do.

As far as the movers and seconders of the Speech from the Throne are concerned, they did as good a job as possible with a very bad situation, and so we will add our congratulations to them, but I do want particularly this afternoon to congratulate the member for Quinte (Mr. Potter) for a very thoughtful and a very telling speech, so telling that none of his confreres over there applauded either during or at the end of that speech. That is significant, for he really attacked some problems that needed to be attacked from that side of the House, and it was refreshing to hear a member of the Tory party with that point of view.

As a matter of fact, I am doubtful that he is very welcome over there, and I say to him, even though he is not in his seat at the moment, that he should move over to this group, where he belongs according to his attitude and his words this afternoon, so that he can have a chance to express himself fully, and also, so that he can have a chance to put his ideas into operation, after the change of government in 1971.

During this debate so far, Mr. Speaker, the two words that have been very much to the fore have been pollution and inflation, and it seems that even this government at last has become concerned about these issues and is, in words at least, determined to do something about them. How serious they are still remains to be seen. We will watch that with a very great deal of interest over the months ahead.

As this House knows, I have been interested for a long time in the impact of the automobile industry upon our society, and I want to deal with that this afternoon. Today, I would like to examine how this industry, in co-operation with the insurance trust, is unnecessarily driving up the cost of living. Then I would like to show how this industry could, if it would, give us not only cheaper and safer cars, but could thereby strike a powerful blow against the inflationary spiral which threatens the very fabric of our society.

As far as pollution is concerned, I think we are all aware that the motor car plays a vital role in the pollution of the air, in our cities particularly. We know, too, the agitation that is building up today in this field. We want to find more efficient engines and more efficient devices for cutting down on the pollution we have. Some of these devices are being actively studied right now, and my congratulations to this government that it is co-operating in testing some of the devices which are being put to the fore today for cutting down on pollution from gasoline engines. My guess is that for the next few years we will see real progress here, because it does not depend on any one agency to make that progress.

Experimentation is not confined to the motor car industry at all. It is breaking out all over, in the electrical and the chemical industries, and among private inventors. This

activity is, of course, lighting a fire under the auto makers and putting the heat on them to come up fast with vehicles which will not pollute our air. As has already been proved in California and in the United States generally, this process can be hastened by government setting the standards of air quality emissions from motor cars and then setting deadlines for meeting them, and those deadlines are extremely important.

The industry has an uncanny way of coming up with answers when the government says that it must do something. Until those standards and deadlines are set, the industry is content to say, "We are experimenting, we are investigating." But once government says the answer must be given, those answers do seem to come.

To get back to inflation, the average increase in the prices of the big three automakers in 1968 was $100 per car. This was followed by an average increase of $30 for the 1969 model and $105 for the 1970s. These are all average prices. Insurance premiums on these vehicles have also gone up, and for good reason, in part at least. For a long time now the insurance industry has been screaming in anguish that it has been losing money on cars. Premium rates have been regularly adjusted upwards to compensate. But in doing this the insurance industry is playing the car makers' game, for the automobile industry is deliberately building features into its product which must send insurance rates into orbit. In other words, higher insurance rates are designed right into the structure of motor cars for the greater profit of the automobile industry—at least that is the result.

The fact is that the safety outcry in recent years has resulted in somewhat safer cars, and we are glad for that, and for the people riding in them. At the same time the auto makers have altered the outside of their machines in such a way that increasing fortunes have flowed into their treasuries as a result of the inevitable collisions in which these vehicles are from time to time involved.

Perhaps the car makers took seriously the safety people—and in cynical seriousness—when the demand was made for collapsible front ends for the protection of the riders. They have done just that; they have built collapsible front ends, and rear ones too, and with a vengeance. They have added a clever bit of engineering to ensure that whatever that front end hits will also suffer the maximum damage permitted by the G forces. If that happens to be another car, then the profit charts spurt upward in the plush offices in Oshawa, Oakville and Windsor, to say nothing for Detroit.

Bumpers, which once performed a protective function for the vehicle, are now eye-catching decorations with built-in lights, grills, knobs, and vertical and horizontal knives of assorted kinds and sizes. They are all there; sharp snouts on some of them, all guaranteed in case of collision to do three things:

1. Send the car they are on to the repair shop for very expensive replacements.

2. Whatever is hit will be damaged so badly as to force the owner to also undertake costly repairs.

3. Send the manufacturer of spare parts laughing all the way to the bank.

Testimony during the United States Senate subcommittee hearings on antitrust and monopoly showed that from 1965 to mid-1969 new car prices for popular Ford and Chevrolet models rose by 10 per cent and Plymouth by 11. During the same period, prices of replacement parts for Ford rose by 34.6 per cent; Chevrolet, 19.9 per cent, and for Plymouth, 22.5 per cent.

This means that if a car selling for $3,500 were rebuilt from spare parts it would cost $15,000 for parts and labour. Certainly some of this, of course, would be because of hand work as against machine work, but the cost is there. Not bad if you are in the spare parts business, and those who design and build the motor cars are.

Recently publicized testimony before the above-mentioned sub-committee by William Haddon Junior, MD, president of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, pinpointed tests conducted in October, 1969, for the institute. These tests were carried out by the Digitek Corporation of Marina del Rey in California. Four four-door sedans of different makes were crash-tested against a concrete barrier covered in plywood.

The vehicles were crashed head-on into the barrier at five and 10 miles per hour and backwards at five miles per hour. The crashes were filmed with both regular and high speed cameras. In addition, an expert panel consisting of three qualified evaluators from three major insurance companies meticulously studied the damage produced, identified the specific parts damaged, and estimated both the material costs and the hours of labour necessary to place the vehicles back in shape and in completely safe working order.

The film showing this event was shown, I believe, on the CTV network in February of

this year. It showed a man walking at five miles an hour and one jogging at 10 miles an hour, the speeds with which the tests were conducted by the cars. Then it showed a football game in which human collision speeds regularly exceeded 10 miles an hour. These scenes provided a basic comparison between the speeds of ordinary human movement and speeds at which the test cars were crashed.

The four cars involved were: a four-door 1969 Chevrolet Impala; a 1969 Ford Galaxie 500 four-door sedan; a 1969 Plymouth I four-door sedan; a 1969 American Motors Ambassador SST four-door sedan. I have here the detailed report of damage to each car at each speed. I am not going to put the facts on the record but I do want to state the average dollar damage done in each test.

In the five-mile-an-hour front-end test the average damage done when the cars met the barrier was $200.28 U.S. In the five-mile backing test the damage amounted to an average of $214.11, and in the 10-mile-an-hour front test—and listen to this—it was $652.46, at 10 miles an hour.

This kind of damage at this speed is almost incredible. The aircraft industry can slam a 707 or a 747 into a runway without damage. Even the member for Grey-Bruce's (Mr. Sargent) Cessna has a hydraulic unit built into it which allows it to be sometimes not too gently landed on the tarmac. The automobile industry does know to protect the motor car from damage at these walking and jogging speeds. Why does it not use that knowledge? The only answer must be that it is more profitable to build the kind of damage-receiving and damage-creating structures which now exist, and this kind of damage inevitably shows up in our car insurance rates.

Dr. William Haddon, in his testimony before the Senate subcommittee, to which I have already referred, produced data obtained through the co-operation of one of the nation's largest auto insurance companies, and reflected the experience of that company in the states of Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska, during the period of October 1, 1968, to March 31, 1969—a thoroughgoing cross section of climate and season. This data showed that most of the claims were of very small size and were so numerous that they accounted for the great bulk of all claim closure dollars as well.

This is the picture, and it is a startling one: 47 per cent of the claim closures were for $100 or less; 65 per cent were for $150 or less; 75 per cent were for $200 or less; 86 per cent were for $300 or less; 94 per cent were for $500 or less. That is the number of claim closures.

The argument might be made that while 94 per cent of the claims came to $500 or less, the big accidents might well account for most of the dollars paid out by the company. But the facts presented in the testimony were that nine tenths of the overall dollar losses came from claims of $1,000 or less—those which result from very low speeds at the time of collision. The figures are these: 39 per cent of all dollar losses come from claims of $200 or less; 54 per cent of all dollar losses come from claims of $300 or less; 64 per cent of all dollar losses come from claims of $400 or less; 73 per cent of all dollar losses come from claims of $500 or less; 91 per cent of all dollar losses come from claims of $1,000 or less.

Both these sets of figures, Mr. Speaker, give us an indication of the extent to which low-speed crashes contribute to the very great losses in automobile property damage, and these losses are deliberately built into the fragile and damage-creating structures at the front and rear ends of too many of the automobiles rolling off the assembly lines in recent years.

This damage, of course, must be paid for by the insurance companies, and they hand it on in higher premiums. The thing which is difficult to understand is why the insurance industry is not demanding, with a united voice, that the car manufacturers redesign their cars with bumpers which protect instead of damaging. The technology is known. Fairchild Hiller engineered a bumper system for the New York safety car which would give genuine protection with minimum damage in case of collision. There is no question that bumpers of standard heights, so that they would meet, and with flat energy absorbent surfaces and shock-resistent construction would cut repair bills drastically and keep insurance rates within reason.

Arthur C. Mertz, general counsel for the National Association of Independent Insurers in the United States, told the Senate subcommittee that redesign of car bumpers alone would save consumers in the United States $1 billion a year. Translated into Canadian terms, this could mean a saving of $100 million to Canadian motorists.

Because of the key position of the automobile industry in the price structure of our economy, its design policy with its resultant price rises and insurance costs can only add to the fires of inflation. If governments are really

serious about stopping the price spiral, they would take a long look at this situation and others like it. Without government action, the industry is obviously going to continue with its eye-catching and damage-creating chrome monstrosities. Insurance rates will continue to chase the damage up the price spiral, and Trudeau and his brain trust, as well as this government, will still wonder about the causes of inflation and why voluntary restraints just will not work!

But, Mr. Speaker, this is only one way the automobile industry is contributing to inflation. There are many others. We have heard a lot in recent years of how the safety devices mandated by the United States government were driving up the prices of cars. The general practice of the companies was, first of all, to offer the safety devices as an extra price option. This happened with seat belts and other things. Then, when it was mandated, the device was, of course, included as standard equipment because it had to be, and the prices were raised to cover it—and then some.

Certainly the industry has plenty of resources to give us far safer cars without increasing prices. There seems little reason why standards cannot be set for simple things like brake linings, and why anti-locking brakes cannot be mandated on all cars. Inside controls should be in the same place in all cars, within reason. Many accidents have occurred because people in crisis situations were driving cars other than their own and in which the controls were in different places.

Improvements in rear view mirrors essential to eliminate blind spots is long overdue. So is protection from lateral impact. GM is now installing some protection here, but only in its big cars and not in the intermediates and compacts. An ignition steering lock is coming now, and it should be universal. Stolen cars are involved in a higher-than-average number of accidents. Bumpers should have a drastic overhaul, as I have already pointed out.

It used to be possible for a good samaritan to push a stalled car to a service station. But no more. The bumpers often do not match in height and the benefactor is only asking for damage to his own car as well as the other one if he attempts to perform the good deed. I know. I tried it and it did not work, even though I had bought a couple of optional gadgets, at added cost, to attach to the chrome at the front of my car to make it act more like a bumper. Even they did not work to help a person stranded in the middle of Avenue Road.

A cry has been raised by the manufacturers that safer cars cost more to build and that people will not stand for the added costs. That is sheer nonsense. It may well be that mass-produced safer cars might cost a bit more than the ones now coming off the assembly line. That may be true. But there are plenty of resources within the industry at the present time to give us the safe cars without raising the price $1. As a matter of fact, they could lower the price.

It is a significant fact that the industries which manufacture cars and those which power them—the oil companies—are the greatest money makers in our civilization. The big question is: are they giving us value for the resources we are pouring into those industrial giants? The oil companies I will leave for some other time, but the other ones I want to pursue a bit more.

In 1968, Ford's profits jumped 50 per cent —from $31 to $50 million. This represents a return of 17 per cent on overall investment, split stock and all. Preliminary figures for 1969 indicate that Ford will hit about $72 million, an increase of 132 per cent over 1967. From 1947 to 1966, General Motors' profit after all taxes averaged 22.2 per cent return on net worth—almost twice the United States industrial average. What will happen in 1970 is a new question.

We see the problem now of dropping sales. But it is very significant that the motor car industry, instead of taking the classic and hoped-for action of lowering prices in order to sell more cars, is not doing that. This is the whole purpose of the anti-inflationary crusade today—to bring prices back down—but the industry, as it always has done, chooses to maintain its price structure, lay off the workers, and bring the supply of cars down to the demand at that price. This again does not help the inflationary situation, and it should be looked at.

Looking at another matter, the top executives of these companies did not do badly either. In 1968, the chairman of the GM board netted $795,000, and the president did not do quite so well at $717,500. That same year the 63 directors of the company got an average compensation from General Motors of $281,000.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): The Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) got the wrong job.

Mr. Young: This is in addition to any other directorates or jobs they might hold.

Mr. G. R. Carton (Armourdale): How does the member know?

Mr. Young: Almost $18 million was handed out in this way in 1968, the last year for which we have figures.

Then there are the model changes every year.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): That is in the United States.

Mr. Young: These cost the industry $700 per car per year. Seldom do they make the car any better. They are designed to make the car look a bit different. They are status builders to make people want to trade in the old model. New models every two or three years would save $300 to $400 per car per year—more than the average cost of wages now going into the car, as I will show in a few moments. This would pay for safer vehicles, disc brakes, and all.

When genuine improvements do come, of course, they should be built in, but these are generally inside, hidden from public view. They would make little change in the outside of the vehicle except for getting rid of the dangerous protrusions and the damaging bumpers that we now have.

The manufacturers, of course, with each new model, put on a hard-driving advertising campaign to sell it and to persuade us that the old model should be traded in. Ralph Nader, in his testimony before a Senate subcommittee last year, pointed out that General Motors' annual advertising budget topped $200 million. The *Globe and Mail* of April 2, 1969, reported that in Canada, General Motors heads the list of top advertisers for the ninth successive year.

Mr. Lawlor: Why does the government not tax advertising?

Mr. Young: Approximately $9 million is spent that way here. Ford takes sixth place in Canadian advertising, spending $3.5 million. All this, of course, is in addition to what local dealers spend on local sales campaigns—a very large figure which we have no way of calculating.

Then there is the proliferation of models put out by all the manufacturers. I have a very interesting statement here, a speech being made today in Vancouver by Karl E. Scott, the president of the Ford Motor Company. The release came to my desk only this morning. Figures which I had wanted, but which I could not find, he has supplied. He has not made the speech yet, I guess, due to the time difference. He says this:

> In the 1958 model year, the major domestic manufacturers offered 304 models. By 1959, this had increased to 575 models. The range of optional equipment multiplied. In 1957, 88,000 replacement parts were required to service my company vehicles. By 1969, 218,000 parts were necessary "for Ford alone."

When one realizes the cost of these spare parts, the cost of inventory and all the rest of it, one can understand something of what is needed here. The multiplicity of models adds to costs as companies vie with each other with the whole range of vehicles from small compacts to custom-made playthings for the super-rich. Fewer models would not cripple the customer's choice a bit but would allow for drastic cost-cutting across the board.

Labour costs are generally pointed to as the big factor in the high cost of motor cars. We are hearing that all the time.

Nader, in the testimony I mentioned a moment ago, produced figures to prove that wages going into all stages of manufacturing a medium-priced motor car—this was in 1966—do not exceed $300. Contrast this to the $700 model change and see where costs could really be cut.

An hon. member: You will cause unemployment!

Mr. Young: A lot of employees are being cut with automation in any case; a lot of men are out of work right now and with automation more employees are cut. Then we come to the thing the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) said this afternoon about retraining and reallocation of manpower in the work force.

All this demonstrates Mr. Speaker that there is money in the automobile industry. If it were more rationally allocated we could build safe cars within the price range now prevailing and without the necessity of tucking on charges for each safety feature that is added.

A few million cut from the present soaring profits and supplemented from the incredible bonuses and stock option deals of the directors and executives would likely do the trick. Then add what could be saved by cutting down on model changes and the advertising necessary to promote these changes; we could not only get far safer cars

but the price could be rolled back substantially, thus helping in the inflation fight.

It is all a matter of allocation of the resources which society plows into this kind of transportation. From these fiscal sources too, could come answers to the problem of defective vehicles coming through to the customer. Part of this is carelessness on the production line because of the drive to get more and more cars to the marketplace. Both workers and management share some responsibility here.

For years the United Auto Workers have been warning that the speed-up on the production line makes it impossible for quality work to be guaranteed. Then the proliferation of model changes makes the chance of error in design far greater. The bugs in one model are hardly ironed out when another model with eye-catching design changes starts rolling off the line with its own batch of new problems.

The fact is that since Washington legislated that automobile manufacturers had to report safety defects—we have not come to that here yet—one car in every three has had to be recalled. How many should have been called back before this legislation came into effect, we have no way of knowing.

Consumer Reports of April 1969 says this:

> Quality control in automobile assembly lines and in dealer make-ready, began a long decline in 1955 when Detroit revved up production for its first seven million car sales a year. It has been the observation of consumers union that quality control has remained poor ever since. The industry, conscious of a crisis in confidence in its product, began to expand the warranty period. Each year the new car that consumers union buys seem as carelessly put together as the year before. On the 1969 models tested thus far, defects attributable to bad design, bad assembly or bad adjustment averaged 36 per car, that is actually twice as many defects on averages turned up on the 1967 models tested.

The consumers report says that government should put economic incentives to work to encourage higher standards of quality control at the factory. I quote:

> Manufacturers cannot realistically be expected to raise their quality standards voluntarily unless it costs them at least as much to make cars sloppily as to make them carefully. For example, the standard could require manufacturers, through their dealers, to provide customers either with a substitute car or the money to rent one, if they were deprived of the use of their own new car for more than one day while the defects were being corrected. The standard could also lay down conditions under which the manufacturer would have to replace the defective automobile instead of making further efforts at repairing it.

What I am saying is that cars can be safer, they can come through with less defects, they can be cheaper in price if less resources than we now allocate through our pricing system to the motor car were more rationally administered. After this happens, we would have more in our society to spend on education and housing and welfare and other pressing needs of our people.

Both the automobile industry and the oil industry, which powers the vehicles, are taking more out of society than we can afford in the light of these other desperate needs. It is time we stopped to take a look at what this industrial combination is doing to us and to ask whether we can afford any longer the cost being levied upon us by these giants of the affluent society.

How little recent price hikes are needed, let alone present pricing structures, was dramatically illustrated in September 1968 when Senator Gaylord Nelson made a speech in the Senate in Washington. He was commenting on the 1968 price increases established in spite of the request of the President of the United States that it not be done. The President at that time said and I quote:

> No major industry has benefited more from the prosperity of recent years than the automobile industry. No major industry has a greater stake in protecting that prosperity. So today I urge the auto manufacturers to recognize the public interest and exercise restraint and responsibility at this critical hour in the nation's battle against inflation.

That was September 17, 1968. On September 23, the automobile companies announced their price rise. On September 25, two days later, Gaylord Nelson demand to know the basis for the increase.

The companies blamed safety devices which the government mandated but they gave no cost data for the safety items to justify the increase. Nelson pointed out that General Motors' profits were then running in the ratio of 20 to 30 per cent of investment and he said there was no longer any real competition among the car makers in the old sense. He also said this:

> Private planning and regulation by the "big three" have substantially replaced the competition of the classical market in this country's automobile industry.

Nelson went on to relate how a Senate subcommittee had held hearings to find out whether the automobile industry was justified in adding costs of safety devices. The car makers were invited to attend. None came.

Many eminent authorities were heard, including J. K. Galbraith, but it was Ralph Nader who threw the bombshell into the proceedings. Again I quote Senator Nelson:

> Mr. Nader testified, and this was the point that the press picked up as most interesting in his entire statement, that the direct and indirect labour costs of a medium priced automobile do not exceed $300.
>
> I expressed some astonishment at that whereupon Mr. Nader said: I have here some cost data related to the Ford Motor Company which indicate in specific ways just what a trivial component labour cost is in the overall cost of producing an automobile.
>
> If you would like, I can submit this for the record.

The document submitted by Nader consisted of 26 large pages printed by a computer that appears in the *Congressional Record* of September 25, 1968, and I have a copy of it here. It consists of unit/cost analysis done by a computer for one month's production at one automobile assembly plant of the Ford Motor Company.

The month is July 1966. The unit/costs listed in the document are units being assembled at the plant. That is important. Units already manufactured by other Ford plants which include markups taken by those suppliers—a markup which Nelson says could easily be as high as 20 per cent or more. That is before they reach the assembly plant concerned.

Now I am not going into all the figures concerned here. But some of them should go on record. I quote:

> Direct labour amounts to $57.85 to assemble a Galaxie 500, four-door sedan. $57.85 to assemble a Galaxie 500 four-door sedan. This refers to direct identifiable labour expended on assembly of a unit—assembly only. It is based on standard labour figures at the time of this computer run—$2.76 an hour—applied to the number of hours per car at standard volume.

Now wages have increased somewhat since that time, but the productivity has also gone up. This is the cost of assembling a car: the total labour cost, as I pointed out, in the making of parts and the assembly is $300.

Then we come to tires. White-walls, four-ply tires—four-ply rating, rayon tires, 7.35-15, going on the car are priced at $3.86. That includes the profit and labour—everything of the subsidiary companies which makes these tires. This is the price at the assembly plant; $3.86. And that includes a maker's profit and labour.

Seat belts are listed at $5.75. Automatic transmission is $22.90. Air conditioning costs Ford $150.49, installed. When we figure what we pay for the set of replacement tires or for power steering and automatic transmission options, we begin to get some comprehension of the spread between cost to the automobile manufacturer and the ultimate consumer on these items.

In the field of options, the figures show Ford doing extremely well. For example, if the dealer ordered 8.15-15 white sidewall, rayon-cord, four-ply rated, oversize tires for a Galaxie 500 four-door sedan, instead of 7.35-15 black sidewalls, which are standard, these five tires would have cost Ford $13.01 more than the standard equipment. But Ford charged the dealers $46.72 extra for this option. That is 259.1 per cent profit—and, of course, the price to the final customer is much higher than this.

In the 1966 Galaxie 500, a six-cylinder motor was listed as standard. If the customer wanted an eight-cylinder engine, it cost Ford $19.22 more to provide it. But it was charged through the dealer at $76.50 additional. That it a markup of 293.3 per cent. By the time the customer got it, an additional 25 per cent or so was added as well. Senator Gaylord Nelson put it this way:

> It may be noted that Ford expects its dealers to operate on a markup not exceeding 25 per cent over their laid-in cost on all items. Exhibits one, two and three taken together—

These are the computerized lists which I have here.

> —show that the No. 2 automaker in 1966 was making very handsome mark-ups over its cost of automobiles and parts—far higher than it let its dealers charge. Far higher than most manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers were able to charge in markets in which real and serious competition exists. I

> think that these exhibits require the automobile manufacturer—for surely General Motors does no worse than Ford, and I doubt if Chrysler does much, if any worse—to come up with far more detailed cost data than they have if they are going to convince this senator and the senator from Oregon, Mr. Morse, that they need the price increase.
>
> A better conclusion from this exhibit is that they need some antitrust enforcement to restore serious competition and reasonable profit levels to the industry.

Since the time this computerized price list was originated, wages have gone up. But so has productivity for man-hours so that the two cancel each other out. Profits for the companies have moved up markedly.

So, for whatever small price rise that there may have been in the parts listed in the Nader exhibit, they are more than offset by company income.

In fact, the facts I stress remain crystal clear. There are financial resources in the automobile industry to give us far safer cars. The prices can be rolled back, leaving more resources for all vital sectors of the economy and the automobile companies should be doing this now.

One of the reasons why governments are having a tough time raising revenues is that they allow these giants of the industrial world to tax us through their price system far beyond reason. We pay too much for cars. We pay too much for the oil to power them, and then we pay far too much for insurance than we should if cars were properly constructed. And these are only three illustrations of what is going on.

The total result is that too many of our resources are being drained off into corporate treasuries and far too often these are outside Canada. So, while we produce more wealth as a nation, and as a province, than ever before, we are having difficulty in mobilizing enough resources for public use after the bite is put on the productive process by the corporate elite.

And, as in the case of the motor industry, they give us what they want, not particularly what we need. Governments refuse to interfere with the private sector of the economy, in order to make the changes necessary for the good of society as a whole.

So I urge this government, as well as the one in Ottawa, to take a close look at the dominance of the industrial complex surrounding the motor car over our civilization and to look at its toll, not only in human life and property, but also its toll from the productive wealth of this nation.

In the light of present circumstances, a very close look should be taken as well, at the impact of this complex on the upward surge of prices and how restructuring of the industry would assist in the crucial fight against inflation.

It is easy to point at wages as the culprit in the inflationary spiral. A concerted campaign is now pointing to the cost of labour as the cause of rising prices—in spite of the fact that, in most industries over the past decade, rising productivity has more than compensated for wage hikes. Even a 50 per cent wage increase for the UAW would add less than $200 to the price of a car.

But the real inflationary pressures come from the $700 a car per year model change. From a proliferation of models. They come from the burgeoning salaries, stock options and bonuses of executives. From the advertising to keep us wedded to the concept of buying new arrangements of chrome every year. And from the skyrocketing insurance rates needed to compensate for the damage creating construction of the new machines we buy.

The new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has a big responsibility here, since insurance is one of his departments. He should be calling on the insurance industry and the motor car companies to discuss ways and means of cutting back on damage costs, and therefore insurance rates, as a means of combating inflation.

Even though Ottawa now has the responsibility for safety standards, the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) should still have a vital interest in this field as well. His collision damage statistics are alarming, to say the least.

The Prime Minister must look at these inflationary pressures, which are building up within the whole corporate structure and which are primarily responsible for the trouble in which we now find ourselves. To ignore them and to point to wages as the prime suspect is like sweeping back the tide with a broom.

Wages do play a part in the solution we seek, that is true, but it is in the realm of a corporate structure—and I have used the motor vehicle industry as an example—that the real battle against inflation must be fought. It is high time this government and the government in Ottawa removed their blinders and began that battle in deadly earnest.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to take part in the throne debate during the third session of this twenty-eighth Legislature.

First of all, I want to pay my respects to you, sir, for the competent manner in which you discharge your very important responsibility. I would offer my congratulations to the hon. member for Waterloo South (Mr. Reuter) on his appointment as chairman of the committee of the whole, and to the hon. member for Northumberland (Mr. Rowe) on his appointment as deputy chairman of the committee. Under your guidance, sir, and under the guidance and direction of the two able assistants, I am sure the proceedings of this House will go forward in an orderly manner.

May I extend my congratulations and good wishes to the hon. minister from Carleton East (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) as he assumes the responsibility of The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

I have read and listened with great interest to the address of the hon. member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith) and the hon. member for Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman) when they moved and seconded the motion to present a humble address to the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking him for the gracious speech he delivered on February 24 when the Legislature opened the present session. I am sure that all hon. members agree that these two members have made a valuable contribution to the proceedings of the House.

There are many subjects that one would like to deal with when taking part in the throne debate. However, I realize that there are many members who want to take part in this debate, and I propose to confine my remarks, in the main, to a matter that is receiving a lot of attention at the present time.

Hon. members will remember that His Honour said during his address:

> Ontario has been truly blessed by providence with the bountiful gifts of nature. But this bounty of natural resources, including soil, water and air, must be recognized for what it is: a fragile gift to be treated with the utmost respect; an heirloom to be passed on unimpaired to our children. The ecological balance is extremely delicate. We cannot continue to abuse our environment.
>
> One of the great challenges we face during the 1970s is to restore this balance. The challenge to reduce and prevent pollution is, of course, not that of Ontario alone. It is world-wide. But it is one to which the people of Ontario can make—indeed must make—a major contribution.
>
> To its credit, the Legislature of Ontario has concerned itself with this problem for many years. An impressive array of measures has been implemented to halt pollution of our water, air and soil, to repair past damages and to prevent future pollution. Substantial success has been achieved. As we enter the 1970s, a new and more vigorous attack is being mounted to meet the stresses we are placing upon our environment and to protect it from further damage.

Mr. Speaker, you will find His Honour's remarks related to the subject of pollution control on pages 4 and 5 of *Hansard*. I draw particular attention to His Honour's statement:

> To its credit, the Legislature of Ontario has concerned itself with this problem for many years. An impressive array of measures has been implemented to halt pollution of our water, air and soil, to repair past damages and to prevent future pollution.

Mr. Speaker, I sometimes wonder whether we appreciate the fact that we, who live in Canada, live in a country that in the eyes of the world is a land of opportunity. Canada is a land of opportunity. It is a land of great space. On its borders lie three of the world oceans, and we have a great friendly neighbour. Our nation is rich in basic raw materials of mineral wealth – iron, copper, nickel, asbestos, lead, zinc, tin, gold, silver, platinum, and other rare and precious metals.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): That is not what the throne speech said about the problem.

Mr. Root: If the member will just contain himself I will have a lot to say about this matter.

Our timber limits stretch from coast to coast. This renewable resource supports a great lumbering industry, and our pulp and paper industry provides some of the highest quality paper in the world, providing many thousands with employment. It is one of Canada's major exports.

Canada has hundreds of thousands of fresh water lakes, rivers, and streams, providing a tourist's and sportsman's paradise. There is more fresh water in Canada than in any other country in the world. As our waters flow down to sea level they provide our nation with more potential hydro electric power than is available to any other nation.

Water is only one major source of energy or power in Canada. We have coal in the east and west. We are becoming a major source of oil and natural gas, and as we move into the nuclear age we are blessed with tremendous quantities of uranium.

As well as the basic raw materials, we have the fertile acres to feed many more people. Canada is a land of opportunity, and will attract people because the Canadian people are, in the main, a peaceful, God-fearing, law-abiding people, drawing our blood lines from many racial origins. I make

these comments, Mr. Speaker, because we are living in a troubled and changing world. Canada has much to offer, and in the days that lie ahead we can expect many more millions of people will want to call Canada home.

Ontario has been called the keystone in the arch of Confederation. Since the end of World War II, we have gone through a period of development and expansion that has not been equalled by any other province, or in any similar space of time in the history of our own province. At the time that great conflict came to an end, Ontario, under sound Progressive Conservative policies, embarked on a programme of power development. This programme, which has been continued throughout the years of the present government's administration, made power available to turn the wheels of industry when many industries were relocating following the war, and as a result, today, Ontario is the industrial heartland of Canada.

Expanding industry, business and commerce have provided the job opportunities for a great influx of people from our sister provinces and from many parts of the world. Ontario has welcomed more new Canadians than the other nine provinces and the two territories combined. Today, Ontario draws its blood lines from nearly 50 racial origins. At the end of World War II our population was approximately 4,000,000. Today it is approximately 7.5 million.

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to realize what an additional 3.5 million people means to the economy of the province. Perhaps we can get some comprehension of what this population expansion means if one were to start at the eastern boundaries of Metropolitan Toronto and drive to the western boundaries, and start at the lake and go to the northern boundaries. In that area you would find approximately 2,000,000 people.

Two million people, with all of their industries and businesses, homes, churches, schools, universities, traffic arteries, water and pollution systems—all of the facilities necessary to support that population. And then you would realize that you have only looked at a little over a half of the expansion that has taken place in our province.

Because we have prospered and have created the job opportunities with the highest wage scale in the country, although we make up about one third of Canada's population, we generate almost one half of the national budget—one province in a nation of 10 provinces and two territories generating almost half of the national budget. During the throne debate, the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) pointed out that Ontario contributes to the federal treasury over $1 billion more money than we received back in all of the shared programmes we have with Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, I think when we realize the tremendous contribution that Ontario is making to the whole of Canada—not only with the financial contribution to the national budget, but with the multi-racial background of our population, with the job opportunities we have provided and with the high wage scale —perhaps it is not unreasonable to agree that Ontario is the keystone in the arch of the Canadian Confederation.

Mr. Speaker, I think the people of Ontario are proud of the fact that for nearly 27 years we have had a Progressive Conservative government that has created the climate that has led to expansion, development, and prosperity that has not been equalled in any other part of Canada under any form of political administration.

I am sure that all fair-minded people will say that it is fortunate for Canada that during this critical period, we have at the head of the government of Ontario a federalist, a man who has a sense of responsibility to Canada, as well as to his own province, and I refer of course to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker, the tremendous expansion that has taken place in our province during the past 26½ years has presented the province and municipalities with many challenges. For example, our elementary and secondary school population has grown from between 600,000 and 700,000 to approximately 2,000,000, requiring the construction of over 1,700,00 new places in our elementary and secondary schools. This was built between 1948 and 1968. Today we have 14 universities where we had three. We have our junior colleges and technical schools to train our people to take their place in a challenging society.

An addition of 3.5 million extra people has placed a great strain on our health facilities, creating a need for more hospital beds, doctors, nurses, training centres and health units, and I suggest that all of our hospital and medical insurance schemes will fail unless we can provide the services to back up the insurance programmes that have been developed.

New and better highways and roads have been built to serve the new power sites that have been developed, to serve expanding industry, to serve new towns and new mines,

to open up new areas for our expanding tourist industry. I have mentioned but a few of the challenges that have been presented to the province and to the municipalities.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to deal with the main subject of my remarks. With all of the development and expansion of industry and population, with stepped-up agricultural production, the government realized that steps must be taken to protect our water resources. With over half of the new Canadian industries in Ontario, with a population explosion, expansion of our tourist industry, more intensive agricultural production, and the development of the seaway, new and great strains were placed on our water resources. People, industry and agriculture all use great quantities of water, and create similar quantities of waste. We have no more water resources available than we had before this expansion took place. These were the factors that led an alert government to recognize that steps had to be taken to deal with these matters. A shortage of available ground water had started to develop in certain areas, and pollution of our waters presented a threat to a healthy environment and the future development of the province.

In 1951 a committee was appointed to make a survey and report. On the basis of the committee report, The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act was passed in 1956. Space was acquired and a nucleus of staff assembled, and in 1957 the programme to assist municipalities and persons to secure adequate quantities of suitable water and bring pollution under control was under way, with a forecast that it would require something like $2.25 billion over a 20-year period. The programme was designed to pick up the backlog of needed works, and to keep pace with the growth of the province.

Today, the Ontario water resources programme covers the province, extending from the Manitoba boundary to the Quebec boundary and the St. Lawrence River, and the international boundary line in the Great Lakes to the shores of Hudson and James Bays.

Mr. Speaker, during the early history of the OWRC programme our staff and public relations people had to fight an uphill battle to make people aware of the threat of pollution and the need for adequate water supplies in certain areas. In recent months we see evidence that we have won that battle. I say that, because we find more and more people are climbing on to the anti-pollution band wagon and calling for an end to pollution. We, on the Ontario Water Resources Commission, welcome this support. It makes our task easier when we insist that municipalities, industry and persons all have a part to play if we are going to keep our environment clean.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to give you a brief summary of some of the programme carried on by the Commission. You are probably aware that municipalities and industry are required to submit their plans for sewage and waterworks facilities to the sanitary engineering and industrial waste branches of the commission for approval. In the period between 1957 and 1969, approval certificates were issued with the following value: for municipal waterworks, $553,441,313; for municipal sewage works, $1,261,044,113. The estimated value of industrial waste certificates was $142,800,000, for a total of $1,957,285,427.

Many industries, in addition to the $142 million that I have mentioned, treat their wastes through municipal systems. However, large industries quite often provide their own treatment facilities.

For the information of the House, I asked our industrial wastes staff to provide me with statistics regarding the expenditures by some of the major industries for pollution control.

From January 1, 1960, to February 28, 1970, the pulp and paper industry spent some $49,997,950. The above figures incorporate estimates made by companies on moneys spent or earmarked for waste control, including in-plant control measures. The expenditures for external waste treatment facilities only, have been estimated by staff at approximately $20 million. In other words a part of the pollution control programme of this industry has been better housekeeping within the plant.

Mr. Speaker, I am advised that over the last three years steel companies have spent on waste control and/or treatment some $2,073,000. The above figures are based on applications for approval received by the division of industrial wastes, and include both in-plant control and external waste treatment facilities. A further breakdown on the three major mills is as follows:

Stelco—Since 1960, the company has estimated an expenditure of $8.5 million. Since 1960, the OWRC is aware of an expenditure of $6 million. The company estimates an additional expenditure of $40 million for air

and water pollution control ($18 million is projected for water pollution control for the 1970 to 1974 period).

Dofasco—In 1963 the company estimated an expenditure of $10.5 million. Since 1966, the OWRC is aware of an expenditure of over $4.5 million. The company proposes to spend $24 million for air and water pollution control. A $5 million acid regeneration plant has been discussed.

Algoma Steel—Since 1960, the company estimates an expenditure of $3.6 million. The company proposes to spend an additional $5 million on water pollution control.

Since 1967, I am advised that the mining industry has spent some $4,422,000. Other industries have spent, since 1967, $18,076,900.

As I pointed out earlier, many industries treat their wastes through the municipal treatment systems. As of 1969, the division of industrial wastes dealt with over 700 industries discharging their wastes to municipal sewers.

I give these figures to the House to indicate that, in the main, we are receiving co-operation from industry. There are times when we do not receive co-operation, and we have had to resort to legal action. Between 1966 and 1969 we used section 27 of The OWRC Act 19 times, section 50 of The OWRC Act 10 times, and section 26 of The OWRC Act once.

Mr. Speaker, some large municipalities finance, build and operate their own facilities subject to OWRC inspection and approval. Many municipalities enter into agreements and have the OWRC finance, build and operate their systems until the debt is paid, when the project reverts to municipal ownership. Some 322 projects have been built, and another 72 projects are under active development of construction under this programme.

There is a third programme where the project is financed, built, operated and owned by the province, and municipalities enter into an agreement to buy water or sewage services at a stated rate. This programme has made it possible for many municipalities to secure services we could not provide under the other programmes, which were quite often restricted by OMB approvals.

Thirteen projects have been completed under this programme, and 237 projects are under active development or construction. Our most northerly projects are at Moosonee and Red Lake.

I had the honour of opening the Red Lake water and pollution control systems on Friday February 13. I would suggest that that was a great day for Red Lake. I like Friday, the 13th. Members may wonder why. Well, Mr. Speaker, I ran my first election in 1943, and after the Progressive Conservative Party assumed power, I attended my first caucus on Friday, the 13th. As I have already suggested, we have never seen such a period of development, of expansion and prosperity, as we have had in Ontario since that date, and I suggest that with water and sewage in Red Lake, the same type of expansion, prosperity and development will come to that community.

Mr. Speaker, the provincially owned programme was accelerated when the government agreed to assist high-cost municipalities by financial assistance to stabilize the rates when the cost for water exceeds $100 a year for a typical home, or the sewage rate exceeds $120 a year for a typical home. Above this figure, the government, through OWRC, picks up the capital cost to a maximum of 50 per cent to establish the figures mentioned as a starting rate to service the existing municipalities.

I could mention 23 area studies have been carried out by the OWRC. Five area projects have been completed and are in operation. Sixteen are under active development or under construction, and in the recent announcement made by the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) during the last session, the government agreed that where oversizing is needed in parts of area systems, with Treasury Board approval, OWRC can pick up 15 per cent of the cost to provide oversizing for future needs.

Mr. Speaker, you might be interested to know that the plant operations branch of the OWRC operates, under agreement with municipalities, some 314 municipal water and sewage projects and 19 provincially owned water or sewage projects.

In recent years, many persons, perhaps because of the prosperity that has been associated with our economy, have started operating pleasure craft. These craft are polluting our lakes and rivers and taking advantage of the many fine waterways we have in the province. Many of these pleasure cruisers were really floating cottages fitted with a head and many were discharging raw sewage into our lakes and rivers.

As we are all aware today, many of our people, perhaps because of the prosperity we are enjoying, have established cottages

on our lakes, and many of these cottage owners draw the waters from the lakes for their domestic and other purposes. I think members will agree that it was very repulsive to have boats cruising past the water intake discharging raw sewage. That is why regulations were passed requiring boats that were fitted with a head to install holding tanks or some device approved by the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

It is estimated that 6,500 holding tanks were sold or installed in 1969, and to service the boats with holding tanks, 91 pumpout stations were operational during 1969.

We expect this programme will be expanded during the coming year. We have a large measure of co-operation from the boating public, although I must say that when we first endeavoured to bring this type of pollution under control, we did meet with resistance. However, we have had a lot of co-operation, but we did lay charges against three boaters in 1969, and I understand all three have now been tried and convictions registered.

The commission has devoted a concerted effort to investigation and control of pollution in the Great Lakes and, in particular, in the study of the lower Great Lakes. Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. members are aware that with water shortages developing in certain areas of the southern parts of Ontario and in other parts of the province, it has been necessary for us to instal pipelines to serve these areas and this water is being drawn from the larger lakes.

On the Great Lakes survey, members of the OWRC staff work in conjunction with the International Joint Commission. The OWRC have used four or five boats in this work and I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the importance of the studies in the Great Lakes will require even more emphasis as the population expands and we draw more water from the Great Lakes system that receives the treated effluent from the many plants that have been established and will be enlarged throughout the province. Mr. Speaker, since the Great Lakes are international waters, co-operation in this area is required by all levels of government—provincial, state and national governments.

The OWRC, through the years, has endeavoured to get out information to the public. For example, in 1968-1969, 72 news releases were issued by our public relations and information branch. Billboard advertising was exhibited at 167 locations. A special advertising series was developed regarding the introduction of the boating regulations.

Film and photo activities have also accelerated. In 1968-1969 two films were produced by the commission. One, "Water management in Ontario", and an external production, "The choice is yours". The film "The invisible river", the production of which commenced in the fiscal year of 1967-1968, was also concluded early in 1968-1969. Television newsclips used by 26 TV stations as a public service were produced in 1968-1969. In 1969-1970, one film "Teamwork" has been developed, as well as two television public service newsclips, with prints being distributed to the stations in the province shortly.

Public relations branch maintains an active film library, which houses approximately 55 prints of the eight films available to the commission. In 1968-1969, an estimated audience of 25,000 people, exclusive of TV viewers, saw OWRC films. In addition, 106 schools in the province have used OWRC films in their resources management educational programme.

One area of activity that is accelerating considerably is the educational aspect of public relations and information's communications programme. Staff members are increasingly spending time visiting schools, meeting with teachers and students and discussing resource management, with particular emphasis on water management.

An indication of increased interest in water management is shown in the significant rise in publication circulation. In 1967-1968 it is estimated that 300,000 pieces of literature were distributed. In 1968-1969, this number rose to 478,000 and, to date, as at the beginning of 1970, the figure for the last year was 660,000 pieces.

It should be noted that approximately 90 per cent of this material is distributed to students in schools. Never before has such interest been shown in this commission in its activities in the general subject of water management.

In addition to the programmes of our information branch—and I have already given you some indication of the work that is carried on—OWRC staff hold many meetings with municipalities and with industry. As programmes are developed under the requirements of certain sections of The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act, the commission itself holds public hearings where the public have an opportunity to secure information about proposed treatment works and to

offer objections if they are not satisfied with the location of the treatment facility.

By the end of 1969, some 247 public hearings had been held regarding municipal and industrial waste plants. In addition to these hearings, which are required under the Act, many information meetings have been held and this has been particularly true where area projects were under discussion.

Mr. Speaker: May I interrupt the hon. member? Perhaps that might be a suitable place to break his address, if he is starting a new branch.

Mr. Root moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, before carrying on with this debate, we would like to have some second readings. Perhaps the best way to describe this order of business is to say that it is those bills standing in the name of the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) and which are printed, except the seventh order. After that we will continue with this debate.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.

No. 11

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, March 10, 1970

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, March 10, 1970

Mikolaj Gilewicz, statement by Mr. Wells 385
Rationing of heavy water for atomic reactors, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Nixon 392
Landlord-tenant advisory boards, questions to Mr. Robarts and Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Singer 392
Metro Toronto and lakefront development programme, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Nixon 394
Dr. Haidasz' statement re Gilewicz case, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Shulman 395
Effluent treatment plant at Barrie tannery, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald 396
Garbage dump site for St. Catharines residential area, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. MacDonald 396
Metro Toronto transportation plan review, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Trotter 397
OHSC hearing at Chesley, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Sargent 398
Intersection in Stoney Creek area, question to Mr. Gomme, Mr. Deans 398
Meadows Land Development Company Ltd., questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Singer 398
Memorandum to Indian development branch from Ross McClellan, question to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. MacDonald 399
Pollution of Rideau River by Smiths Falls Ontario hospital, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacKenzie 399
Alleged injustice in Ontario courts by Miss Kahn-Tineta Horn, question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. MacDonald 399
Regulating use of motorized snow vehicles, question to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Sopha 401
Monitoring of air at Malton airport, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Young 401
Phosphate-free detergent for sale in Ontario, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. T. P. Reid 401
Ord-Wallington failure, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Deans, Mr. Singer 402
Charges re payola in distribution of fruit and vegetables, question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Spence 402
Province of Ontario borrowing on New York debenture market, questions to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. Nixon 402
Cadet Cleaners and lie detector tests, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Trotter 403
Enforcement of federal regulations re cyclamates, question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 404
Second report, standing orders and procedures committee, Mr. R. G. Hodgson 405
First report, standing private bills committee, Mr. Winkler 405
Township of Ameliasburgh, bill respecting, Mr. Whitney, first reading 406
City of Barrie, bill respecting, Mr. Evans, first reading 406
City of Kitchener, bill respecting, Mr. Breithaupt, first reading 406
Town of Brampton, bill respecting, Mr. Kennedy, first reading 406
City of Niagara Falls, bill respecting, Mr. Bukator, first reading 406
City of Peterborough, bill respecting, Mr. Pitman, first reading 406
City of Sault Ste. Marie, bill respecting, Mr. Gilbertson, first reading 406
Wentworth Radio and Auto Supplies Limited, bill respecting, Mr. Bukator, first reading 406
Schools Administration Act, bill to amend, Mr. Pitman, first reading 406
City of Toronto, bill respecting, Mr. Price, first reading 406
Excelsior Life Insurance Company, bill respecting, Mr. De Monte, first reading 406
City of Owen Sound, bill respecting, Mr. Sargent, first reading 407
Public Health Act, bill to amend, Mr. Deans, first reading 407
Dennis Realty Company Limited, bill respecting, Mr. Worton, first reading 407
City of London, bill respecting, Mr. Bolton, first reading 407
Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company Limited, bill respecting, Mr. Villeneuve, first reading 407
Camp Shahwundais, bill respecting, Mr. Peacock, first reading 407
Town of Oakville, bill respecting, Mr. Snow, first reading 407
Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, second reading 407
Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, second reading 407
Proceedings against the Crown Act, 1962-1963, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, second reading 409
Public Trustee Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, second reading 411
Judicature Act, bill to amend, Mr. Wishart, second reading 416
Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Root, Mr. T. Reid 421
Recess, 6 o'clock 429

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Today our guests in the east gallery are students from Royal Orchard Senior Public School in Thornhill; in the west gallery from Essex Senior Public School, Toronto, and Crescent Private School, Toronto. Later this afternoon in the east gallery there will be students from Durham College in Oshawa with us.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, last Thursday in this House, during the throne debate, the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) made a lengthy statement about a former patient at the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital, named Mikolaj Gilewicz. I would now like to set the record straight by presenting the correct information concerning the care and treatment of this patient.

First, let me say that my department has always been particularly mindful of the responsibility to protect the interests and preserve the dignity and privacy of patients under our care in the provincial psychiatric hospitals. This does not mean, however, that the department is unwilling to disclose information from the records of a patient or a former patient to his attending physician in the community where this is clearly in the best interests of that patient.

It is important here to read the letter which the member for High Park received, under date of February 5, and which he chose not to read into his remarks, granting him access to the patient's file, and I will now read this letter:

Dear Doctor Shulman:

In response to your letter of January 21, may I point out that you wrote to the medical director of the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital on December 23, 1969, as a member of the Legislature, requesting permission to see the file of a former patient. We do not feel that members of the Legislature should have access to patients' records. Contrary to your suggestion that this is an indication that we are trying to hide something, we are only endeavouring to respect the interests and rights of the patient.

Again, in your letter of January 12, 1970, you indicated your opinion that you should be permitted to see the patient's record not only as his doctor, but also as his MPP and the health critic for your party.

The hospital has already endeavoured to provide the essential information which you would find helpful as Mr. Gilewicz's physician. I do not know what you mean in stating that the facts concerning Mr. Gilewicz's care and treatment, as provided by the hospital, are not correct. However, as Mr. Gilewicz's physician, you may review his medical record to verify this information. This may be done by going to the Brockville Hospital. Since Dr. Miller is now spending several days a week in Toronto, arrangements could be made for you to examine this material in his office in the Hepburn Block if this would be more convenient for you.

Will you please let Dr. Miller know what arrangements you wish to make.

Yours sincerely,
Thomas L. Wells, Minister.

You will appreciate, Mr. Speaker, as stated in this letter, that the member for High Park was given access to the records solely on the basis that he was the attending physician. You will also recall that he later admitted, when questioned during his remarks by the member for Humber (Mr. Ben), that he was also acting as an ombudsman.

Having carefully reviewed the statements made in the Legislature on March 5, it is our opinion that the members of this House and the residents of this province, through the reporting of the member's statements, have been given inaccurate, incomplete and misleading information. His conduct with regard to the protection of the interests, the dignity and privacy of this patient is also subject to question.

Under these extraordinary circumstances, and only in the interests of protecting those

concerned, Mr. Speaker, I find it necessary to reveal a number of facts from the hospital records, this being the only way open to me to correct the impressions that have been created. May I point out, Mr. Speaker, that the statements I am about to make are all taken directly from correspondence and from the file which the member for High Park had in his hands. I will only add the information which the member either ignored or chose to leave out of his account of this patient's illness and treatment, and I sincerely regret, Mr. Speaker, that it is necessary for me to make this statement in this House today.

Let me start from the member's statement that all he "wanted to find out was: was he mentally ill?" I will read to you first, the letter written in response to his request for information concerning this patient. The patient's written permission for such information to be released was forwarded with the hon. member's letter. This is the letter which the member neglected to read because it was marked, "confidential", even though I would say he chose to reveal information of a much more confidential nature.

Brockville,
December 12, 1969.

Dear Doctor Shulman:

In response to your letter of November 28, 1969, to the hon. Thomas L. Wells, Minister of Health, and with the written permission of Mr. Gilewicz which you forwarded, I am pleased to provide you with the following information.

Mr. Gilewicz was first admitted to the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital on February 12th, 1960, from Ottawa, on the certificates of two medical practitioners. His illness became evident in July of 1958, when he developed delusional thinking, particularly with reference to those associated with the church. He had been unemployed since November of 1958. He complained that the priests and nuns followed him, and made critical comments about him, and that people in the street went out of their way to bump into him and show him they did not like him. He revealed that he had been hearing voices calling him names. In response to his delusions and hallucinations he became hostile to representatives of the church, using abusing language and spitting at them when he met them on the street. This behaviour led to his arrest and admission to hospital. The case was reviewed in conference on March 15th, at which time it was agreed that the patient was suffering from a thought disorder characterized by paranoid delusions, and a diagnosis of schizophrenic disorder, paranoid type, was made.

Treatment included electro-convulsive therapy and medication. Mr. Gilewicz had no relatives in Canada and was unable to identify any friends who could assist him in his rehabilitation. He was discharged to a residential unit on July 4, 1962, but his condition deteriorated, making it necessary for him to be readmitted to the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital by certificate of mental illness on April 22, 1964. At that time he believed that people were trying to poison him and refused to eat or drink. Further electro-convulsive therapy was given and his medication adjusted. He showed considerable improvement in response to treatment, and it was felt that another effort should be made to help him to return to the community, and the patient was discharged to the residential unit on October 21, 1968. In January, 1969, he was placed in a Home for Special Care in Cornwall, and discharged to go to live with friends in Toronto on November 7, 1969.

Yours truly,
R. P. Miller, MD,
Medical Director.

The member for High Park has stated, "The facts in the patient's file do not correspond with the facts in the letter". I can assure the members of this Legislature that the information provided is a clear and accurate summary of the patient's illness and treatment, and I will read the relevant sections from the file which verify these statements.

The House will remember the assertion made by the member for High Park that this man was arrested and sent to the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital where he remained for 10 years because of his behaviour one night when he was under the influence of alcohol. Mr. Speaker, there is a four-page history and examination of the patient's mental status in the file which gives a different story.

The member for High Park also said, "The first conference of medical staff that was held to discuss his case was on April 12, 1960." The member had already been told in the letter he received from the medical director of the hospital, which I just read, that Mr. Gilewicz' case was reviewed in conference on March 15, 1960. I want to read this conference report in to the record.

Conference Report

March 15, 1960

This patient was presented in a conference of the medical staff today by Dr. W. O. Williams, others present being Doctors Snedden, Bell-Smith, Stockings and Mansfield; Mr. Derrick of the psychology department and affiliate nurses.

He is 52 years of age; Polish; tanner, Roman Catholic; single.

The patient was born in Poland on the 14th of December, 1907, and was the first of three siblings. There is no evidence of mental illness in the patient's family. He says that his early home life was without incident. He completed elementary education at the age of fourteen. After leaving school he worked in a tannery until 1939 when he joined the Polish Army and was with the Free Polish Army until the end of the war. After that he worked in a textile plant in Switzerland until he came to Canada in 1951.

He was unable to work at his trade in Canada, and his employment was with several construction companies moving about the country a great deal. He last worked with the Cape Construction Company in Ottawa until November, 1958, and he has since been unemployed. The medical history is not relevant to this illness. The patient is single and says that he never had any interest in women. He has always been quiet, passive, unassuming and seclusive. He takes little interest in social activities and says that he has only one friend in Canada, another Pole living in Hamilton. He belonged to the Catholic church but has given up his religion and he has few interests outside his work.

He says that his trouble began in Cornwall in July, 1958, when he was there looking for work. He felt people on the street were going out of their way to bump him and nudge him to show that they did not like him. He then went to Ottawa where he worked until November. After that he had unemployment insurance for a few months but since then has been living on his savings and worrying about his unemployment. After coming to Ottawa he soon began to experience the same delusions as he had in Cornwall. He thought people on the street were nudging him and making comments about his not living with his wife although he is not married. The chief offenders became the Catholic priests and sisters who were always making comments about him. He says that when he would come out of a grocery store he would see two sisters talking about him and saying, "Let's see if he goes home to his wife", "He is not going home to his wife", and so on. Because of these experiences he began staying at home. He said that he had this sort of trouble in banks and post offices and he heard voices calling him names or criticizing him for not being with his wife. He did not know why the Catholic clergy should be against him but became hostile against them, using abusive language and spitting at them whenever he would meet them on the street. For this behaviour he was arrested, and later certificates were completed and he was admitted to the Ontario Hospital, Brockville, on the 12th of February, 1960.

Mental Status: Since admission the patient has been quiet and co-operative. He is rather quiet and flattened in mood. He talks freely about persecution from priests. He says they followed him every day saying he should go home to his wife and that everybody heard them including the police. The patient sticks to this story but cannot explain why this state of affairs should exist. He likes it in hospital and feels that everyone is very kind to him. The members of the conference were agreed that the patient is suffering from a thought disorder characterized by paranoid delusions.

Diagnosis: 300: 300.3—schizophrenic disorders; paranoid type.

Etiology: constitutional and environmental.

Treatment: Ataractic drugs, psychotherapy, and possibly ECT.

Prognosis: Poor.

Mr. Speaker, let me read the full conference note recorded in the file under the date of April 12, 1960, and let me again point out this is not "the first conference of medical staff that was held to discuss his case", as reported by the member. It is a report of the patient's progress since admission, and the member only quoted a part of the note in the file, the part which he said stated, "It is impossible to find any evidence of delusionary thinking at present". However, the full note reads as follows:

> This patient was seen at a conference of the medical staff today to discuss the question of his rehabilitation. He remains quiet and somewhat flattened in mood but says that he no longer feels that people are against him and it is impossible to find any

> evidence of delusionary thinking at present. He says that he is anxious to return to work and the social service department will be asked to co-operate in finding this man lodging and employment in Ottawa. Medication—Mellaril 100 mgms. three times a day. Condition—improved.

The patient, Mr. Speaker, continued to respond to treatment and was discharged from the active treatment section of the hospital and placed in the residential unit of the hospital on July 4, 1962. He had made sufficient progress by that time that he did not require further care and treatment in the active part of the hospital and was free to go, but had no relatives or friends and no other place to go to.

Mr. Speaker, the member makes much over the fact that he was readmitted to the hospital on April 22, 1964, "with no reason being given". The patient was readmitted on the authority of one certificate of mental illness completed by a physician. This temporary admission certificate and history is on the file, dated April 22, 1964, indicating that the doctor examined the patient on that date, and stated:

> He has the delusion that his food and water is drugged, and has refused to eat and drink to the point that his physical health is endangered. This morning he attempted to go down to the river.

Similar information is noted on the examination-on-admission form dated April 22, and on a conference report dated April 29, 1964, all of which are in the file.

The temporary admission certificate was only valid for 30 days. It was considered necessary to continue the patient's treatment over a longer period, and for that reason certificates were obtained from two other doctors. In making reference to one of these certificates, the member speaks of a "note" made by the doctor, Dr. McDougall, that others told him the patient thought the water was poisoned in the hospital. Let me read this doctor's statement, dated May 7, 1964:

> Has been living in a residential unit here and became very paranoidal. Thought people were poisoning him, etc., and has had to be sent back to active part of hospital and certified. Refused to eat for days and had to be tube fed.

Because of the inference made by the member that there was no reason for the patient to be readmitted, let me also read the content of the second certificate made out by a different doctor, and also dated May 7, 1964:

> An elderly man who speaks very little English (Switzerland). He tells me that because of medication in the drinking water on Ward E he took a basin and got some fresh water from the river. He feels someone was trying to poison him. He was then transferred to Ward G, and has received shock treatment.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): So the member laid another egg.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The member, in his remarks to the Legislature, incorrectly stated that "two doctors signed the certificate", meaning the one with the note about poisoned water. He then attempted to discredit the doctors' actions by quoting a note on the file written by a third doctor whom he identified as Dr. Hoogenraad on the same date, May 7, 1964. This note as quoted by the member is: "This patient has lost his paranoidal delusions about being poisoned."

Mr. Speaker, this note only appears to be contradictory because of the way the member used it. Dr. Hoogenraad's note is one of a series of notes reporting on the patient's response to medication and treatment since his readmission, April 22, 1964. This would have been obvious if the member had quoted Dr. Hoogenraad's note of May 7 in its entirety. Let me read it to you as it is recorded in the file:

> This patient is maintaining his improvement. He lost his paranoidal delusions about being poisoned. He started to work at OT and will have privileges.

The simple and obvious sequence of events was that the patient was readmitted to hospital by a 30-day temporary certificate and quickly placed back on treatment. Two weeks later it was determined that he should remain in hospital for a longer period and the certificates of two other doctors were obtained. Both certificates verify the conditions which made it necessary for the patient to be readmitted and given further treatment. Dr. Hoogenraad's note merely reports on the response of the patient to the treatment he had received.

It is at this point in his remarks that the member makes what is probably his most misleading statement when he says, and I am now quoting from the member's remarks:

> Now the fantastic thing that occurs is from that day until August 28, 1968, there is no evidence whatsoever that any medical staff spoke to Mr. Gilewicz, there is no evidence of any medical conference, there is no medical note, there is no psychiatric examination. He sat there for 4½ years

and on that day he was not seen by a doctor, he was seen by a social worker—

Mr. Speaker, there are six doctors' notes on the file relating to this interval, along with reports of annual chest x-rays, a record of a further period of electro-shock therapy, and 6½ pages recording the medication which the patient received on the orders of the attending physician. He was seen by a social worker on August 28, 1968, as noted by the member, but here again he failed to quote the full note that is in the file.

The patient responded to the treatment he received and he was again discharged to a residential unit in the hospital on October 21, 1968, and could have left the hospital but had no friends or relatives or place to go at that time.

The St. Lawrence Sanatorium in Cornwall is a former TB hospital, and it contains a section which has been given over to a Home for Special Care. Mr. Gilewicz was admitted to this unit on January 13, 1969, in accordance with our programme for placing former patients in suitable accommodation in the community wherever possible to assist them in their rehabilitation. We have placed over 9,000 patients in Homes for Special Care, and the assertion that this placement occurred "as a result of considerable publicity" is just one more example of the inaccurate and misleading statements which have been made.

Mr. Sargent: He got plenty of ink in the papers, though.

An hon. member: So do termites get plenty of ink—

Mr. Sargent: But the press is just as much to blame.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not have access to any statements attributed to the superintendent of the St. Lawrence Sanatorium or his superintendent of nurses, but I find it hard to believe that they would make some of the statements attributed to them. More recent information in the press would tend to support my opinion, that they were only interested in helping the patient, and indeed were able to locate friends whom he went to live with on November 7, 1969.

No statement, however, could be more inaccurate or misleading than the statement made by the member in his summary when he says:

On the very first medical conference which was held on him, they say there is no evidence of mental illness.

—or his remarks about this patient receiving no attention for 4½ years; or that his savings were taken from him when, in fact, the amount he received on discharge from the Home for Special Care in November, 1969, was more than he had on admission to hospital in 1960.

What the member for High Park has done, is to assert that he, and others whom he says agree with him, is in a better position to judge the condition of this man 10 years ago, and the treatment he received, than those who examined him and treated him, including members of his own profession. He claims he is right in his opinion, and those who attended the patient were misled by a language difficulty and one incident of unfortunate behaviour. There was a language difficulty, but the information in the record clearly shows that the staff were able to communicate with the patient. The details given in the case history and the description the patient gave of the onset of his illness, which is also in the file, could only have been obtained directly from the patient.

I would ask you to keep in mind, Mr. Speaker, that all of the information which I have used today in this statement concerning Mr. Gilewicz, has been taken from the hospital record, the same record that was made available to the member for High Park. The member, I would say, Mr. Speaker, has misused the records made available to him as the patient's attending physician, to publicly make inaccurate, incomplete and misleading statements. His behaviour has the effect, without justification, of discrediting some of his professional colleagues, and all those who work in our provincial hospitals. That he should go to such great lengths, using his position here, to mislead the members of the Legislature as well as the people of this province, is hard to believe.

The additional information which I have given today, will, I am sure, reassure the members of this House, and the citizens of this province, that the story of Mikolaj Gilewicz, as told by the member for High Park, is a gross misrepresentation of the facts.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The member for High Park wishes to address something to the Speaker. I did not hear it.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): I would like to rise on a question of privilege, sir.

Mr. Speaker: The member will state his point of privilege.

Mr. Shulman: My point of privilege, sir, is that I have been accused of misleading the House, which I deny—

An hon. member: What else have you done since you have been here?

Mr. Shulman: —and inasmuch as two members of this House have now seen a record and both have presented a very different picture of that record, I would ask, sir, that you request this House to direct that record to be presented to the standing committee on health, on which there is a majority of Conservative members—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: —on which there is a majority of Conservative members so we can see who is telling the truth in this House.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member has now stated his point of privilege. Mr. Speaker has no power to direct anything.

I will give the hon. Leader of the Opposition a point of order in a minute.

Mr. Speaker acts on a motion of the House and in pursuance of the traditions and customs and rules of this House, and there is no rule, tradition or custom which will allow him to take the action suggested.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition wishes to rise on a point of order?

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): My point of order is the objection to the use of the ministerial statement and the matter of privilege to conduct what amounts to a public hearing on a matter of such importance. You may recall, sir, that a similar matter arising from the same member a year ago involving a charge of 400 pregnancies in the mental hospitals of the province resulted in a hearing by the standing committee, without any support either for the cases made by the hon. member, or the defence by the hon. minister. I would say that on a point of order, I object to this particular use of the House under these orders. Surely, the use of the standing committees would be very much in order for a hearing of this type.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): I would speak to the point of order raised by the—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has risen on a point of privilege. He will state his point of privilege.

Mr. Shulman: The point of privilege, sir, is that the hon. leader of the Opposition has suggested that a hearing was held as a result of the charge made by me last year that—

Mr. Speaker: That is not any point of privilege.

Mr. Shulman: My point of privilege—I beg your pardon?

Mr. Speaker: That is not any point of privilege. The hon. member will resume his seat. He has no point of privilege.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will resume his seat till the Speaker sits down. I have asked the hon. member to state his point of privilege and he was not doing that. He was endeavouring to engage in a debate with the Leader of the Opposition. Now, if the hon. member—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): The Speaker is a little edgy.

Mr. Speaker: The Speaker is not edgy. The hon. member would like to see this House conducted in a reasonable way. If the hon. member will state his point of privilege, and not the evidence by which he wishes to prove his point of privilege, the Speaker will be glad to hear it.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Rules only work if you want them to.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, I am sure, not intentionally, has led the House to believe that I have done something which I have not done. I wish to state that very clearly. The inquiry, and there are numerous members—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: —there are numerous members in the House committee who are present here today who can testify to that—that it was not at all into a charge which I did not make last year. The inquiry was into a number of charges which I did make and there were numerous inquiries about that later.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member made his point. The leader of the government.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to speak to the point of order raised by the Leader of the Opposition and I find that I must disagree with him. I think that the minister had a right and an obligation to this House, and a duty to the people of this province to rise in his seat at the first available

moment to answer the allegations that were made against his department and those for whom he is responsible, and for the branch of government for which he is responsible. There is no abuse of the process of this House when a minister rises in his place to answer publicly in this House, and to the people of this province, to allegations such as were made against his department by the member.

So on that point, sir, I will have to say that I completely disagree. I think the minister is in order and, indeed, I think any time a minister—

Mr. Nixon: I did not suggest that he was out of order.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —any time a minister does not rise and put his position before this House, I think he would then be derelict in his duty.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, further to the point of order, I did not object to the use of the ministerial statement for what the Minister of Health said. I said that this should not be the vehicle whereby a hearing is held, because surely a hearing must eventually come to some conclusion, and who is to judge who is right—the people who bang the desks the loudest? Surely that is no way to decide. Why cannot we use the standing committees?

Mr. Speaker: I would say first of all with respect to the minister's statement, it was my opinion that his statement was quite in order, and I, of course, allowed him to proceed, and I think the members of the House were anxious to have that information.

With respect to the points raised by the member for High Park, it is my opinion after thinking about them, and I have been confirmed in that, that his points were points of order and not of privilege.

In any event, the matters he has raised have been heard by the members of the House and the various party leaders, and if any action is desired by the House, then certainly Mr. Speaker, upon proper proposal of same, will be glad to see that the action is put before the House so that it can be taken if the House deems advisable.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: Lest there be any misunderstanding on this, I requested of the Prime Minister yesterday that this matter should be referred to the standing committee on health so that it can be examined with both sides being presented, instead of with portions allegedly being taken out of context.

Hon. Mr. Wells: He had the file.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Why did not the leader of the NDP's member ask for that in the first place?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I reaffirm that request at the present time. If the government has nothing to hide, it will have no fear in referring it to a committee.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. leader of the New Democratic Party thinks that perhaps this is a matter to go to the committee on privileges and elections, so that we might settle once and for all how many times a member is able to use the House for this type of allegation?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, which committee this goes to is irrelevant, but may I, in replying to the question—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: May I, in responding to the Prime Minister's question as to whether or not this should go to the committee on elections and privileges, say that my understanding of the terms of reference of the committee on elections and privileges is that it investigates the rights and privileges of a member of this House, and—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, if every time something is raised in this House during the throne speech that the government does not like, it is then going to be construed as something that should be taken to the committee on elections and privileges, then Mr. Speaker the Prime Minister is deliberately perverting the purpose of that committee.

Mr. Shulman: On this point of order sir—

Mr. Lewis: Well, go ahead and refer it to both committees.

Mr. Shulman: I would speak to this point of order, sir, if I may!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: You 68 Philistines! Move your motion; both of them. Come on, come on!

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Speaker, on this point of order: as one of the affected members I would be delighted to have this matter referred to any of the committees of this House.

Mr. MacDonald: I would say to the Prime Minister, put up or shut up; or is he just playing politics with the issue?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I detect, perhaps, a consensus of feeling on this matter in the House. I will check into it to ensure that any motion I present before the House is properly drawn and takes full regard of the function of the committee. I am happy to have this opinion from all sides of the House as to how this matter should be disposed of.

Mr. Lewis: We know the Premier is scrupulous about the functioning of committees.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough West; did he have a point of order?

Mr. Lewis: No; since the Premier has acceded it is fine, Mr. Speaker.

An hon. member: The crown prince was only speaking for his leader.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Has Ontario entered into an agreement with Quebec leading to the rationing of heavy water for the use of the atomic reactors in use or under development in our two provinces?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any agreement, as indicated by the hon. member, with the province of Quebec regarding the rationing of heavy water. I would assume that he is intimating that Ontario Hydro might be involved in such an agreement? I am not aware of any such agreement.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: Can the minister inform the House whether there are any plans afoot to use the heavy water presently utilized by the Douglas Point reactor for putting the Pickering reactor into operation later this year, if in fact the supplies of heavy water are short?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: To my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, there are no plans to take any heavy water required by the Douglas Point plant and allocate it for the Pickering plant. We hope that there will be sufficient heavy water in supply to satisfy the Pickering plant.

Mr. Nixon: A further question, Mr. Speaker, this one of the Premier.

I wonder if he could tell the House how many landlord-tenant advisory boards have been established under the legislation that went into effect this year; and if, as a result of the discussions at the last federal-provincial conference, he is considering upgrading the powers of those advisory boards so that they will in fact become rent review boards, and establish them in certain municipalities where they are required?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I cannot answer the question as to how many have been established. It may be that the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) can answer that question.

We debated very fully here the whole matter of rent review boards and rent control boards when we set up this legislation, and we are of the opinion that for what was requested during our conversations in Ottawa, the boards as constituted under the present legislation will be adequate.

We must make it very clear that we were not asked by the federal government to introduce, or institute, any form of rent control. They did speak of rent review, and these boards, as we set them up, have power to review, really, any relationship between landlord and tenant, which would automatically involve the question of rents as part of the contract between them—if the tenant thought it was too high or for whatever reason.

So I do not think we need to enlarge the powers. Perhaps the Minister of Municipal Affairs could tell the member how many municipalities have in fact availed themselves of this legislation.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question: Is the Premier aware that he was reported from the closed conference in Ottawa as having said that he felt the advisory boards did not have this review capacity and that the government was considering strengthening them? Can he say if that quote was in error? It is not a quote, but—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I think perhaps it would be fair to say that I speculated as to whether these boards had sufficient power, with the indication that we would look at them and see. I am not satisfied that they have sufficient power to do—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): We pointed that out at some length in the debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In what debate?

Mr. Singer: On the amendment to The Landlord and Tenant Act.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am referring now to comments attributed to me at a federal-provincial conference held in Ottawa in February, and at that time I was trying to sort out what the federal government really was asking us to do as to whether, in fact, the machinery that we had set up in the last session would accomplish that.

Mr. Singer: And it will not do anything.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It all depends on what the member thinks they asked us to do. I think it will, and until the contrary is proved I think that we should use these boards which presently have legislative jurisdiction. They can be set up; the machinery is there. I do not think we should start into another whole series of boards when we have something that I think will do the job. That is the situation.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, it would be helpful, since the Premier was not able to say how many of them have been set up, if you would permit me to ask the Attorney General, who, I think, administers this legislation. Can he tell the House how many advisory boards have been requested or established?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): I cannot be definite or categorical about it, but as far as I understand it, none has actually so far been constituted. I understand Windsor is proceeding—

Mr. Singer: And Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: And Ottawa.

An hon. member: And Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I believe I have read in the papers—and on this, I think, the hon. member is as aware as I am—that there have been some very definite discussions in the Toronto area about their approach as to the rent advisory bureau.

Mr. Nixon: So none has been established, and none requested?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: So far as I am aware, none has actually been completely constituted as yet, but Windsor, Ottawa and Toronto are apparently on the way to establishment.

Mr. Singer: Oh they are not on the way; they are thinking about them!

Mr. Nixon: Might I ask the Attorney General, as a supplementary question, does he still feel that these advisory boards can accomplish some mitigation of rent pressures, that could be fulfilled by the rent review board which was under discussion in the previous session?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, we discussed this at great length in the House on second reading, and in committee.

The hon. member gets up and speaks of the term, rent review. What is rent review if it falls short of fixation of rent? And then he talks about rent control. The Ontario Law Reform Commission, in its recommendations, said to establish a leasehold advisory bureau.

Mr. Singer: And rent review board.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, but if the member reads the recommendations he will see that we put them together and the powers given to the bureau—we call the Landlord and Tenant Advisory Bureau—were to mediate disputes, to advise the parties, to seek to bring them together—

Mr. Nixon: They have no powers, it is all a myth.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Allow me to answer!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The member for Downsview will have a stroke.

Mr. Singer: Not so!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: And to publish, to make public—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The member will have a stroke.

Mr. Singer: I will not give the Treasurer that much pleasure.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —to publish so that there would be some light of publicity on their negotiations and hearings. But I should like the hon. member to stop and think whether you either have to have the power to say this shall be the rent, it shall be reduced; or as the landlord you are entitled to raise it. The moment you do that you are in rent control!

But what is rent review? Look at it: Seek to mediate, seek to bring the parties together, seek to settle disputes, advise the tenants of their rights, advise the landlords of their rights and their limitations." All this we put in the landlord and tenant advisory bureau; and we stop short of rent control. The only reference that the Ontario Law Reform Commission made was that if these procedures are

not effective then you might have to consider rent control.

The hon. Prime Minister has indicated our attitude in that. We indicated the attitude of the government at the time and, as has been pointed out, no one has seriously suggested rent control.

I would think, if I might add this, that if you are going to have rent control it would be a matter of a much wider area of control.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: Would the Attorney General agree that the advisory bureaus provided for under the Act in fact do not contain all of the powers that the committee recommended that they should have; and secondly, the fact that none has been established would indicate that the municipalities feel they would have too few teeth in them to be effective in any event?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I would not agree with that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary: Would the Attorney General not agree that the law reform commission recommended: first, advisory bureaus; second, rent review boards? And that the government, in its wisdom or lack of it, and I choose to think it was the latter, chose only the advisory com-committees?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I already pointed out that in setting up the leasehold of the landlord and tenant advisory bureaus, we took the powers suggested for the two boards which the law reform commission suggested and combined them in one.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of further supplementary: Would the Attorney General not agree that the law reform commission specifically recommended, insofar as rent review boards were concerned, that there be power to subpoena witnesses and bring documents before them, and that he has not done that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think perhaps they did—

Mr. Singer: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —but we debated this before and what, I ask, would be the point of subpoenaing people, bringing them forward, if you have no power to then say that the rent is to be fixed, or reduced, and so on. You are verging right into the area of rent control which we avoided.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests. Will the minister justify his statement of government policy which refused Metropolitan Toronto's request that it have jurisdiction over lakefront land and the development of the lakefront programme?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, maybe to clarify that matter, in the *Globe and Mail* of Friday, March 6 last, there appeared an article relating to the activities in Metropolitan Toronto in respect of waterfront planning on Lake Ontario. There appears to be some misunderstanding of the position of The Department of Lands and Forests on this matter. The request of the metropolitan municipality for legislation was related to the powers of the municipality as established by the legislation governing that municipality.

My letter, which was quoted in a newspaper article, did not deal with this aspect of the matter, but dealt with the question of whether or not the province would turn over its ownership rights to the municipality under an agreement that is authorized by section 43(a) of The Public Lands Act and is commonly known as the beach management agreement. These agreements are usually made on a short term basis and do not involve the complete assignment of the province's right as owner of the land to the municipality.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of outstanding matters involved in this question of rights to the water lots in Lake Ontario in the area in question. I will not delay the proceedings of the House in the full discussion of these matters, but they relate to such important public projects as harbours, airports, pavilions and other provincial buildings. As I indicated in my letter to the municipality, the province is in no position to negotiate an agreement which transfers, even temporarily, its title rights in the area in question.

On the question of whether the legislation requested by the municipality should be enacted, I have been conferring with my colleagues on the advisability or otherwise of this policy matter and the decision on this question will be made at the appropriate time.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: Then it is possible that the government will confer on Metropolitan Toronto the responsibility for the total lakefront development in the area under question?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, this whole matter is under review.

There are several departments involved and I think an answer will be given in due course.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary: Would the minister agree that one level of government should have the jurisdiction to plan and carry out the development, rather than a divided jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Not necessarily, Mr. Speaker. This whole question is being dealt with; the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) is involved, and also it is being co-ordinated through the office of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Nixon: I do not mean one department, I mean one level of government.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. leader completed his questions?

Mr. Nixon: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my first question is of the Minister of Health.

This afternoon's *Telegram* carries the story, datelined Ottawa, under the byline of Richard Mackie, in which it is stated that Dr. Haidasz, who I understand is the assistant to the Minister of Health, states that he has "reason to believe there are similar cases", namely to the Gilewicz case. Would the minister indicate to the House what other similar cases there are; and if he is not aware of them would he immediately make representation to Ottawa to find out what other cases Ottawa is aware of?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of course Mr. Speaker, this is a rather strange question. I have outlined the complete details about the Gilewicz case and the treatment he is receiving. There are, of course, many patients in our mental hospitals who are receiving treatment now, and there is certainly nothing unusual about the Gilewicz case, as my statement has shown. I would not presume to know what was in Dr. Haidasz's mind.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): There is still a lot of unexplained stuff there.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would not presume to know what is in Dr. Haidasz's mind. I saw him on television last night, and when the reporters asked him this, he hesitated for five or ten seconds and then said that he thought there might be others. He seemed very unsure in his own mind, and I would have to hear it from him.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, may I put my question again, because I would like to get an answer to it? The Gilewicz case, as defined by Dr. Haidasz, is that people, apparently sane, are retained in mental institutions: Is the minister aware of any cases similar to that of the Gilewicz case; and if not would he make representations to Ottawa to find out what Dr. Haidasz has in mind?

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the member for York South that he is endeavouring to read for the House the mind of the member of Parliament who was quoted in the paper, and translate that as a purely speculative question to the minister. I do not think it is a proper question and I rule it out of order.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have made my point and I shall not pursue it, but if I am asking for clarification on what may be in the mind of the minister, surely that is an appropriation question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member, in my opinion, was endeavouring to clarify in the minister's mind what he thought was in the mind of the person quoted in the newspaper. That is the way I understood it; and such would be out of order.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I think though, on a point of order, the hon. member has said that in the Gilewicz case this was a sane person kept in a mental institution. I think the facts presented today show otherwise.

Mr. MacDonald: My question, Mr. Speaker, and I put this to you, was if there are any cases of sane people being kept in institutions we would like to know about it.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member will put that as his question, based on what is going on, it is quite in order.

Mr. MacDonald: In light of all we have discussed, are there any cases of sane people who are being kept in mental institutions? If the minister is not aware of any, would he seek full clarification from others who have such information?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I am glad the hon. member asked me this question because I had something in my statement which I felt was not part of the ministerial statement but certainly could provide an answer to this. Of course, to the best of our knowledge, there is

no one in our institutions, Mr. Speaker, who should not be there. But I would like to emphasize to the member that under the new Mental Health Act which came into force in June, 1968—and everyone in this House is well aware of it—there are various procedures now whereby boards of review are set up which can review patients' status. These are now in legislation, they are working, and they are being copied by many other jurisdictions.

I would like to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that review boards—which are regional review boards—in 1969 reviewed 261 cases of patients in our mental institutions and 45 were discharged as a result of the hearings. Under the advisory review boards which were set up to hear patients committed under Lieutenant-Governor's warrants—

Mr. MacDonald: We thought that having got that board established something like the Gilewicz case could not happen.

Hon. Mr. Wells: 106 cases were heard in 1969 and four people were discharged as a result of these hearings. This procedure is working well, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member for High Park a supplementary question?

Mr. Shulman: A supplementary question in two parts: How does a mentally ill person know of this board of review, if the only way he can learn about it is in a message on a bulletin board which he may not be able to read?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, there are booklets being prepared which will indicate this. This is part of the procedure. There are presently many ways of a patient knowing about this—his doctor, his family, and the superintendent are made well aware of this in the hospitals. I am sure the fact that 261 people applied to be heard before a board of review indicates this. Mr. Speaker, the regulations also stipulate that when an involuntary patient is refused his discharge, he must be told he has the right to have a board of review.

Mr. MacDonald: My next question is of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. With reference to the effluent treatment plant at the Barrie tannery, which the minister indicated yesterday was going to be built, am I correctly informed that this plant was in fact built last fall?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the information given me was incomplete, and therefore the completion date of the plant was not included in my statement yesterday. I regret if I have confused the hon. member. I had no intention to mislead him. But the plant has been operational since last year.

Mr. MacDonald: Am I also correctly informed—by way of supplementary question—that the plant, like the heavy water plant in Nova Scotia, is working intermittently if at all?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, the plant is working. It is not working as well as we would like to see it work, there is no question about that. There are times when the sampling, particularly grab sampling, shows a high content of BOD. However, OWRC are working continuously with the city, which is operating this plant as I indicated yesterday, and it is hoped that any problems that are there now will be ironed out.

I might mention, Mr. Speaker, that because of the nature of the tannery, the effluent is very difficult to treat. However, we are satisfied that by the time the effluent or waste is treated at the city sewage plant, the final effluent is well within our regulations and standards.

Mr. MacDonald: My next question is of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Has the minister or any of his colleagues come to a decision as to which department is responsible for reviewing the garbage dump site proposed for a residential area in St. Catharines?

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): I think it is fair to say, Mr. Speaker, that both my department and The Department of Energy and Resources Management are looking into this particular problem. The Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch), who is member for that area, delivered some material to both offices yesterday. I know my staff are having a look at it in terms of zoning laws and I know that Energy is also looking at it. What the conclusions of those discussions are, I am not in a position to report to the House at this moment, but I will undertake to get a reply to the member as soon as practicable.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of supplementary question, the minister refers to material delivered by the Provincial Secretary—

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): As member for that area.

Mr. MacDonald: As the member for that area. Is the minister referring to the brief that

was presented to three or four ministers, including himself, yesterday, by Dr. Bruce A. Liberty, Dr. Allan Lissey and Alderman J. Martin, with specific proposals as to how the situation might be handled, and if so, what is the government's reaction to their proposal?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Frankly, no material was delivered to me yesterday. Material was delivered by the Provincial Secretary directly to members of my staff and I have not seen it as yet. They are getting on with having a look at it. As to the gentlemen who were mentioned, I did not meet with them yesterday.

Mr. MacDonald: My final question is of the Prime Minister. In light of the restricted nature of the two reports presented yesterday on the Spadina expressway, would the government conduct a thorough review of the total Metropolitan Toronto transportation plan and its economic, ecological and sociological consequences?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I assume that the matters referred to in the member's question were dealt with by the two bodies that studied them on behalf of the municipality. Our position has been—and I think remains—that this is a question for the local municipalities to decide. Certainly we do not propose to start reviewing their decisions. They have made their studies and come to their conclusions and we will abide by them.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, if I may just quote one sentence and ask for the Prime Minister's observations in connection with it. One sentence from one of the reports says: "Reductions in the level of transportation services on all modes of travel throughout the metropolitan area are anticipated for the future."—Reductions are anticipated for the future—"even with the complete implementation of the plan"—

Mr. Singer: Surely that is not a question.

Mr. MacDonald: Which side is the member on?

In view of that, Mr. Speaker, is it not appropriate that this government should look into a plan in the context of that observation, when public moneys are going to be spent to the level of 50 per cent of the overall expenditure?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not think so.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary?

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question, in view of the government's policy, is it going to continue to pay this 50 per cent regardless of the price of the expressway, because the price keeps going up? It is now up to $224 million. Is it an open-ended offer to Metropolitan Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We pay according to the conditions of the subsidy. If the member wants a complete rundown of all the conditions of that subsidy, I am not in a position to give it to him, unless I take his question as notice. Perhaps the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) could tell him precisely what the conditions are attaching to the payment of this subsidy. But these conditions apply to similar subsidies in other municipalities and this area is being treated no differently.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if you would ask the minister to give us the terms, because this is going up into the hundreds of millions of dollars. Where does it stop?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha); a supplementary.

Mr. Trotter: Would the minister give an undertaking?

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member still talking, or is he asking another supplementary question?

Mr. Trotter: No, I am asking the same question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked it. The ministry has the right not to reply to any question. There has been no reply.

Mr. Trotter: The hon. Prime Minister said we could ask the minister. It was his suggestion.

Mr. Speaker: No. The member may not address another question to the Minister of Highways until it is the turn of his party to have a question and he catches Mr. Speaker's eye.

Earlier, the Leader of the Opposition was able to do that because he has the right to ask all the questions of the various ministers at the same time.

Mr. Trotter: Did the Prime Minister wish to have the floor?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, if it will help any I will arrange to have tabled as a reply the conditions under which we pay

these subsidies, if that is what the member wants.

It has nothing to do with the original question, I might say.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce has the floor.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Health, but before I give it to him, can I give the Prime Minister some friendly advice?

Mr. Speaker: I think not.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We have little enough time for questions.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, last night the OHSC had a hearing in Chesley to close our hospital and the Prime Minister has promised he would look into it personally. I would like to ask the minister, in view of the fact that he has taken an hour of the House's time—of the time of 117 members, to answer a lot of—

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. member ask a question without interpolating—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): He is doing very well.

Mr. Sargent: It is pretty important, Mr. Speaker.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Where do the OHSC top brass get the authority to tell the television cameras and the press they cannot cover a public meeting? That is exactly what happened last night in Chesley, and the word came through last night that they are going to close the hospital in Chesley. I want to hear from the minister or the Prime Minister right away, what the hell is going on? I am getting fed up. I want to know.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, first of all, the hon. member gets exercised about a lot of things, but I can understand his concern about the people in Chesley. Mr. Speaker, I have not had a chance to talk to any of our people. I do not have any report about what went on in that meeting last night. I have asked them to get me a full report on this, as a result of earlier discussions and we will have an answer when we see that report.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Highways has an answer to the question asked the other day by the member for Wentworth (Mr. Deans).

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Wentworth asked me about the intersection of King Street and Highway 20 in the Stoney Creek area. We have a study completed of this area, with certain recommendations which I would like to hand over to him for his review.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has the answer to a question asked by the member for Downsview the other day.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have the copy of a letter from the department to Mr. G. A. Meadows, which I undertook to produce. Along with it I have attached several pages of detail relating to the problems of the Livingston and Meadows Land Development Company Limited.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): What about Whiterock?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will be reporting on Whiterock soon, Mr. Speaker. There was also a question asked yesterday—

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, since the minister has tabled an answer, can I then have the supplementary question?

Mr. Speaker: The member can ask his question tomorrow, because he is not going to have the opportunity to peruse the material; or he can ask his question later today when he has seen it.

Mr. Singer: The minister has already given me the courtesy of supplying me with it.

Mr. Speaker: By all means, then the member is entitled to the supplementary.

Mr. Singer: In view of the information which the minister was able to supply to me, has he contemplated a step similar to that being taken by the United States government wherein when unserviced land is being sold, a form of prospectus has to be produced, similar to what is being done by the securities commission, so that people will know what they are buying in the form of land?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, Mr. Speaker, this question is under study and has become particularly pertinent, I believe, because of legislation which British Columbia, I think, is contemplating or has enacted. So it is being considered actively.

Mr. Singer: A supplementary question: In the minister's statement, in the second part headed Meadows Land Development, there is an indication there was only one complaint, that of Livingston. Is the minister not aware that I sent him or his predecessor at least three, and possibly more complaints, from people other than Livingston?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I am not aware, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Singer: Please check!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have a brief response, Mr. Speaker, to a question asked by the—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister will always let the Speaker know the answer they have and the member from whom they received the question, because the answers must be given in order to give everyone a fair share of the time in the order of the party caucus. So the minister can let me have a note in due course giving me this information.

The hon. minister of Social and Family Services has the reply to a question asked by a member of the New Democratic Party caucus.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, I am tabling a carbon copy, an unsigned carbon copy, of a memorandum dated April 16, 1969, with the typewritten signature of Ross McClellan, to the typewritten name of Mr. J. M. Dufour. It is the only document that we have been able to locate which related to the document the hon. member was advised was in our possession.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Energy and Resources Management has the answer to the question that was asked by the member for Ottawa Centre.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

A question from the member for Ottawa Centre, March 5, asked whether the hospital at Smiths Falls was polluting the Rideau River. The answer is, during September and October, 1969, a pollution survey of the Rideau River was completed in the Smiths Falls area. Pollution of the river is attributed to the overloaded municipal sewage treatment plant at Smiths Falls, and also the combined overflows in the sewer system.

Rideau Regional Hospital is connected to the municipal system for treatment of its waste. However, the survey noted that some waste at the hospital, which should be directed to the sanitary sewer, was being discharged through the hospital storm sewer system. Also, blockages of the sanitary sewer system at the hospital, due to the discharge of sheets and so on into the system, have caused sanitary wastes to overflow into the storm sewer system, resulting in pollution.

As the result of the survey, corrective action was suggested to the hospital administration. The hospital staff are acting on these recommendations and drains within the hospital are being separated and directed to the proper sewers. Some laundry waste which previously went to the storm sewer system is now going into the sanitary sewer. This work of relocating the drains is being supervised by The Department of Public Works.

The hospital administration has also installed steel grates to prevent sheets, clothing, and so on, from gaining access to the system. This should reduce the blockages which cause the sewer system to overflow. Further steps will be taken at the hospital to be sure that all wastes are discharged to the proper municipal system.

Since the sewage system at Smiths Falls is overloaded, the municipality is undertaking an expansion programme. The consulting engineer is now in the final design stage for the needed improvement.

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): A supplementary question of the minister: could the minister tell us if he feels, or does he know, whether this will have any effect on the swimming facilities, the recreation facilities, around Ottawa this coming summer.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, if the corrective action that I have indicated is going to be taken is not taken, there could be problems this summer; but I hope that the changes that have to be made will be made within the next two months.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Justice has a reply to the question asked by the member for York South the other day. Will he please confine himself to the answer to that question?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

The question was put by the hon. member for York South on March 2. The question was:

> Is the Attorney General in a position at this stage to comment on the allegation of Miss Kahn-Tineta Horn with regard to alleged injustice in the Ontario courts?

The answer, Mr. Speaker: As the hon. member is aware, he raised this question with me on November 25, 1969. At that time we had received a letter from Miss Horn dated October 20, in which she had written me a three-line letter inquiring about the possibility of her issuing a process with respect to an allegation against a police officer.

On October 29, Mr. C. M. Powell of my department replied to Miss Horn and requested further information in order that he be able to identify the matter and the persons concerned and thereupon pursue the matter further on her behalf. Miss Horn replied immediately to this inquiry and provided him with the additional information.

However, at the same time, I received a copy of the correspondence that Miss Horn was having with both the Minister of Justice at Ottawa and the mayor of Cornwall. Copies of this correspondence were coming to me by reference since these gentlemen felt that I might be in a position to reply to Miss Horn's various allegations.

In view of the various allegations that were being made, it seemed most desirable to view the matter thoroughly with the local officials, and also with the people in my department in Toronto. Correspondence then followed, and after a very thorough review of the matter, Mr. Powell replied to Miss Horn on January 14, 1970, and advised her respecting her remedies.

In view of the time that had elapsed since the original occurrence, and in view of the allegations, Mr. Speaker, I think I should review briefly what has transpired so that the hon. members may understand that we have not treated the matter lightly, nor with indifference.

On December 18, 1968, a demonstration took place at Cornwall Island, near a Canadian customs house, when a number of Mohawk Indians objected to the enforcement of the Jay Treaty by the Canadian customs officials. As a result of her participation in this demonstration, Miss Horn was charged with obstructing the police and with having in her possession an offensive weapon.

The demonstration, in which certain persons were engaged, consisted of stalling motor vehicles on the highway, which is a main connecting link between Cornwall, Ontario, and the United States. When the police asked that the vehicles be removed, the vehicles were further stalled and at that point the individuals were warned that if the vehicles were not removed the persons involved would be charged with obstructing the police. At that point in time, the Cornwall city police had called upon both the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for assistance in resolving the demonstration.

The individuals who were stalling the vehicles then commenced removing the air from the tires so that they could not be moved. It was as a result of this conduct that Miss Horn was taken into custody. As Miss Horn was being escorted to a police cruiser, she removed from the sleeve of her coat a knife in a sheath. She then proceeded to remove the knife from the sheath. The officer, with the assistance of another officer, subsequently took possession of the weapon. It was as a result of this that Miss Horn was charged with a second offence of having in her possession an offensive weapon.

The charges were subsequently heard and after a very thorough trial the judge dismissed the charges. Miss Horn then attended upon Mr. Lepage, a justice of the peace at Cornwall, and sought to lay an information against the police sergeant. Mr. MacDonald, the local crown attorney, was then consulted under the provisions of section 14 of The Crown Attorney's Act, whereby the crown attorney is required to assist the justice of the peace with respect to offences against the laws enforced in Ontario.

In the opinion of the crown attorney, the facts placed before the justice of the peace were only consistent with the police officer performing his duty when he took Miss Horn into custody as a result of the original charges, and consequently, the justice of the peace did not exercise his discretion to issue process against the police officer.

We advised Miss Horn, that she did, of course, have the right to attend before the justice of the peace again if she had any new information, or she was free to attend before a different justice of the peace having jurisdiction in the area. However, it was also made clear to Miss Horn that there is no authority under The Criminal Code for this department to order a justice of the peace to issue process as a result of the complaint. This always must remain a question of discretion with the justice of the peace, who is quite properly entitled to call upon a crown attorney for advice on the legal aspects of any complaint. Having advised Miss Horn to this effect, we did further advise her that we would answer any specific questions that she might have, but we had no further correspondence from her in this regard.

Under the circumstances, Mr. Speaker, I feel that we have been completely fair with Miss Horn and have done everything possible to assist her respecting her remedies and also to advise her as to the matters generally relative to the charges. They were properly dealt with, and as I have already noted, she was acquitted on the charges.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury has the floor. He will get the other answers from the Minister of Justice later.

Mr. Sopha: I should like to ask the Minister of Transport when we might expect action from him directed toward regulating the use of motorized snow vehicles in this province in order that we may move as a society toward the protection of those who use them?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked a question and he is now incorporating it into a statement, which is not permissible.

Mr. Sopha: Well, all right. That is the question: When might we expect action directed toward the regulation of the use of motorized snow vehicles in this province in light of the 41 deaths that have occurred this winter from their use?

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Sopha: That is the question.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, we have on the statute books the law, Motorized Snow Vehicles for 1968, and have been gathering information—as I have intimated to the members of this House, I think, on two or more occasions—trying to gain what knowledge we can from an analysis of the statistics that have been so far collected, and we anticipate introducing amendments to the said Act.

Mr. Sopha: I think what we need is a new Minister of Transport.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr)—does he have a question?

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker —

Mr. Speaker: It refers to Yorkview?

Mr. Young: Yorkview.

Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management, which perhaps I should delay for a few minutes. However, I think I shall ask him now. I think he just received a copy of a letter written to one of his Ottawa confreres. Could I ask him this: Has his department monitored in recent months the amount of carbon monoxide in the air at the Malton airport?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I cannot say for sure whether or not we have specifically monitored the air at Malton international airport. We have certain monitoring areas where we have equipment set up all over the city and, of course, we get our information pretty well as to the condition of the city from these areas. But whether we have one specifically for the airport, I cannot say with any accuracy.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, could I ask the minister whether, in the light of certain information which I believe has just reached him in connection with a survey undertaken by Pollution Probe recently, he will now look into this carefully and take action to ascertain whether this information is correct? If so, will he see that this situation is rectified immediately for the benefit of those who are employed there?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, the letter or information to which the hon. member refers was just handed to me this instant, you might say. It is a copy of a letter to the hon. Donald Jamieson, federal Minister of Transport, with some readings that were taken by Pollution Probe at Toronto international airport. I will look into the information contained in this letter and ask my air management branch for a complete report, and to verify, if possible, these figures.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Is the minister aware that there is now a phosphate-free detergent being sold in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I have heard some rumours to this effect. I am not sure of the particular company or brand of the phosphate-free detergent. The information I have as of now is that it is in fact just a soap; it is really not a detergent. However, I am following this up.

Mr. T. P. Reid: By way of supplementary, I have a box here I will send over to the minister—

Mr. Speaker: That is not a supplementary.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I would ask the minister, Mr. Speaker, in light of the alternative that is now available, if he will move, or have his

department move, in banning detergents using phosphates in the province of Ontario?

Mr. Speaker: That, of course, is a matter of government policy which should not form part of the question, but the minister—

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask by further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, then, if the minister is going to bring legislation forward?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated on a number of occasions in this House, I favour federal legislation in respect to phosphates in detergents, for obvious reasons. However, if, shall we say, by the time we adjourn for the summer there is no indication that the federal government intends to introduce such legislation, we will do so this year.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has the answer to a question asked by the member for Wentworth the other day.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, Mr. Speaker, it relates to the Ord-Wallington failure. I would report to the member that the documents of the clients are on their way today by registered mail.

I was also asked, Mr. Speaker, as to whether the department planned to do anything, or could do anything, for the clients of this firm. The answer is that all our procedures have been exhausted.

I may say, Mr. Speaker, that I referred yesterday to a contingency fund that was being set up to protect people in the position of being clients of this firm. I might clarify the situation by saying that there will be no retroactive effect as a result of the establishment of this proposed contingency fund.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary? In view of the remarks by Judge Deyman when he dismissed the criminal charges against Ord and Wallington, does the minister contemplate any further review of the possibility of laying additional criminal charges?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The department took note of the judge's remarks and referred the matter again to The Attorney General's Department. It was reviewed a second time, and again the opinion was that appeals could not be successful.

Mr. Singer: Not appeals, further charges.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, I was dealing here with appeals.

Mr. Singer: By way of further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, I was not referring to appeals. I asked specifically if alternative criminal charges cannot, or should not, be laid.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Other charges were part of the consideration that we asked to be undertaken by the Attorney General's office. I have just noted here that the other charges were brought to the attention of the Attorney General's staff and they, as well, were reviewed again.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kent.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): I have a question to ask of the Minister of Justice. Has the minister made a decision yet whether charges shall be laid on those involved in payola in the distribution of fruit and vegetables in this province?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I could not hear the question, I am sorry.

Mr. Spence: Has the minister made a decision yet whether charges shall be laid on those involved in payola in the distribution of fruit and vegetables in this province?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The answer is no.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: I have a question of the Treasurer of Ontario.

Why does the province of Ontario see fit to borrow money on the New York debenture market at 9.35 per cent, when at the same time the province of Manitoba is borrowing on the bond market in Canada at 9.05 per cent, and the city of Montreal is borrowing at 9.25 per cent?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member. I think he should probably be aware by now that Ontario borrowed for the Hydro account yesterday at nine per cent, at par, a 24-year debenture.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Their credit is better than the province's.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: People have great faith in this government.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: So the point, Mr. Speaker, that I would make, in further reply to the question, is that it has been a very fluid capital market, and the interest rates have changed very frequently over the past few weeks.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question with regard to that matter.

I wonder if the Treasurer can explain to the House why he undertook to borrow $100 million on the New York market at 9.35 per cent, with very general repayment provisions, whereas the offer he gave to the people in Ontario was not so generous—just about a month later offering only nine per cent bonds which have to be held to maturity?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I suggest, Mr. Speaker, the answer to that question is very simple. Bonds are sold, as is any other commodity, in the light of the market of the day.

Mr. Nixon: Why did he not sell those things six weeks ago right here?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, there is a limit to the availability of capital in any jurisdiction. A $100 million loan could not have been placed at the time the hon. member makes reference to in terms of amount. It could not have been placed in terms of the competitive rates. The loan of a month ago could not have been placed at the time it was made—unless these extendable features had been attached to it.

The government of Ontario, the Treasurer, or Hydro, is advised in these matters by a syndicate of investment dealers who actually purchase the bonds. The government sells the bonds to a syndicate of investment dealers. At that point in time it is their responsibility to merchandise them. If they do not sell, they are stuck with them.

So the negotiation takes place in New York with the New York syndicate and in Ontario with the Ontario syndicate, but the purchase and sale arrangements are made in the—

Mr. Nixon: The people in the syndicate were from Toronto, were they not? The same bunch?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I am attempting to answer the question.

The bonds are sold in the light of what they can be sold for at the time of the purchase and sale transaction and it has just been fluid, as I have said, over the past several weeks.

It was very interesting—and I think the House would be interested to know—the sale of the $55 million of Hydro bonds yesterday reflects the first downward trend that we have witnessed in many, many months and I think it is very gratifying.

Mr. MacDonald: Send a note to Mr. Trudeau.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Justice has answers to certain questions from the Liberal benches—from the members for Downsview, Parkdale and the Leader of the Opposition. Would he wish to give them?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I have an answer for a question asked by the member for Parkdale on February 26. The question was:

> In view of the fact that a firm here in Toronto, Cadet Cleaners, is forcing its employees to take lie detector tests, and prospective employees must take lie detector tests, would the Attorney General take any action to safeguard employees, or any other member of the public, being forced to take lie detector tests?

Mr. Speaker, on February 26 that question was asked and I undertook to look into the matter. I have now had an opportunity of understanding in more detail the nature of the test that was being requested and the purpose for which the test was being sought by the employer.

At the same time I have considered the context in which the hon. member framed his question. While the subject is novel in our law, I am aware of no statute or common law principle which might be said to prohibit the use of a polygraph test, either as a precondition of employment, or as a subsequent term of employment.

Both the employer and the employee have a legitimate interest which they will naturally and properly seek to protect. The employer is interested in acquiring from unknown applicants an employee who will be truthful and honest and responsible in the discharge of his duties as they relate to the handling of cash. Similarly, the employee is interested in his own rights and privileges with respect to his prospective employment.

In the resolution of the mutual interests of these two people it becomes incumbent upon each of them to decide to what extent he is willing to vary his own requirements and principles in the interest of his other objective, whether it be the gaining of a position or the gaining of an efficient employee.

The request that was made by this particular employer does not, in my view, contravene the provisions of The Ontario Human Rights Code, which is directed toward forms of discrimination and not toward a type of right which is inherent in the nature of the question which has been placed by the hon. member, and I have looked carefully at the human rights code.

Mr. Trotter: There is no question that they have no protection.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It would no doubt be a matter of opinion as to whether it was in good taste for an employer to make such a request of an employee. But, at the same time, it must be borne in mind that there are other areas of employment where the employee may be asked to take some action which in some ways is either a fetter upon his rights, or is, possibly, an affront to some of his more sensitive concepts.

I would mention, as an example, the requirement that a person who undertakes a position in the public service must be required to take an oath of secrecy. Obviously, in this case, it is in the greater public interest to provide some confidential aspect for the free communication of civil servants with their superiors. If the civil servant is willing to acknowledge that this is reasonable, then, of course, it becomes a question between himself and his employer.

At the same time, other employers may require a specific type of character, or testing, for the purposes of employment, such as a special driver's test for a person who will be driving vehicles. It therefore follows whether it is unreasonable that an employer who is seeking a high degree of honesty in an employee should be able to ask an employee to take some special type of test directed toward a particular aspect of a person's character.

In the circumstances, Mr. Speaker, I felt I should comment upon some of the principles involved in the hon. member's question, although the short answer is that there is presently, in my view, no law which would prohibit an employer from requesting such a test by a mechanical device—and I mention particularly a mechanical device, not the drugs type of test—by a mechanical device of an employee prior to his employment, nor in asking that an employee take such further tests as a result of a contractual obligation.

In our rapidly developing area of law, it is possible that some new concept may develop in the future which would consider that such a provision might be unenforceable, because it might be against public policy. At the moment that would be simply conjecture.

It may be that law in this area will be necessary. At the moment there is none and, as I have indicated, the parties are free to make it a part of the contract between the two parties.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question. Would not the Attorney General recommend that legislation be passed to plug this loophole? It is an obvious infringement of civil rights. Will he not do something?

Mr. Speaker: I would draw to the attention of the hon. member that he asked a question and then he added his own comment.

Mr. Trotter: I asked if he would do something.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask that the members do not do that, otherwise they are taking up time that could be used by answering and asking questions. Does the minister wish to reply to that or will he go on to another question?

Mr. Trotter: He is evading the issue, that is all.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I will go on to another question, Mr. Speaker. I have an answer for the hon. Leader of the Opposition, who has just moved to the sidelines and he can perhaps listen.

The question the Leader of the Opposition asked was respecting the enforcement of federal regulations respecting cyclamates. I am now in a position to offer a reply, which is that the federal government undertakes the enforcement of federal laws, except for The Criminal Code of Canada, the enforcement of which comes under the jurisdiction of the Attorney General of the province. In some cases, by mutual agreement, the province may undertake particular enforcement and prosecution responsibilities, but these are the exception rather than the rule.

Proceedings for the enforcement of the federal laws are taken from the procedures prescribed in The Criminal Code, and in the case of proceedings under a federal statute other than The Criminal Code, the Attorney General is defined as being the Attorney General of Canada. The section providing for this is subsection 2 of section 2 of The Criminal Code, which reads:

> Attorney General means the Attorney General or Solicitor General of a province in which proceedings are instituted to which this Act applies—

That is, The Criminal Code.

> —and with respect to proceedings instituted by the government of Canada and conducted by and on behalf of that government in respect of a violation of, or conspiracy to violate any Act of the Parliament of Canada, or a regulation made thereunder, means the Attorney General of Canada.

In the case of the federal statutes, in the regulations which are outside or other than the Code, the Attorney General of Canada has the jurisdiction to conduct prosecutions, as under The Food and Drug Act.

That is the legislation to which the hon. member's question relates or applies—The Food and Drug Act. I think the hon. member is aware that drug prosecutions are carried on or enforced by the federal Attorney General and Minister of Justice and by the RCMP generally, so far as the law enforcement is concerned. But this is not an area for the Attorney General of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: Unfortunately, the oral question period has now expired and the hon. leader will be able to ask his supplementary tomorrow, perhaps as a question.

Petitions:

Mr. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton), from the standing orders and procedures committee, presented the committee's second report which was adopted:

Your committee has carefully examined the following petitions and finds the notices, as published in each case, sufficient:

Of the township of Ameliasburgh praying that an Act may pass to enable the township to make financial arrangements to pay for fire fighting equipment.

Of Walter H. Prince and others praying that an Act may pass incorporating Camp Shahwundais.

Of the city of Owen Sound praying that an Act may pass enabling the corporation to obtain benefits under The Community Centres Act with respect to an auditorium and skating arena.

Of the city of Toronto praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to collect certain expenditures by instalments in the same manner as municipal taxes and for other purposes.

Of the city of Peterborough praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass a bylaw for prescribing standards for the maintenance and occupancy of residential property.

Of the Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company, Limited praying that an Act may pass authorizing the company to sell lands, buildings and other assets pertaining to its freight switching business in the city of Cornwall.

Of the town of Oakville praying that an Act may pass to establish the Oakville Parks and Recreation Commission.

Of the city of Barrie praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to order the removal or demolition of buildings which are in a ruinous state.

Of the city of Niagara Falls praying that an Act may pass confirming the agreement between the corporation and Niagara Monorail Limited.

Of the city of London praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass bylaws for compulsory snow removal in respect to certain roads.

Of the city of Sault Ste. Marie praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass auto noise bylaws and for other purposes.

Of the town of Brampton praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass bylaws prohibiting the sale of confections from vehicles on any highway or park.

Of the Excelsior Life Insurance Company praying that an Act may pass authorizing the company to apply to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs of Canada for letters patent continuing the company as if it had been incorporated by an Act of the Parliament of Canada.

Of the city of Kitchener praying that an Act may pass authorizing the corporation to pass bylaws for Christmas lighting on certain streets.

Of Robert Frederick Smith praying that an Act may pass reviving the charter of Dennis Realty Company Limited.

Of Robert Frederick Smith praying that an Act may pass reviving the charter of Wentworth Radio and Auto Supplies Limited.

Your committee recommends that Bills Pr35 and Pr36 to revive the charters of Dennis Realty Company Limited and Wentworth Radio and Auto Supplies Limited, respectively, be considered at the last meeting of the standing private bills committee.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Mr. Winkler, from the standing private bills committee, presented the committee's first report which was adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Ontario.

Bill Pr7, An Act respecting the County of Peterborough.

Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Springdale Christian Reformed Church.

Your committee would recommend that the fees, less the penalties and the actual cost of printing, be remitted on Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Ontario, and Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Springdale Christian Reformed Church.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

TOWNSHIP OF AMELIASBURGH

Mr. Whitney moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Township of Ameliasburgh.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF BARRIE

Mr. Evans moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the City of Barrie.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF KITCHENER

Mr. De Monte, in the absence of Mr. Breithaupt, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the City of Kitchener.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWN OF BRAMPTON

Mr. Kennedy moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Town of Brampton.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS

Mr. Spence, in the absence of Mr. Bukator, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the City of Niagara Falls.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the City of Peterborough.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE

Mr. Smith (Hamilton Mountain), in the absence of Mr. Gilbertson, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

WENTWORTH RADIO AND AUTO SUPPLIES LIMITED

Mr. Spence, in the absence of Mr. Bukator, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Wentworth Radio and Auto Supplies Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION ACT

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Schools Administration Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Pitman: The purpose of this bill is simply to initiate a change of direction in the administration of our schools. The legislation now places upon the shoulders of the principal, responsibility for every activity on school property, from the life style and academic success of every child to the care of the school lawn and trees. This amendment encourages teacher participation in the operation of schools and hopes to initiate administration by committees of the staff rather than by a single individual.

CITY OF TORONTO

Mr. Whitney, in the absence of Mr. Price, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the City of Toronto.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Mr. De Monte moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Excelsior Life Insurance Company.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF OWEN SOUND

Mr. Sargent moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the City of Owen Sound.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

Mr. Deans moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Public Health Act.

Mr. Speaker: When was notice of this bill given?

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Notice was given, sir, on the first of March.

Mr. Speaker: For public bills I need to have the notice put on the motion.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the bill is to ensure that no drug will be sold, or offered for sale, in the province of Ontario, to which The Pharmacy Act or The Proprietary Patent Medicine Act applies, without that it be contained in a container that is child-proof.

Mr. Sargent: How about shin pads?

Mr. Deans: Ankle shields?

DENNIS REALTY COMPANY LIMITED

Mr. Worton, in the absence of Mr. Bukator, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Dennis Realty Company Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF LONDON

Mr. Bolton moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the City of London.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CORNWALL STREET RAILWAY, LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, LIMITED

Mr. Villeneuve moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company, Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CAMP SHAHWUNDAIS

Mr. Peacock moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Camp Shahwundais.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWN OF OAKVILLE

Mr. Villeneuve, in the absence of Mr. Snow, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Town of Oakville.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

THE RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE ORDERS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 1, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Why has he got the word "of" instead of "or"? Mr. Speaker, I would like an explanation from the Attorney General as to how this serious error now being corrected in Bill 1 could possibly have happened?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): It is beyond comprehension, Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE BILLS OF SALE AND CHATTEL MORTGAGES ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 4, An Act to amend The Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Downsview?

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that we have an amendment to The Chattel Mortgages Act of 1967 before us but obviously the question is how long does it take before a statute that we passed over three years ago—in fact prior to the last election—finally comes into force and effect?

This is an Act that has had great attention by members of the profession, the Catzman committee, the law reform committee, the Attorney General, this House—and we talked about it often. We in this party supported the bill on its way through in the spring of 1967, hopefully expecting, Mr. Speaker, that

the course of the administration of justice would move a little more quickly than at the snail's pace which it appears to do.

We still have not got the Act in effect. As I read the explanatory notes, the primary purpose of this bill is to provide for the easier functioning, or the more efficient functioning, of the new procedures in relation to bills of sale and chattel mortgages. We all know that the system that was going to be set up related to central registry and the use of modern business equipment and machinery, computers and that sort of thing, so that by and large in this fashion the administration of justice could be made more efficient and more speedy and the public could be better served by working out this system.

I suppose, Mr. Speaker, it is not too much of a point to wonder how long it takes before these reforms come about in this province of Ontario. We have grown used to the fact that the Tories move very, very slowly, but even when they apparently take a bold step, the fact that it is well over three and a half years before this step can be meaningful in the province of Ontario causes one to wonder what has been happening in The Department of the Attorney General that necessitates this delay.

I cannot find any great fault in principle with the amendments that are suggested, but until we see how the bill is going to function, Mr. Speaker, we in the legal profession really have no idea how well we planned three and a half years ago.

In the meantime the situation continues to deteriorate; in the meantime the method of ascertaining whether there are valid and outstanding bills of sale and chattel mortgages affecting chattels in various parts of the province stumbles along on an old-fashioned system inaugurated probably 100 years ago.

We, in the profession, who have to assume the responsibility of telling our clients whether or not they are buying unfettered chattels, have to wonder whether or not our searches, although made to the best of our ability, are in fact exact; whether or not a chattel that is being dealt with in York county might, in fact, have some encumbrance against it in Simcoe county or in Essex county?

The whole object of the 1967 Act was to modernize this system. I say, Mr. Speaker, that the time has come to demand from the Attorney General that he and his department officials move more quickly, because I think this is a brand new record; three and a half years from the enactment of a bill that was going to herald this great reform and we still have not got the bill in operation.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Lakeshore.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): The bill, Mr. Speaker, does three things, as far as I can see. It makes for the uniformity of information going into a central registry. The point is well taken by the hon. member for Downsview; the delay will be explained away on an electronic basis; but the communications between us on any basis as to the laxness of The Attorney General's Department in this regard, really needs explanation.

The second thing the bill does which is highly beneficial—as I see it as an erstwhile practising lawyer—is that it removes a very great abuse that used to be pulled by the sharper boys, particularly in bankruptcy applications, where by finding a technicality within the registered chattel mortgage or bill of sale; particularly chattel mortgages, they were able to invalidate it on purely technical grounds, and technical grounds of no great merit either.

There is a present judge of the Supreme Court of Ontario who was an expert at this. I remember being knocked down on occasion, in this regard. He would find some flaw in the wording, such as the use of a full name set out, and not just initials, or he would find some question of wording as an escape clause, or a date that was wrong. These terms were construed as material and he would bring it to the attention of the judge, and the chattel mortgage would disappear into limbo. His client then would step up a notch on the ladder. By the time he had finished decimating the troops, he was up at the top of the ladder and he advanced his client's cause very greatly, but to the great annoyance, to say the least, of the members of the profession.

This abuse, which has persisted for a long time, has been obviated and eliminated in the body of this new bill, and let us be thankful for it. Why should lawyers win on the basis of straight pettiness, because something of a technical nature was done wrong, or even of a misprint or an inaccuracy which does not go to the root of the matter and which yet may avail somebody else.

The final thing it does, as I see it, is that it brings the chattel mortgages and bills of sale, finally, into line with the registration periods of conditional sales agreements. That is a three-year registration, and the business of having to search in the court offices yearly

for the one, and every three years for the other—as far as renewals are concerned or the expiries on the other hand—has always seemed to me some kind of a discrepancy. Certainly it is better to move forward to the three-year period rather than back to the one.

Mr. Speaker: Does any other member wish to speak to the principle of this bill? If not, the hon. Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of the hon. members. The bill, while short, does accomplish, I think, some very important improvements in this area of personal property security. I admit, with reference to the allegations made by the member for Downsview, that perhaps it is a brand new record for the time that we have taken, but I would remind him that in The Personal Properties Securities Act, which we passed in 1967, we contemplated and set out a three-year period to accomplish the aims and objectives of that legislation to bring in The Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act, The Conditional Sales Act, and other personal properties security Acts.

The reason was, of course, that first of all we have a very large province. We are seeking to set up a central registry of a very large volume of personal property securities to achieve the objective that a citizen, particularly the lawyers who advise the citizens in this area, would be able, in any part of this province, in any county or district town, any office where these documents are recorded, to make a search, and know at once, quickly and across the whole province, not just in his county, what encumbrances relate to that particular piece of property security. We felt it would require three years, because this is a computer installation—and I do not like to stand here and sound boastful—which will be something new, something not accomplished to this extent anywhere else.

We knew it would take time to programme the computer to make the material machine-readable and to work out any bugs or defects which might appear as we moved toward this new process. This we have been doing. We are getting close, I think, to the time when we can install this system and have it effective so that it will not be, perhaps, guilty of mistakes, because this is a very important area of security, in which money will be invested and money will be loaned.

So we have taken the time deliberately. It is a brand new record because it is a brand new deal, and I accept the expression but I do not feel at all embarrassed about it. It was planned that way and that is the way it has to be if you are to achieve the measure of perfection we want, and we want complete perfection.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Attorney General would accept a question? His three years having elapsed, would he dare to predict how many more years it is going to be before we achieve this degree of perfection that he is talking about?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The hon. member's premise is wrong. The three years have not yet elapsed.

Mr. Singer: The spring of 1967 to the spring of 1970.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, this is not yet quite spring and The Personal Property Securities Act was passed in, I think, June or July of 1967.

Mr. Singer: Well, close enough.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We are getting very close.

Mr. Singer: Getting very close! Another three years and we should make it.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Some hon. members: No.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the bill be referred to the committee of the whole House?

To the standing committee?

Is it agreed?

Some hon. members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The bill shall be referred to the standing committee.

I neglected to determine the procedure and disposition of Bill 1. Shall Bill 1 be ordered for third reading?

Some hon. members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Agreed.

THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE CROWN ACT, 1962-1963

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 5, An Act to amend The Proceedings against the Crown Act.

Mr. Lawlor: My remarks will be very brief on this bill. This bill removed an anomaly. In the old days, and not so long ago, there was an immunity in the Crown against suits. The king could do no wrong and even if he did all kinds of wrong and admitted it, you could not sue him for it. In the province of Ontario, during the nineteenth century there grew up the method of procedure called the petition of rights, and the peculiarity in the province of Ontario was that you could obtain a petition of right to sue the Crown. In effect, the Crown was agreeing to permit itself, of herself, or himself to be sued, by way of a fiat from the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

This has been permitted for many years, with respect to the supreme court under section 7 of the Act itself; with respect of the county courts, and finally they have come to the division courts. Why the division courts were left out previously puzzles me, but it finally rounds out the whole court system and permits the Crown to be subject to suit even in the small claims court.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sarnia.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Perhaps this does not flow directly from the bill as a matter of principle; perhaps, Mr. Speaker, you will indulge me. There is a principle that is bothering me and I want to refer, if I might, to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, from his throne, given to us on February 24, 1970. It says on page four as reported in *Hansard*:

> To this end, proposals for revising the jurisdictions and procedures of our courts will be placed before you.

What bothers me, Mr. Speaker, is if we are adding an additional jurisdiction to a certain extent to the division court, I would like the comment of the Attorney General as to just where we are going with the comments of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor. The divisional court has been a court that has bothered me. I vote myself out as no great counsel, but it has been a court that has bothered me for years. I frankly do not like to go there, but I hesitate to see the involvement of the public there.

I mentioned that to the Attorney General, when we were discussing, in committee, The Landlord and Tenant Act and some of the rights given to landlords which were justifiably, Mr. Speaker, taken away from them under that statute, as well as the fact that they are going to have to have recourse, as is the public generally, to this court, more so than they had in the past. In point of fact, I think I speak in principle because we are enlarging the jurisdiction of the court, perhaps in a technical fashion, but notwithstanding that we are enlarging it.

What is bothering me is that in the small claims court, which the average citizen has recourse to quite often, it is a difficult procedure for them and a costly one, and so I invite the comments of the Attorney General when he speaks about, or at least when the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor speaks about a reorganization and a revision of the jurisdictions and procedures of our courts. What is going to be done in connection with enabling the public to get to the division court more easily? I just think it is incomprehensible that at times we must spend $18 to file and serve a claim in that court that involves a dispute of some $26.

We must make the procedures more summary in connection with that court.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the hon. member is really speaking to the bill before us, The Proceedings against The Crown Act?

Mr. Bullbrook: Let me try to rationalize the fact that I am, by saying this; that this bill extends the jurisdiction of that court. I am suggesting to the House that there will be people in this province who might have the right and entitlement, if you take action in the division court under the provisions of this particular statute, sir, and I am therefore attempting to direct my request of the Attorney General, notwithstanding this particular statute, to determine the overall intention of his department in connection with revising the jurisdiction and procedures of the division court.

I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that there must be people who will want to avail themselves of this particular statute through the division court proceedings. I recognize that perhaps I am a little bit ambivalent in connection with correctional institutes.

Mr. Speaker: Well, the hon. member has me. I will give him the benefit of my doubts.

Mr. Lawlor: Thank you very much, sir. That is distinctly it. We are going into further statutes before us today, discussing the total question of jurisdiction and procedures before all the courts, and I think we are very much concerned with this.

Mr. Speaker: Does any other hon. member wish to to speak to this particular bill? If not, the hon. Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member was, I think, if he would admit it, outside the principle of the bill. You were good enough to indulge him. Perhaps you might indulge me a moment to deal with the question he raised.

This bill, let me first say, speaking to the principle, is simply to extend the right against the Crown which the division court did not have, perhaps through oversight, when proceedings against the Crown were admitted by suit in previous legislation. Persons going to the small claims court did not have that right, and master and servant was somewhat in that area too. This bill provides that the Crown, if it is the master, may be sued by its employee or servant and the person going to the small claims court may also sue the Crown.

Ranging a little beyond the principles of the bill, as the hon. member did, I must say that I was not aware that dealings were as difficult as he makes out, or as expensive. I noted that in the example he gave, he said to sue for a claim of $26, to file and serve such claim, might cost $18. When you include service, of course service depends on mileage that one has to go. It could very well be that you might have a very large portion of that $18 taken up in the service of the claim. There may be a charge of 18 cents per mile, or whatever it may be, for the bailiff.

I would be glad to look at the situation, but generally my observation of the procedures in the division court is that they serve well, at no great expense, the person who wishes to collect a small account, and that the service is quite efficient. It is a court in which one may go without counsel and the formalities are not great. Generally the judge who presides in the division court is the same judge who presides in the county and district court.

Mr. Singer: Except in the county of York.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Except in the county of York, but generally you get the same quality of judicial consideration on the bench of division court as you do in the county and district courts.

Mr. Singer: Except in the county of York.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: What I am trying to say, Mr. Speaker, if you will be good enough to indulge me for a moment longer, is that in the county of York I have urged upon the chief judges and upon the committee of judges that the county judges take their turn and serve in division court.

Mr. Singer: Why does the Attorney General not direct instead of urging?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, there are ways of dealing with these matters that are sometimes more effective than directives. However, Mr. Speaker, this is all really outside the principle of the bill. I appreciate your indulgence.

Motion agreed to: second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall Bill 5 be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 6, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, there are two things in Bill 6 that bothered me a bit, and the same suggestion relates to the second part of Bill 11, which I understand is going to be called next. This bill purports to extend the powers of the public trustee to invest in investments while the Treasurer of Ontario (Mr. MacNaughton) and Minister of Economics may invest public money under section 20 of The Financial Administrations Act. By itself it seems like a good idea, except that I wonder, when the Attorney General suggests that the public trustee has this power, and later on when he suggests that the accountant has this power—and I suppose somewhere along the line the official guardian should have the power. Just what arrangements is the government making to provide the proper kind of advice that should be available to these public officials when they are investing trust moneys in their control?

It would seem to me that perhaps the time has come that all trust money within control of governmental officials in the province of Ontario should perhaps be held by the Treasurer of Ontario, and that the expert advice that is available to him should be used in deciding which kind of investments are going to be employed for the best protection of the people who own money. What really is being done now is to have a variety of public officials, the public trustee, the accountant in the supreme court, the official guardian—so far as I know, in any event—go off on their own and become their own investment councillors. Later on, when we get to the estimates of the Attorney General, I am going

to have some remarks about the public trustee's functions and the official guardian's and the accountant's.

It would seem to me that since we are now broadening the scope to be allowed to these officials for the investment of trust moneys under their control, that the time has come to re-examine the whole system. My suggestion would be that the Attorney General perhaps delay a bit on this bill, perhaps not push it any further at the present time, until he has had a chance to look over the whole scene and determine, perhaps, after discussions with his colleague, the provincial Treasurer, as to whether or not there might be more sense in allowing the provincial Treasurer, who has access to these experts, to determine how trust moneys are going to be invested. That is point number one.

The second point, Mr. Speaker, is this: I have in the past suggested that where public moneys are held by public officials in trust for members of the public, that rates of interest be paid on those moneys which are somewhat commensurate with the earning ability of those moneys at the time the moneys are being held. It has been, with great reluctance and much dragging of feet, that we managed to put the interest rate up or had the interest rate directed up from three—what is it now—to five per cent or six per cent?

As this power is extended it would seem to me the public trustee could at this moment invest in a province of Ontario bond, or Hydro bonds, or if he ran down to New York he could probably buy a province of Ontario bond at 9⅜ per cent. If he wanted to stay here in Toronto, he could buy a Hydro bond for nine per cent. It would seem to me that if trust money is earning interest, while in the hands of the public officials—that the persons entitled to that interest should be the persons who are beneficiaries of those trusts. And that the money should not accrue to government.

It would seem to me that as we revise, or perhaps attempt to modernize, the control of these trust moneys, that some arrangement could be spelled out whereby the people who really own the money are going to benefit from whatever rate of interest, less perhaps administration costs, is available on the market from time to time.

As out-of-date as the three per cent was a few years ago when we talked about it when the interest rate was raised, the six per cent rate is just as out-of-date today, Mr. Speaker, when money can earn, without any risk at all, at least nine per cent and probably much more.

If there is that benefit to be achieved from the holding of other people's money, it seems to be only logical and reasonable that the earnings and benefits of that money accrue to the people who belong to the money and not to the government of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, the more I talk the more convinced I am that really this bill should not be presented to us for second reading at this point, but that it, along with the second section of Bill 11, should be withdrawn by the Attorney General for the time being and perhaps introduced at a later stage.

In the meantime, he can perhaps investigate a little further with his colleague the Treasurer to see whether or not in these three offices I mention—perhaps there are others that do not come to mind immediately—a system cannot be set up where the Treasurer holds, on behalf of these officials, trust moneys, so that he has the advantage of this expert advice; and secondly, whether or not some phraseology can be worked out—and I am sure that the parliamentary draftsmen can do this with ease—so that a provision can be made that where trust moneys are held by one of these public officials the persons who own those moneys will benefit to as full an extent as possible from the interest those moneys can earn.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Before the hon. member goes further, will he permit me to point out that the question of who gets the interest earned or how much he gets is not part of this bill and is really outside the principle we are proposing?

What is proposed here is to broaden the base of investment—a limited base presently in which the public trustee might invest funds, and we have sought by this proposed legislation in this bill to give to the public trustee—as does the next Bill 11 give to the accountant of the supreme court—the right to invest in those same securities in which the Treasurer of Ontario may, by virtue of The Financial Administration Act, invest funds of this province. It is a broader, wider base.

Mr. Singer: Is this the minister's reply or just an interjection?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, no, I am pointing out to the Speaker that a great deal of the remarks of the hon. member for Downsview were about how much of this do you pay to the *cestui-que* trust?

Mr. Singer: The minister knows exactly—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is what he was saying. But I am saying that what this bill does is to give the public trustee a wide base of investment. That is all the bill proposes. That is the principle of the bill.

Mr. Singer: But, Mr. Speaker, if I may resume, I recognize exactly what I was saying. The Attorney General is quite right. I made two points: one perhaps is not exactly germane to the principle, but once we start talking about public moneys and how they are trust moneys and how they are going to be handled and used by public officials while they hold those moneys in trust, I do not think reasonably you can separate the method by which the investment is going to produce interest. So I think it is all part and parcel of the same principle.

I am suggesting that the Attorney General withdraw this Bill 6 for the time being and withdraw subsection 2 of Bill 11 for the time being, until they can report to us in some detail as to whether or not these suggestions are feasible, because it would certainly seem logical to me that there be one source of advice for investment and one method of investment of all trust moneys held by government officials. I think that is quite simple.

At the same time, and part and parcel of it, can there not be worked out a system whereby when these trust moneys earn interest, that the people to whom the trust moneys belong get as full a benefit of the interest that those moneys earned as is possible? Just as simple as that.

Mr. Speaker: Any other member? The hon. member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: The first point made by the hon. member for Downsview, Mr. Speaker, has some validity—a good validity, in my opinion. His second point is really not on. As for the first point I think it can be fortified and given greater scope by the reference to section 20 of The Financial Administration Act which is under discussion. This Act was fairly recently, in 1968, altered considerably. But prior to that time, the investments could be made to the government of the United Kingdom, or "to any colony," as they put it. But that was taken out in 1968. But it reads at present as:

> The Treasurer, when he deems it advisable for the sound and efficient management of public money, or of the public debt, or of any sinking fund, may from time to time, and on such terms and conditions as he may deem it advisable, purchase, acquire and hold a very wide range of securities—

And there are four subsections.

Requiring a considerable amount of expertise as to your selection, or as to your principal selection among the various kinds of securities—some of them emanating from the provinces of Canada, some of them coming from the United Kingdom—they may purchase securities issued by the United States government.

There are a wide range of securities here. Again, an expertise as to the principle of selectivity would be in order. The securities issued and guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction can be purchased under this Act. Finally—and I would have liked to have looked into the reasons for this, I suppose it is safe enough—that "deposit receipts, deposit notes, certificates of deposit, acceptances and other similar instruments issued and endorsed by any chartered bank to which The Bank Act of Canada applies," are suitable and fit so far as this Act is concerned.

Why should there be a diversity of agencies as the member points out? On the one side, with the official guardian—eventually no doubt, with the public trustee, with the Treasurer's department, with the various Crown agencies—seeking to borrow money on the capital market, or to deal in moneys, why cannot that be centralized, rationalized and given direction in a way that will maximize the benefits flowing into the estates of mentally ill people, and to the range of jurisdiction that the public trustee exercises?

There is a good deal of pith and substance to the position taken by the hon. member for Downsview in this regard, and considering the range here that can be dealt in, I would suggest that some good thought be given to the suggestion.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sarnia.

Mr. Bullbrook: I want to add a few words, sir, irrelevant to the question of expertise, but I associate myself entirely with what the hon. member for Lakeshore has said. It is inconceivable to me that you are going to give a degree of latitude to the public trustee that you do not even give to the Treasurer of Ontario. Because, if you look at the wording of section 20 as it has been read by the hon. member for Lakeshore, it puts an onus on the Treasurer of Ontario.

It says: "The Treasurer, where he deems it advisable for the sound and efficient management of public money . . ." I agree, perhaps, Mr. Speaker, that this is a subjective evaluation to be exercised by the Treasurer of Ontario, but under our form of responsible government, at least the Treasurer of Ontario can be called upon by this Legislature to account to us the reasons for him deeming it to be advisable for the sound and efficient management of that public money.

Both in section 2 of Bill 11, which is coming up, and in this particular bill, the minister has not given concurrent responsibility to the public trustee. He said in effect, to the public trustee, Mr. Speaker, he can invest in anything that the Treasurer of Ontario can invest in, but he does not have the collateral responsibility of deeming it advisable for the sound and efficient management of those moneys he is managing.

So I invite your consideration, Mr. Attorney General, through you, Mr. Speaker, how would the department, or more importantly how would this Legislature bring to task a public trustee in connection with the investment of funds if he were inefficient and if he were outside what is obvious soundness in connection with the investment of funds, because the Treasurer of Ontario has that responsibility to us under The Financial Administration Act. The minister has not attempted to give the public trustee that responsibility.

So I add to the comments made by the hon. member for Downsview generally—more specifically on the question of expertise—the additional query: Why should it be open to the public trustee to invest where he wishes along with the Treasurer of Ontario, but not to be subject to any statutory strictures whatsoever as to responsibility, either to the estate, or more importantly responsibility under the statute to this Legislature to account for his proper management?

Mr. Speaker: Does any other member wish to participate in this debate on principle? The hon. member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I only have two comments. I would like to know from the Attorney General where the initiative for this change originated and whether it is solely for the purpose of making it symmetrical with the other statutes, or whether there is some sound investment reason why the public trustee, at this point, has decided he would like to have—or the government has decided the public trustee should have—enlarged investment powers.

It seems to me rather strange that in enlarging the powers of the public trustee, the minister does not give him the same ambit that he gives a trustee who is subject to the provisions of The Trustee Act of the province. The trustee, under The Trustee Act of the province of Ontario, is permitted to invest, not only in most of the types of securities as provided in The Financial Administration Act, but also in a somewhat wider category of investments—for example, in debentures of any loans corporation or guaranteed investment certificates in any trust company which is registered under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act of Ontario.

I am not purporting, Mr. Speaker, to be exhaustive about what the powers of investment of the trustee are, but I am curious as to why the public trustee should be limited, even though this new clause widens the ambit of the investment powers which he will have.

Mr. Speaker: Any other participants? If not, the hon. Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, if I might, I would like to speak to the question raised by the hon. member for Riverdale first and inform the House that the initiative for this change really arose in The Department of the Attorney General. It arose particularly, through what we call the advisory committee to the public trustee and to accountant—the same committee, actually, with one or two personnel differences, on which there are two members of the Treasury department: Mr. Holmes, I believe, and Mr. Kennedy, as the public trustee's advisory committee. I think that the public trustee is Mr. Ken Parfitt for The Department of the Attorney General and the accountant, so that the initiative arose there. This recommendation came forward from that advisory committee.

The situation was, as you know, that a year or so ago, the rate paid to beneficiaries who have funds in the hands of the public trustee, and who are entitled to it, was a very low rate; I think three per cent or in some cases lower than that for some time. We looked at that situation. It was raised in my estimate, and members of the opposition were good enough to point it out. We undertook a study of it, brought it up, and I believe it is now 6½, I think, or somewhere in that neighbourhood, and this recommendation that we broaden the base came forward from that advisory committee.

The public trustee and the accountant for the supreme court, who is mentioned in the next bill we shall be dealing with, number 11, are confined to investment securities issued by the province of Ontario or guaranteed by the province of Ontario and/or Canada. I believe that is the limitation of their powers of investment at the moment, either to the government of Ontario or the government of Canada.

I do not know where the reference to section 20 comes, but the section that I have is in The Financial Administration Act, chapter 41 of 1968, and the section is section 10. I am reading from the statute, and this will deal with the question raised by the hon. member for Sarnia, who has left the House for the moment. The language is:

> The Treasurer, when he deems it advisable for the sound and efficient management of public money, or of the public debt, or of any sinking fund, may, from time to time, and on such terms and conditions that he may deem advisable, purchase, acquire and hold . . .

Then there are four categories of investment.

> (A) Securities issued by or guaranteed as to principal and interest by Ontario, any other province of Canada, Canada or the United Kingdom.

So, immediately we have not only Ontario and Canada, but any other province of Canada and also securities issued and guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United Kingdom as well. And then:

> (B) Securities issued by the United States of America.

So there is an additional clause in which an investment may be made.

> (C) Securities issued or guaranteed by the International Reconstruction Bank for reconstruction and development, payable in Canadian or United States currency.

A further base of investment. And then:

> (D) Deposit receipts, deposit notes, certificates or deposits, acceptances or other similar instruments issued or endorsed by any chartered bank to which The Bank Act of Canada applies.

As I say, the initiative came from the advisory committee on which there is Department of Treasury advice and it does give the public trustee a wider base to invest so that he may get, presumably, a better return. But you will note these four areas, A, B, C and D of section 10, are all a gilt-edged type of securities. I know there was discussion, actually, Mr. Speaker, as to whether such things as certain types of stock which had paid dividends over a period of time without failure and so on, might be permitted, and this is permitted, of course, to trustees under trust companies where one puts money in voluntarily. We thought it was not wise to go beyond that, and this, however, is a broadening of the base.

I would like to speak to what the hon. member for Sarnia had to say about the Treasurer having the responsibility expressed by the language of the sections. If he would read with me the subsection 1 of section 10, I think the language there does not relate to the nature of the security at all. I think it is simply saying that the Treasurer, in the course of his business, when he deems it advisable that he has to raise money for the province, or he has to establish a sinking fund, or has to convert a debenture issue, as he deems it advisable, he may do so.

It is not a case of his passing judgement on A, B, C and D. The judgement is passed by the statute. It says, "Here are the gilt-edged securities in which you may invest the province's money".

Mr. Singer: Each heading has a number of subheadings.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, but, with respect, I think my interpretation is right that when he deems it advisable for the sound and efficient management of public money—that means he has a debenture issue in hand—if there is a conversion privilege, for instance, and it is paying seven per cent, if he can buy it at five he may then, in his judgement, invest in these securities.

But I do not think that language has any reference to the particular type of investment. I think the whole tenor of that general language is relating to giving the Treasurer power to move, if he sees fit, in the circumstances of the particular situation, as he sees fit for the sound and efficient management of the province's debt—but not relating to A, B, C and D as to any question of accounting, if he invests in those securities—

Mr. Bullbrook: If I might, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: I might just point out to the hon. member that I will not object to a question at this point, but strictly speaking it is out of order. A very brief question to the Attorney General.

Mr. Bullbrook: I am sorry, I did not realize that. I thought we were entitled to beg the

indulgence of any of the ministers during the course of their remarks.

Mr. Speaker: The procedure during second reading, which is debate on the principle of the bill, is that there is no limitation on the time any member may speak, but each member may speak only once before the minister replies. I do not know that there has been any change in the procedures.

Mr. Bullbrook: I did not realize that a question was equated with speaking.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I understood, Mr. Speaker, you would permit a brief question?

Mr. Speaker: Well, under the circumstances, I simply pointed out to the hon. member for Sarnia that debate back and forth across the floor of the House, as it appeared was going to take place, is out of order. However, since he has asked a question only, he may do so and the Attorney General may reply.

Mr. Bullbrook: I appreciate that very much. If I might clarify, Mr. Speaker, I had not intended at all to enter this debate, because I must say I think I am taken by the explanation given by the Attorney General.

Am I correct in understanding what the Attorney General is saying is that the words "advisable for sound and efficient management" relate to the administration of funds within his care and not to the exercise of any discretion in the investment of the funds—that the discretion is within the statutes?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Perhaps I would not word it quite like that, but I think that is the general idea—that the Treasurer is limited. He is given a limitation to the gilt-edged type of security, guaranteed by government, as to principle, interest, and so on.

That language in the preamble of the section, if I might call it that, is: "Mr. Treasurer, when you see it necessary to convert a bond issue, or borrow money for the province, in your opinion, as you deem it advisable for sound management, you may then do so, provided you invest in these four types of investment." I think that is the sense.

The hon. member for Downsview raised the point which I submit, Mr. Speaker, is still outside the principle of this bill. If I can get his attention I would like him to get this point—that is the question as to how much of the return on the money should be paid to the person who is entitled to the funds and the interest therefrom.

As I say, the interest rate was really low—beyond justification. It has been raised. Perhaps there is a point here that some rule might be brought about, say, at one per cent less than the total return, something of that sort—if it earns eight per cent, a person is entitled to seven. But I think some portion must be retained for administration. The public trustee, the official guardian, the accountant at the supreme court, do have to keep records, record the money, record the earnings, the type of security in which it has invested and so on.

I think perhaps there is something in what the hon. member says, that a rule might be derived, a rule by which we could go. But this bill was only designed for the present to broaden, as I have pointed out, the base of investment.

I would put it this way: I would not want to withdraw the bill. I do not think the hon. member would quarrel with the principle of broadening the investment.

Perhaps we could let this bill go to the legal bills committee. I do not think it would be difficult, if we were to agree in that area—that if an amendment to broaden its proposals were agreeable as a matter of policy we could insert it in this bill.

I do not want to withdraw this bill. I want to get on with this widened investment for the public trustee, as I do in the next bill for the accountant of the supreme court.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Mr. Singer: No, legal bills.

Mr. Speaker: Legal bills—that is the standing committee?

Agreed.

THE JUDICATURE ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 11, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, there are two principles in Bill 11. The principle in section 2 has already been discussed under the previous bill, so I will not repeat it.

I think the same argument applies. When this bill is dealt with by the legal bills com-

mittee, I would hope that the Attorney General will be prepared to amend this bill, Bill 5 and two or three others that are under his jurisdiction, so that there will be one central financial adviser. Certainly at that time we will introduce amendments to this effect.

I debated this afternoon about dividing the House on this point. It is an important point. We will have other opportunities and I serve notice on the Attorney General that that will be our intention if he has not some kind of amendments that we feel appropriate to this situation.

Insofar as section 1 is concerned, which has an entirely different principle, the Attorney General proposes that the high court shall now consist of a chief justice and 29 other judges. The explanatory note indicates that the effect of this would be to increase the number of high court judges from 26 to 29; now we are adding three more.

In the high-toned language given to His Honour to read on opening day, there were these very fascinating two or three sentences:

> To further safeguard the civil rights of the people of Ontario, the historic protections which we all enjoy will continue to be woven into the fabric of our laws.

I do not think that was the Attorney General's sentence. It does not sound like him. It sounds like someone else—maybe that fellow Reynolds who hangs around here wrote that one.

> To this end proposals for revising the jurisdictions and procedures of our courts will be placed before you. These and other important matters reflected in the reports of the hon. J. C. McRuer will merit the full consideration of the Legislature.

And to that last sentiment I say, sir, amen!

However, we are not taken into anyone's confidence as to why section 1 of Bill 11 arrives before us. In light of the preaching we have tried to do, insofar as the administration of justice is concerned, over many years; in light of the suggestions we have made of having the courts sit in the summer time, of readjusting the responsibilities of the supreme court and the county courts and so on; in light of those somewhat heartening phrases in the throne speech, one would have thought that the Attorney General would have presented to us a new plan for our courts. What, in fact, he does is to say, "Give us three more supreme court judges."

Now, perhaps, we need three more supreme court judges; I would not deny that for a moment. The court lists are long and it takes a long time to get on to trial in the county of York and perhaps in some other jurisdictions I am not so familiar with.

I wonder where the Attorney General is going to put the judges after he gets them, and there has been action taken in Ottawa. The new court house on University Avenue is certainly pretty full and I do not know that the efforts being carried on by The Department of Public Works at 145 Queen Street West are going to be that speedy, or result in that much more space, or if we are going to have too much more room available for these judges. However, if we need them, let us get them.

What bothers me, Mr. Speaker, is the basis on which somebody has come to the conclusion that we need three more judges. Why is it not five? Why is it not 10? Why is it not one? What theory does the Attorney General have in mind when he says: "Give us three more supreme court judges?" Is there anything in these words contained in the Speech from the Throne that is meaningful?

Has there really been consideration given by the Attorney General and his advisers to a reorganization of our system of courts? Is the number 29 related to the population of Ontario? The number of cases on the list? The number of lawyers that we have? The different jurisdictions and responsibilities that are being given to the court? The new responsibilities under The Landlord and Tenant Act, and so on?

We are in the dark, Mr. Speaker, when we get this kind of a bill. In past years we in this party have supported the request of the government when it said, "Give us some more judges," whether it be supreme court or county court, because we presumed that, hopefully, there was some reasoning behind it. Perhaps the time now has come to ask some serious questions and to do the best we can to put the Attorney General in the position where he is going to have to tell us what is his theory of the administration of justice in the province of Ontario. What are the functions of our courts? How many judges should be have? What are the criteria? What does it relate to? What are these words in the throne speech supposed to indicate and how then do we proceed?

Just by itself the request for three more supreme court judges, Mr. Speaker, is to my mind not of any great significance. Those of us who recognize that the supreme court lists move very slowly and trials are often delayed, would probably say, "Let us have

some more judges". But why, how and where do we go from here?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak on the second part of the bill without, I think, repeating what was said on the preceding bill.

Mr. Speaker: Without having the bill before me, is the hon. member referring to sections of the bill, or is the bill in parts?

Mr. Singer: Sections 1 and 2.

Mr. J. Renwick: There are two sections to the bill, Mr. Speaker, and as the member for Downsview said, there appear to be two principles—

Mr. Speaker: A multi-purpose bill in other words. I will accept that.

Mr. Singer: Dual purpose.

Mr. J. Renwick: A dual purpose bill.

Mr. Speaker: I will accept that.

Mr. J. Renwick: I am going to confine my remarks to this investment problem, which was touched upon in the preceding bill but here it is in a different context.

The bill before us amends one of the sections, section 107, of The Judicature Act, and that section 107 is in itself composed of eight subsections which set out more or less, a complete code respecting the powers regarding the investment of moneys which have been paid into court. For example, it sets up the finance committee to be composed of three persons, and in this case, as distinct from the preceding case, it is a statutory committee which is charged with the responsibility. And here I would like to pick up the comment which the member for Sarnia made: " . . . specifically charged with the responsibility for the control and management of the money in court, and the securities in which it is invested and the investment of such money."

It goes on to provide that the finance committee will also provide for the payment of interest upon any money paid into court, and may fix the rate of interest so paid. That is the point which the member for Downsview had dealt with. Then it continues in like vein, and the Attorney General has introduced this amendment to incorporate the investment of funds in the same types of securities as are provided under section 20 of The Financial Administration Act—and the Attorney General and others have enumerated those classifications of securities which are now going to be available for the investment of moneys which are paid into court.

I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, I just do not happen to know, who the three members of that committee in fact are since they are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. I would like to know why it was not considered necessary, in the preceding bill, to also have such language about the control and management of the money in court, the securities in which it is invested and the investment of such money? I would also like to know why the Attorney General has seen fit to draft the clause in an imperative tense, even though the initial decision has got to be made as to whether or not the money is in fact available for investment? This is a discretionary decision which the committee would have to make.

Then on a minor point, I do not understand why, when he is amending or changing subsection 5 of section 107, he leaves the tag end of subsection 6 which refers to investments in debentures of municipal corporations, but at the same time he does not enlarge the scope of the investment power of this executive committee to include municipal debentures. Therefore it seems anomalous that subsection 6 of this particular section 107 should remain in the form it is.

I would ask the Attorney General, as I asked earlier on the preceding bill, why it is not possible for these powers of investment to be broadened from the point of view of money paid into court? Although this approach may not be appropriate for the Treasurer of the province of Ontario when investing public funds, in the case of moneys paid into court I see no very good reason why it could not be invested in debentures or guaranteed investment certificates of loan or trust corporations incorporated in the province particularly, to use the Attorney General's phrase, since they are "gilt-edged" now, and are guaranteed for any individual account up to an amount of some $25,000.

It would seem only appropriate that the moneys paid into court should have this wider ambit. I make the other comment that this section of the bill, as I have stated, has this reference to the control and management of the money in the court and the securities in which it is invested, and imposes those obligations by statute. I would hope that the Attorney General would consider those points and comment upon them in due course.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Speaker, just briefly, I have two points. The first: whether the increase in the number of judges from 26 to 29 is really necessary in view of a putative restructuring of our courts. If certain jurisdictions are to be removed from the supreme court judges, as we believe is certainly mooted; or, rather than taking away jurisdiction a litigant, particularly in divorce and family matters may have an election as to whether he proceeds with it in the supreme court or in another court, either a family court specifically set up, or a county court before a county court judge, this would certainly afford enormous relief to the supreme court judges of the province.

There are other forms of structuring that have been talked about, particularly the area of criminal jurisdiction. This was all thought out and worked on and brought before us. I think it very well may be that no increased number of judges would really be necessary in the county of York.

Another thing, in terms of restructuring, if it is necessary—if that is conclusively in the mind of the Attorney General. It does not have to be a formal kind of structuring; why does he not given some cognizance to the idea that has been kicked around here in a number of debates?

There are 29 judges of the supreme court. Why can they not be given designated tasks or fields in which to operate? Let it be done legislatively, saying that three—I am not saying which three—will be clearly responsible for, or primarily responsible for, say, taxation law, or where they become expert. In criminal jurisdiction, or in corporation matters, or in one or another of the wide number of fields which are becoming highly specialized fields.

It is all right for us to have thought in past days that a judge of the supreme court was competent in the whole range of the common law and statute law—of all the British jurisdiction. It is simply no longer true that his competence extends thus far. Specialization is an ever-increasing force well recognized by the law society now.

It may even come very shortly that we will designate ourselves specialists in this or that field, rather, than competent in all fields supposedly, and judges likewise. But no awareness of this, or no cognizance of this special delegation within areas of responsibility, is given in this legislation.

I therefore seriously question the necessity of increasing the number of supreme court judges at this time, particularly in the absence of the principles of justification for so doing. Namely, not just that the court load is heavy —Lords knows that it is—but with a view to incorporating, not just McRuer's recommendations, but the common sense recommendations of alleviating judges from tasks which are of a routine nature; tasks which do not require the disciplined intelligence that men of that calibre are supposed to bring on things. Sift them down to the lower courts—not that these men may be considered as less of luminaries than their peers of the realm, but some of the monotony, some of the repetitious work of the courts must be delegated to other functionaries, to other systems, so that the weight may be taken off.

The cost of justice continues to rise. I would say it goes beyond an arithmetical rise in the province at this time. Being thus aware of the financial burden to the province, I wonder if the government should not pause and think about this. I do not suppose the urgency is all that great. That in this particular regard there is other legislation in the back of the minister's mind, or hidden beneath his desk, which would obviate this whole difficulty as to having to extend the number of judges.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any other member who wishes to engage in the debate before the Minister of Justice replies?

Mr. Singer: Whatever happened to the new Attorney General's thriftiness?

Mr. Speaker: The minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, with regard to section 1 of the bill—the number of judges, the request that there be an increase from 26 to 29—I would like to assure the House that we surveyed this matter very carefully. Not only have we done a survey of the work loads of all the courts across the province in the past year, but we had discussions with the chief justice of the high court, the hon. Mr. Justice Wells, and assessed his needs. He brought to our attention the work load of his court, which we examined.

There have been deaths on the bench; there has been illness, some judges have been incapacitated. Assessing all the factors—and we did this very carefully, and over a period of time—I must reveal, I think, to the members of the House, taking into account what we have in mind by way of legislation in that language, which was forecast in the Speech

from the Throne, that we do propose to vary the jurisdictions and vary the duties of the judges of the different courts.

I think I might, perhaps, be permitted to indicate that one of the things on our mind is that divorce jurisdiction—I think we have talked about this before—would be, or could be, taken over by the county district courts, and judges of those courts.

Mr. Singer: That is a new idea.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, no. The member asked what—

Mr. Singer: No, we just wanted to be given some idea of what you have in mind.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is one thing.

Mr. Singer: Good.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We have other things in mind and I hope the member will just be a little patient. I will have the bill before him.

What I was just trying to say is that we took into account the things we propose to do in reducing the duties, or sharing the duties, that are presently being carried on by the judges of the high court, in making this very mild request for three judges. Actually, with the increased population, the increased litigation, the increased work load, the loss of judges through illness, death, and so on, we feel that three is the minimum we can obtain to carry on the work properly, even with the contemplated reduction of the duties of the judges of the high court. So, I ask the member to accept my assurance that it was not a figure plucked out of a hat, or selected lightly, but selected only after study and consideration.

I think I was asked by the member for Riverdale what persons comprised the finance committee under The Judicature Act. They are Mr. Ian MacDonald, who is the deputy minister of The Department of Treasury and Economics; Mr. Kenneth Parfitt, who is an accountant in The Department of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General; and Mr. D. P. Holmes, the comptroller of Treasury and Economics. That is the personnel.

The member raised another question, which I was not able to see the point of or the force of, as to why we were expanding the base of investment here; why we did not remove from section 107 the reference to municipal debentures. I think the section makes it clear that any investment must be guaranteed by a province of Canada—by Ontario, or another province of Canada.

I do not know that I need continue on the discussion of section 2 because, Mr. Speaker, we covered these very same points very thoroughly in the previous bill, No. 4, which has, in this area at least, the widening of the base of investment. I want to make it clear that I did not agree—I hope the hon. member for Downsview did not take it that I was agreeing to an amendment such as he suggested. I said that we would discuss it.

Mr. Singer: I know the minister well enough to know that he has never agreed to anything we said until two years have gone by.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Oh, now, now. That was really uncalled for.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): We have been giving him blazes for the other attitude.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think I have been really quite considerate, but I said I would consider the proposals. I just do not want the hon. member charging me with having said I would agree to anything he proposed.

Mr. Singer: I know him better than that.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I will certainly consider it, and I am quite agreeable that the bill could go to the legal bills committee. Perhaps we could deal with it there, if the hon. member for Riverdale would permit. I would be in a position there to fully discuss the point that he raised.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: I understand the Attorney General has stated this bill is to go to the standing committee.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would say this to the hon. members, if I might. Mr. Justice Wells has, for some little time, pointed out to me the difficulty under which he labours with a shortage of judges. There is this further difficulty that, after our legislation passes, after it has had third reading and assent, there is considerable delay in Ottawa.

Mr. Singer: Yes, there might be a few people who would be lining up already for the jobs.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, no. I am not being political, really, about this.

The Minister of Justice at Ottawa tells me that due to their procedures in Ottawa, he has to give some fantastic period of notice in

order to get money into his estimates to pay any judges he appoints.

Mr. Singer: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In fact, he asks for a year of notice, which I think is—

Mr. Singer: Why does the minister not give him a little advance tip?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have told him this, but he says: "I cannot ask till you get your legislation through." So, hon. members, to perhaps hasten this legislation—

Mr. Speaker: This bill will then be referred to the standing committee.

Clerk of the House: The first order; resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Speaker, when the House adjourned last evening I was bringing to the attention of hon. members a report of the highlights of the OWRC programme. I had pointed out that Ontario had absorbed over half the new industry, half of the new Canadians since the end of World War II. Our population had grown from approximately 4,000,000 to 7.5 million. The great increase in industrial development and population expansion, as well as stepped-up agricultural production, had placed an ever-increasing load on our water resources.

I had pointed out that the Ontario Water Resources Commission was established to assist municipalities and persons in a programme to develop adequate water supply and control pollution wherever pollution might exist.

I mentioned a forecast that it would require something like over $2.25 billion over a 20-year period to pick up the backlog and keep pace with the rapid expansion and development that was taking place in the province. I pointed out that between 1957 and 1969 we had issued approval certificates for water pollution control works for municipalities and industry for a total value of over $1,957 million. I pointed out that, in the main, we were receiving good co-operation from municipalities and industry, although at times we have had to use the authority of The OWRC Act when we did not receive the co-operation that was necessary to deal with the problem.

Mr. Speaker, I had mentioned that we had developed between 300 and 400 projects for municipalities under our various programmes, and that there were nearly 300 projects of various types in various stages of development or construction in the mill at the present time.

I had made reference to the announcement the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr), made during the last session, when he announced certain financial assistance in high cost areas and where regional pipelines or area pipelines or works were under construction and oversizing was necessary.

I had also made reference to our programme to control pollution in our recreational areas by requiring boats—pleasure craft with a head—to install holding tanks and cease discharging raw sewage into the lakes.

If hon. members will read yesterday's *Hansard* they will see the reference I made to our Great Lakes programme, and to the programme of our information branch, a programme that I think we will all realize has met with considerable success. In the early history of the commission our staff and information people fought an uphill battle trying to make people aware of the threat of pollution, and I said that I think we have won that battle, because today we find many people climbing onto the anti-pollution bandwagon, and we at OWRC welcome that support.

Mr. Speaker, I want to resume where I concluded my remarks when the House adjourned yesterday.

The water resources division has a number of programmes and I will mention briefly some of the work of this branch.

This branch administers our ground water programme. In 1969, 441 contractors were licensed to carry on the business of constructing wells. These contractors are required to provide the branch with a record of each well, the type of soil or rock where they found the water, the quality of the water, the depth of the well and the capacity of the well. In 1969, some 9,874 records were received. By the end of 1969, we had 142,211 records on hand. Throughout the province a number of recording wells are located. These wells provide very valuable information regarding the ground water tables, and the same is true of the 142,000 records that we have received to date on other wells.

Another programme is the requirement for a permit to take over 10,000 gallons of water per day. This programme became necessary when wells were over-pumped and irrigators and others, including municipalities, used so much water there was not sufficient for their neighbours. The total number of permits issued at the end of 1969 was some 5,994. These permits authorize the taking of 6,545,-770,000 gallons per day. Of this number, some 4,828 permits were issued for irrigation alone.

Mr. Speaker, I want to mention another programme that is under the direction of the water resources division, and that is our northern resources survey. About five years ago, when the levels of the Great Lakes dropped, suggestions were made that we should divert water from the Arctic watershed into the Great Lakes and perhaps sell surplus water to the United States. At that time, I spoke in the Legislature and suggested that before we get into any major diversions we should make a careful survey of our northern water resources and learn more about the dependable flow, the quality of water and the future needs for development in that part of the province. I suggested that since much of our timber and mineral resources were in the Arctic drainage area, we might find it to be sounder policy to build traffic arteries into the area and locate industry in the north and discharge some of our industrial waste effluent into the Arctic instead of putting the added load onto our Great Lakes waters.

We all know that Russia has many thousands of people living above the Arctic Circle. We also know that the most northerly part of Ontario is almost 650 miles south of the Arctic Circle. The government has authorized a survey of the river systems draining into Hudson and James Bays. At the present time, the OWRC studies are on the main rivers, namely, the Moose, Albany, Attawapiskat, Winisk and Severn rivers.

The federal government is conducting certain surveys in the same area, and we co-operate with them. In addition to the northern surveys, the water resources division is engaged in the hydrogeologic studies in five representative drainage basins in southern Ontario, as part of the commission's contribution the International Hydrological Decade programme. This is a world-wide programme making a study of the water resources on this planet of ours. These are but a few of the river valley surveys the commission is carrying out.

Mr. Speaker, before I conclude my remarks, I want to mention two very important divisions of our commission, namely, the laboratories and research. Our field staff and others send in samples of water and sewage for analysis. Since 1956, some 750,000 samples have been submitted and some 3,373,000 tests performed, and in 1969, 685,000 tests were performed on 122,000 samples. These tests provide valuable information for water and sewage plant designers and operators. The commission has a policy of gradually establishing branch offices and laboratories as funds become available. As well as the main laboratory here in Toronto, we have branch offices in Kingston, London, and at the head of the lakes, and plan to open one at Sault Ste. Marie, with a sub-office at Sudbury.

Mr. Speaker, our research division is constantly studying methods of improving waste water treatment systems, searching for economical ways for the removal of phosphates, a subject that is receiving a lot of attention in recent months. Perhaps the hon. members would be interested in some information I have received from our division of research regarding our phosphorus studies. The importance of phosphorus as an essential element in any biological system has long been recognized, and with the present increase in the use of phosphorus in our diet (in soft drinks if you like, and cake mixes, for example) and, of course, in synthetic detergents, as evidenced by the increase of phosphorus in raw sewage from an average of four parts per million in 1948 to the current 10 ppm, it was recognized that the division of research must become involved in studies of the role of phosphorus and its removal.

An investigtaion of levels and removal methods for all major nutrients, including phosphorus, was given high priority in our research programme early in 1963. That was seven years ago. It was soon apparent that three major nutrients, carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus, were involved in the artificial and accelerated enrichment of receiving water, but because of the availability of atmospheric carbon and nitrogen, the control of phosphorus became the natural point of attack. Thus, in 1964, a programme to develop an economical and practical method of phosphorus removal was started.

A definitive answer to the questions of nutrient interaction and the part played by any one nutrient is still not available, and research work is still being carried out in order to direct and refine the studies of

nutrient removal methodology being carried out concurrently.

Studies to quantify the algal response to nutrient inputs have included laboratory and field work accomplished by obtaining samples of lake waters containing numbers of naturally occurring algae, and measuring the population response to the addition of nitrogen and phosphorus singly and together. Certain lakes were used in the study. In no case was the addition of nitrogen alone sufficient to cause an increase in algal population; in not all cases was the addition of phosphorus alone sufficient to cause a population addition. However, this supported the decision to give phosphorus removal a high priority in our programme.

A further study was carried out using effluents from models of various treatment processes developed for full scale use. These effluents were added to tanks simulating lake conditions. This investigation, carried out in 1968 and 1969, indicated that the effluent from a chemical treatment process removing phosphorus provided a dramatically reduced algal growth as compared to that induced by the effluent from a conventional activated sludge process. The effluents from processes providing nitrogen and carbon removal in addition to phosphorus removal were no more effective than that from the phosphorus removal alone. Thus, the programme to develop a full scale phosphorus removal system was given further impetus.

In response to this demonstrated need, a laboratory-scale phosphorus removal system was developed which would apparently give effective, economical results on full scale installations and in April, 1969, was placed on stream as a pilot plant unit at the Richmond Hill sewage treatment plant. The system, involving phosphorus removal by calcium hydroxide—lime—with subsequent activated sludge treatment, was successful and was made public in September, 1969.

Work is now underway to construct four full scale, permanent plant installations of this process, with more in the offing. The initial removal process was designed as an economical modification of existing plants. Work is now underway to develop a new system which could be installed in those cases where no facilities now exist and a completely new waste treatment method is proposed. It is hoped that this process will make the installation of nutrient removal an integral, economical part of all new sewage treatment plants. A trailer-mounted pilot plant is now being prepared for testing in April.

Mr. Speaker, I give this information to the House as one example of the type of research that we are carrying on. Other examples are the aeration of waste stabilization ponds. By this process we can increase the capacity of lagoons. We are doing research on the practical method of controlling cladaphora algae. We are working with The Department of Agriculture and Food searching for a practical method of disposing of farm animal waste. These are but a few of the research projects the division is involved in, seeking better and more economical ways of protecting our most valuable resource—water.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you, sir, and the hon. members of this House, for patiently listening to me give this condensed review of the programme of the Ontario Water Resources Commission; a programme designed to assist municipalities and persons in the quest for suitable water. Water is the key to the future development of our province, our municipalities, industries, expanded agricultural production and a growing recreational and tourist industry.

Let me conclude my remarks by saying that we appreciate the support that we have received, and are receiving, from all hon. members in this programme. I know that you are aware that we are not only faced with tremendous growth and expansion, we are picking up the backlog of works that perhaps should have been built years ago. Let me assure you that on the Ontario Water Resources Commission we have, and have had in the past, men who have made a tremendous contribution in this field. I think the hon. members are probably aware that the first representative of the Legislature on the Ontario Water Resources Commission was the Prime Minister of Ontario (Mr. Robarts). Other members of the Treasury benches who have served on the commission are the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), and the Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Mr. Wishart). These are men who, with their colleagues, in the early history of the commission, fought the uphill battle to make the public aware of the importance of dealing with the problems of water supply and pollution control. Ontario owes much to them and to the contribution they made.

I have had the privilege of serving on the commission since the fall of 1961 and I want to say that it has been a challenging experience to work with a dedicated staff of highly-trained and skilled men and women, and with the members of the commission. I have served under three chairmen—the late Mel Snider of

Waterloo, the first chairman; Dr. James Vance of Woodstock, who was one of the original members of the commission; and the present chairman Mr. Don Collins, former chairman of the civil service commission. All of these men were and are dedicated to public service, as well as other members of the commission with whom I have served, namely, Mr. William Conklin, QC of Kingsville, Mr. Robert Simpson of Arnprior, and the present members of the commission, Mr. Hugh Brown, who recently retired as deputy provincial Treasurer; Mr. Aubrey Moodie, who gave 20 years to municipal life; and Mr. Leo Venchiarutti, a prominent architect in Toronto.

We on the commission today feel that we have a great responsibility to protect one of our most valuable resources, a resource that perhaps was taken for granted too long, namely, our water resource. It is our hope that when our Minister of Energy and Resources Management presents our budget, that we will have the unanimous support of all members of the Legislature giving us the funds to carry on this most important work.

Mr. Speaker, while I speak of the funds that are necessary to finance pollution control works in our municipalities, I want to say that we have appreciated the co-operation we have received in the past from the federal government through CMHC financing. Hon. members are aware that the CMHC makes loans for certain parts of pollution control facilities. This programme has been in effect for some years and has helped municipalities interested in pollution control because of the forgiveness clause associated with the CMHC loan.

I think hon. members should know that we on the OWRC and municipalities planning pollution control works in 1970 may have some cause for concern. I say this, Mr. Speaker, because although we hear a lot of talk coming out of the Ottawa government about pollution control, and we hear of legislation that is before the Ottawa Parliament, at the same time Ottawa is restricting the amount of money that it will make available to Ontario for CMHC loans. The total allocation for Canada for this type of financing is $75 million, and the allocation for Ontario is $25 million. This, in spite of the fact that CMHC has estimated that the 1970 final request for loans will be approximately $65 million for Ontario alone.

Mr. Speaker, I have mentioned that we have some 300 projects of various types for water and pollution control works in the mill. We are anxious to move these programmes forward. We have appreciated the co-operation we have received, but here we have the government of Canada restricting the amount of money they will make available for this programme to control pollution to $25 million for Ontario, when it is estimated that the final request this year will approximate $65 million.

Mr. Speaker, this is hard to understand, if we are to believe the reports we read in the press that the federal government expects to have a surplus of around $450 million. We also know that nearly half of that surplus was collected in taxes right here in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, my only purpose in bringing this situation to the attention of the House is to make hon. members aware that unless Ottawa allocates more money for pollution control in Ontario, one of two things may happen: either the municipalities will not have the benefit of CMHC financing and the forgiveness clause as they have had in the past, or we will have to slow down our programme to bring pollution under control.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that in coming to the end of the throne debate, the opposition parties would withdraw their amendments and give a unanimous vote of confidence in the records of the government and the programme that has been outlined.

If I were going to offer any suggestions to the government, I would suggest that perhaps the Prime Minister and government are too modest.

We are all aware that the sound policies that have been pursued since the Progressive Conservative Party assumed office nearly 27 years ago have made Ontario the most attractive place in Canada in which to establish a home, business, or an industry.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Root: Over half of the new industries that have come to Canada since World War II have established here in Ontario. Our population has grown by 3.5 million people, people who have come from our sister provinces and from all over the world to share in our prosperity.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Root: Those 3.5 million new people have provided a greatly expanded market for the products of our farms, our business and industry.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Root: I am on the throne speech right now; the whole throne speech.

An hon. member: Who writes your speeches?

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, I write my own speeches. If I am going to be hanged, I will hang myself. But I am not going to be hanged on this one. According to the latest edition of the "Ontario Manpower Review," by the government of Canada, Ontario's unemployment figure is 3.1 per cent, while that for all of Canada, including Ontario, is 4.7 per cent. The rest of Canada, excluding Ontario, has an unemployment figure of 5.3 per cent against Ontario's 3.1.

The average weekly wage and salary, according to this review, across all Canada, including Ontario, is $120.89; Ontario's is $124.60. If you took Ontario out of the $120 figure you would find that the spread was even greater. I noted in the same federal report that from January to November, 1969, there were 65,121 housing starts in Ontario. The total for all Canada, including Ontario, was only 158,122.

In other words, we have provided the job opportunities with high wage scales, we have financed our own programmes and provided nearly half of the federal budget, playing our part in the development of Canada, and we all want to do that.

Surely, when we think of our record of achievement, unequalled by any province, I would hope that the opposition members would withdraw their amendment and endorse the Speech from the Throne. Surely they will not try to suggest that the 3.5 million people who have swelled our population from 4,000,000 to 7.5 million were wrong and the handful of opposition members, ambitious for power, are right.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): What about all those who are unemployed?

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, I have just given the House the unemployment figures. Ontario has the best record of unemployment in Canada.

Mr. Pilkey: Yes, let us hear them.

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, these are the facts. Surely 3.5 million people who have come to Ontario to share in our prosperity are not wrong, and this little handful of people opposite, anxious for power, right?

Mr. Pilkey: What about the quarter of a million on minimum wage?

Mr. Root: I want to thank you and the hon. members for listening to my remarks. Thank you.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, not only will we not withdraw our amendment, I shall add a few other things of substance which I consider wrong with this government. But first, I would like to say that—

Mr. Pilkey: The member will be on for a month.

Mr. T. Reid: I would not do that. When we were up in Ottawa a couple of weeks ago, we had a very good convention, Mr. Speaker, and we discussed a number of policies.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. Reid: One of the things that became very clear in Ottawa was that this party is the party that has the next Prime Minister of this province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, there is very little I should really say this afternoon and this evening, as my leader really went into almost every important issue on which this government has not developed a policy.

Mr. Pilkey: The hon. member for Grey-Bruce (Mr. Sargent) is right in front.

Mr. T. Reid: It was a very inspiring speech, sir, and I find myself a bit nervous trying to do as well, or even trying to reach up to the standard he has set.

I would like to speak for a moment as a member from suburban Toronto—Scarborough East—a member who represents a riding which has the last large areas of vacant land available in Metropolitan Toronto. On that vacant land there is a great deal of construction going on. There is high-rise construction in particular, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to draw to your attention, sir, something that came to my attention from an alderman in Scarborough this afternoon. Alderman Shirley Eidt phoned me and conveyed the following information to me. She said that Samuel Kaplan, an owner of apartment buildings, particularly out in Scarborough, had sent a notice to tenants, the notice was dated January 26, 1970. This notice certainly went into one apartment building in the riding I represent at 3950 Lawrence Avenue East.

In this notice to his tenants, Mr. Kaplan referred to the need for him to raise the rents, which, of course, is quite proper. But he also put a PS on his letters. Samuel Kaplan said to his tenants: "You may apply

your 1970 tax shelter rebate to reduce your rent by $5 per month."

At the bottom of the notice there was a tear-off portion, Mr. Speaker. The tear-off portion reads as follows: "I hereby assign to S. Kaplan and Company my tax shelter rebate in consideration of my rent being reduced as mentioned above."

Mr. Speaker, we all know that in 1968 there was an Act passed by this House entitled The Residential Property Tax Reduction Act. Article 4, subsection 3 reads as follows:

> The right of a tenant to receive the reduction of municipal taxes mentioned in subsection 2 is not assignable and may not be waived before or after this Act comes into force.

So my point is that Samuel Kaplan—

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): The member did not read the amendment this speech involves.

Mr. Pilkey: He has another one after that.

Mr. Gisborn: The member is behind the times.

Mr. T. Reid: My understanding of the law is—and I wish the minister was here to straighten me out, if I am in error—that Samuel Kaplan has no right trying to get his tenants to sign a tax rebate.

Mr. Pilkey: Oh no. He shuffled one in on us when we were not looking.

Mr. T. Reid: Well, we will get back to that then. My point, sir, as a suburban member—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): If he cannot get back to it, get up to it.

Mr. T. Reid: I accept that correction if it is true.

The point I want to make, Mr. Speaker, is that it is people like Samuel Kaplan who are abusing the rights of tenants. I suspect that they are going to continue to work at the very edge of the new landlord and tenant legislation.

One of the points I want to make, before getting into some other remarks, is that I believe it is the duty of this government, particularly through the consumer protection bureau, under the legislation of this province, to really take off after people like Samuel Kaplan who are really abusing the basic rights of tenants. I think it is appalling if this government has made it legal for him to get his tenants to assign the rebate; this government is itself lax indeed.

I would like to just add my voice as a member, I suppose, of the urban affairs committee, under the member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) in this caucus, that we are deeply concerned with this type of issue in the urban areas.

The next area I would like to speak to as a private member, not representing the caucus in any way, but representing my personal views, is the Spadina expressway. As we all know, Mr. Speaker, people in Metropolitan Toronto have been rather worked up recently about the Spadina expressway, or the William Allen expressway. Some people claim it is necessary to make traffic endurable; others say it will be a catastrophic solution to the city's transportation problems. Two ministers of this Legislature, Mr. Speaker, have said they will not intervene in the issue. The Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) this afternoon reaffirmed that position. Mr. Speaker, this Legislature must be involved, because provincial money is being used in a totally irresponsible way to finance Toronto's expressway and subway system.

Of course the government of Ontario has no business meddling in the internal affairs of Metro, or Timmins, or Renfrew county, or any other such area of this province. The Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) was not elected to decide policy on street widening in Kensington Market which, by the way is not a rock and roll group but an arena in Toronto, for our non-Toronto members. The Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) is not being paid to adjudicate between residents of North York and the city of Toronto.

But the province of Ontario, and every taxpayer from Windsor to James Bay, has an active stake in Toronto's Spadina debate. The reason is simple. The Spadina expressway is part of the largest municipal transportation system ever projected in Canada. The cost of that system, Mr. Speaker, will be staggering. The total will be up in the billions of dollars, and 50 per cent of the land and construction cost for these expressways and subways is borne by the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton). For that reason, and that reason alone, sir, we need to know what is going on in Metro transportation plans. We, as provincial legislators, cannot take sides on the Spadina debate, but we must make sure that our share of the transportation bill—50 cents out of every expressway and probably every subway dollar—is being well spent.

Suppose the council of Metropolitan Toronto was building a system that was playing havoc with the city's life and future. That, sir, would be none of this Legislature's business. Suppose it was building a system that a great many citizens of Metro did not want. That, also, would be none of our business in this House. But suppose that the transportation system under construction in Metro was going to cost $1 billion more than was needed to achieve the same level of service—in that case we are involved whether we like it or not, because in that case, Mr. Speaker, the province is paying $500 million more than it needs to for Toronto's roads and subways.

We would have to raise taxes across the whole province or cut down other programmes by an extra $500 million over and above a base cost to the whole Metro transportation system. That is something Ontario taxpayers need like a hole in the head.

The province, then, cannot stay on the sidelines if there is any danger that Ontario residents will have to pay $500 million more than is necessary. If there is any danger of that happening, this Legislature must refuse to sanction any further funds for Metro transportation until it is satisfied that the most economical system is being built. Is there any danger of that? Surely Metro would not build a system costing $1 billion more than an alternative transportation system if the alternative gave just as good service.

Mr. Speaker, I must ask you and the members here to first put out of your mind all the arguments you have seen in the newspapers and on television—both the arguments of the advocates and the arguments of the opponents to the Spadina expressway. We know that some citizens of Metro, including several aldermen, are willing to commit civil disobedience and face jail sentences, so strongly do they feel against Spadina. But we must ignore their arguments. They only blur the issue in this Legislature.

We have only one question. How much is the system going to cost, the one in which the Spadina expressway is an indispensable link? On money grounds alone, is it the best system to build? And as a corollary, we must ask what kind of research Metro has done to ensure that it is building the system that best combines performance and economy. If that research is convincing, Mr. Speaker, we can say nothing more about the Spadina expressway in the Ontario Legislature. But if it is not convincing, we had better look a lot more closely at where our money is going.

Mr. Speaker, Metro's basic research on the system is found in its 1964 study prepared by the Metropolitan Toronto Planning Board, entitled, "Report on the metropolitan transportation plan." This document is the product of five years' research by the board. It is the master plan for expressways and subways in Metro. It projects construction for about 50 years to come and recommends an overall system for Metro.

The Spadina expressway is the first major necessary link in that entire system. There is also, Mr. Speaker, the more recent report dated February, 1970, by the staff of the Metropolitan Toronto Planning Board. It is entitled, "A planning review and appraisal of the William R. Allen expressway and rapid transit line." Of course, Mr. Speaker, William R. Allen was the person after whom the planners want to have the Spadina expressway named. It is the same link in the big system by a different name.

I have been reading this latter report with great care and nowhere in it do I find the central issue raised, let alone discussed. Nowhere in this report of last month—a narrowly focused report, review and appraisal—nowhere in it is found a cost-benefit analysis of the alternative system or systems for roads and subways in Toronto found. The review and appraisal is, as its title tells us, only a planning review and appraisal of the William R. Allen expressway and Rapid Transit Line. There are simply no comparative cost estimates in this narrowly focused report for entire alternative transportation systems in Metro.

At least in the 1964 report, Mr. Speaker, various alternative systems were raised, if badly discussed. The latest report, the one of last month, is merely a tinkering document within a given transportation system. I think I should note the report that came out late last month is based on an assumption which rules out consideration of alternative systems. For example, Mr. Speaker, on page 14 we find the following premise of the report: I quote directly:

> Less than 10 per cent of all person/trips made daily are handled exclusively by rapid transit and more than 90 per cent must be handled by private and public transit vehicles using roadways. The possibility of substantially changing this ratio is remote.

That is the premise, sir, on which the particular system recommended back in 1964 was based. And for that particular system, sir, the ratio of roadway miles to transit system miles

is six to one. Not only do I question that assumption of the ability of government through its transportation policy to affect the attitude and preferences of consumers, if you like, of transportation services but I think it is a narrowly focused and erroneous assumption.

I can show the Minister of Highways, as someone who lives out in Scarborough within a one-and-a-half-minute drive from the Guildwood GO station and less than a 10-minute walk from the Guildwood GO station, that a fast transit system within access of my home has led me to change my preferences very fundamentally. I never thought I would ever see the day when I would be one of those guys who got on this train and went down to Toronto to go to work. I wanted to drive my car.

But that GO system works; it works well. The cost is reasonable, even though I do not have to pay parking in front of this building. And I say here that the basic assumption of the Metropolitan Toronto Planning Board concerning the system it is proposing, the central link of which is the Spadina expressway, is based on an erroneous assumption about people's attitudes and their unwillingness to switch over from private transportation to public transit.

I will not go on on this particular point, but in this report, "The review and appraisal of the Spadina expressway," this assumption comes through in many, many places. It is also recorded on page 22, for those who want to follow it up.

The report that came out last month does not consider the basic issue and that is, looking at alternative systems of transportation in the metropolitan area. It is a justification of a single link within a given system that remains unquestioned.

I wish to return to the basic research document; that is, the document of 1964. Scrutinizing the basic 1964 document for cost estimates, we encounter a series of shocks. The first is that no detailed cost estimates are given. They hazard a guess that it will be at least $1 billion, but as we shall see, this is a ludicrously misleading estimate. It is true to say that a new car will cost you at least $500, but when you get the bill for your new car, no matter what model you have bought, you may not be very happy with the estimate.

This is rather surprising, considering the amounts of money involved, however, it is the least of our problems. What is most important is to satisfy ourselves in this House that the system chosen by Metro will not cost any more than necessary.

On page 31 of the 1964 report, the authors explained their method of arriving at the most economical system. The report makes—and I quote directly—"no attempt to arrive at a least-cost transportation system".

That is their method, described in their own words. The candour of this admission is remarkable, but when the implications sink in, it is totally damning. "Least-cost" means cheapest. The Metro planners are saying that they do not recommend building the cheapest system. In fact, they have not even tried to find out what the cheapest transportation system would be for Metropolitan Toronto. They are apparently above all that type of detail.

Having made no attempt to arrive at a least-cost transportation system for Metro, they have no idea whether they picked the cheapest alternative, or the most expensive one. This inspires about as much confidence in Metro's use of provincial money as if their planners had mentioned that they do not understand arithmetic, or know how to use a slide rule.

But, you might ask, how does their recommended system stack up against alternative systems? You can ask as long as you like. Here is the only answer Metro planners give: "The report does not attempt to evaluate the relative cost-benefit ratio of alternative systems." And that quote is found on page 51. "Relative cost-benefit" ratio means whether you get more for your money with the first system, or with the second system, or with the third system. Which one gives you most for your dollar?

What the planners of Metro confess here is that they have never even tried to find out which transportation system gives the best value. If the planners are telling the truth, they recommend a transportation system without asking what its total cost would be, without comparing the dollar performance of alternative systems, and without even trying to pick out the most economical one.

Careful reading of the report shows that they are not being bashful. There is not a word about these things, not even a suggestion as to how to go about calculating them. What is more, Metro approved this report without making any comprehensive study of the cost of the recommended system. Metro has never gone back to see if any of the alternatives mentioned in that 1964 report gave better value for the dollars spent.

It is this system—the system which Metro believes is the best, without doing the research on it—which is under construction with the Spadina or William Allen expressway. It is this system for which Ontario is being asked to put up several billion dollars—the provincial government—out of the budget of the Minister of Highways.

The only conclusion possible is that Metro has done a shocking and irresponsible job of safeguarding public money in planning for this particular system of transportation in Metro. Metro council should have refused to accept its planners' report, though that is its own affair. But the province will be gravely at fault if it gives a penny to subsidize a multimillion dollar network based on this kind of farcical research. It is like putting up half the money to buy a house when you know neither the selling price nor the comparative cost of other houses, and when the real estate agent admits in writing that he has not tried to bargain with the vendor.

So far, so bad, Mr. Speaker. But we might still suppose that this system really is the cheapest one—that even if the planners did not bother working out the dollars and cents, they were guided by their professional instincts. We may not have much respect for this kind of planning, but if it is how Metro wants to conduct its affairs, perhaps we should not interfere.

Mr. Speaker: Is that a good place to break?

Mr. T. Reid: Yes, it is as good as any, Mr. Speaker. I want to go into a continuation of this particular issue.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.

No. 12

ONTARIO

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Tuesday, March 10, 1970

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, March 10, 1970

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. T. Reid, Mr. Lawlor 433

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Lawlor, agreed to 457

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Grossman, agreed to 457

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, before the dinner hour I was elaborating on my views on the Spadina expressway and the transportation system with which it is linked, and I would just like to reiterate the four basic points I made before continuing my remarks and arguments.

The only grounds for the provincial government being concerned with the Spadina expressway is this: The Spadina expressway is a link in a particular system which has been, in effect, approved by the Metropolitan government of Toronto. The quarrel I have, and which I would elaborate on, is that the particular system has not been proven to be what I call, as an economist, the least cost transportation system for Metro; that there has not been a rational analysis of various alternative transportation systems. The reason the province is involved is that the province must meet 50 per cent of the cost, or has agreed to meet 50 per cent of the cost of whatever system is opted for by the Metropolitan Toronto government.

The next point I made was that the recent report by the planning board, the Metropolitan transportation committee rather, of last month, is not relevant to my arguments because it deals only with the detailed planning for the Spadina expressway itself. It does not deal with the system and the alternatives to the present system opted for by the metropolitan government.

And the final point I made before the dinner hour was that I disagree quite strenuously—I suppose on professional grounds—with the basic assumption underlying the system that has been opted for, and that is that no matter what the government sector does, the attitudes of the consumer *vis-à-vis* the public versus the private transportation system cannot be basically changed; and I reminded the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) that I personally, and many other people out in Scarborough and many other people who use the GO Transit system, have had their attitude toward private use of cars versus the public use of the Go Transit system fundamentally changed. Even though I find it more expensive to use the GO system than I do to use my private car, because I drive a Volkswagen and because I do not have to pay for parking here, nevertheless, my attitude toward the public transit system has been changed positively by the fact that that GO train is in existence.

The point I am at in my argument is that the province will be gravely at fault if it gives a penny to subsidize a multi-billion dollar network based on what I call farcical research of valid alternative transportation systems in Metro.

It is like putting up half the money to buy a house when you do not know either the selling price or the comparative cost of other houses, and when the real estate agent admits that he has not tried to bargain with the vendor. So far, so bad!

We might still suppose that this system really is the cheapest one, that even if the planners did not bother working out the dollars and cents they were guided by their professional instincts. We may not have much respect for this kind of planning, but if that is how Metro wants to conduct its affairs, perhaps we should not interfere with it. The truth unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, is quite different.

In its research, the Metropolitan planning board devised three possible systems for roads and subways in Metropolitan Toronto. If we examine two of them, the one they recommended and one of the alternatives, we can see for ourselves that the system Toronto is intent on building is grossly over-priced. It also appears to give slightly poorer service than the alternative they rejected, and to do a great deal more damage to the city. However, those are matters in which we must leave Metro to its own devices. But let us look at the comparative costs of the two systems that were outlined in the 1964 report.

The one now being built, of which the Spadina expressway is an essential link, has a combined total of 226 miles of expressway and subway. The report's figure for expressway mileage has to be adjusted, however,

because it gives the figure in "computer miles," as the minister knows, which measures the distance between the centres of population clusters but not the number of miles of paved concrete that have to be paid for.

To repeat, the chosen system of which Spadina is a vital link, builds 226 miles. The alternative system, which the Metro planning board rejected, had only 169 combined miles of subway and expressway. Thus it would have involved 57 fewer miles of construction. We can calculate how much extra the chosen system is going to cost by calculating the price of these extra 57 miles. The result, of course Mr. Speaker, will be the difference between the cost of the two systems, not the total cost for either.

As the minister knows it is very difficult to get precise cost figures for subway and expressway construction, including the value of the land involved in expropriation. My understanding is that officials in Metro usually say that a mile of one costs about the same as a mile of the other.

The estimates run between $16 and $20 million per mile. Inflation is going to boost construction costs enormously so it is a very conservative estimate, I would judge, to say that a mile of this system, of the present system, whether it is subway or expressway, would cost about $20 million per mile.

At this price per mile, the system Metro is now building turns out to cost $1.14 billion more than the one they rejected. This figure is arrived at by multiplying $20 million by the number of extra miles—57. The result—$1.14 billion—represents the extra money that will have to be found because the Metro planning board chose this system over the other. The share of Ontario taxpayers will be 50 per cent, about $550 million more than the alternative that was rejected in the 1964 report.

Five hundred and fifty million dollars is worth taking a second look at; indeed it is worth taking a third look at!

Unless the chosen system, the present system is markedly superior to the rejected one, there is no reason why the province, why this government and we the legislators in this place, should be asked to shell out an extra $550 million.

So the next argument is what about these two systems? Does the chosen one, of which Spadina is the essential link, give $1.14 billion in extra value?

Both systems, we must remember, use the expressway network that now girds Toronto —the Gardiner, Highway 27 and the 401. And both the systems, the rejected one and the proposed one, use the Don Valley. The two systems differ substantially, however, in what they provide in conjunction with the Gardiner, Highway 27, 401 and the Don Valley, but both were planned with those other highways in mind, if you like.

The chosen system builds six new expressways to the city. The rejected one visualizes seven rapid transit lines instead. Thus of the 226 miles in the chosen system there are over 6.5 miles of expressway for every mile of subway. Of the 169 miles in the rejected system there is just one mile of expressway for every mile of subway. That is to say the ratios are six to one in the chosen system, or roughly six to one in the chosen system; compared to a one to one in the rejected system, what I call the parity system in contrast to what the plan has called the balanced system which is the system they have chosen.

So there are the two systems we are talking about; and let us stack them up against one another to see how they compare.

The question is, how do these two systems compare in terms of performance? We are asking this question, remember, not to tell Metro which is the better system, but simply to find out whether there is some clear superiority in the chosen system that would justify the province, this place, shelling out an extra $550 million for it.

The crucial comparison is the length of time spent making an average trip with each system. Here the figures given in the planning board's report give some astonishing results. This is their own 1964 report. The average transit trip with the rejected system, according to the board's figures, would be 8.5 minutes faster than with the chosen system. The average car or truck trip would be six seconds faster with the rejected system. Essential surface traffic would move more quickly in the rejected system because so much commuter traffic would be underground.

Those are statements and conclusions taken from the board's own report in 1964. In two other important areas, Mr. Speaker, the rejected system also emerges as the winner. It causes the same amount of congestion, 32 miles. But the only downtown congestion in the rejected system is that little patch down by the CPR track on Front Street. By contrast, the chosen system, in which the Spadina expressway is the essential link, jams downtown streets to a very serious degree. That statement is made in full knowledge and with

the full understanding of the report that came out last month.

And finally, the chosen system is acknowledged universally to do far more destruction in terms of homes expropriated and damage to the total city environment, even though they were not cost/benefited out.

So, Mr. Speaker, if we look at the performance of these two systems with a very charitable eye, we might say that they are roughly equal. If we look at them more realistically, we have to say that Metro chose the inferior system. In either case, there is nothing in the system that Metro is building to justify spending an extra $1.14 billion on it. It simply does not produce—according to the planning board's own figures; not in terms of the figures cooked up by any group—quote—"opposed to the Spadina expressway."

So, Mr. Speaker, this brings us to the question which this Legislature and this government simply cannot ignore. Why are we committing the taxpayers of Ontario to $550 million more than is needed to give Toronto a good transportation network? The taxpayers of Metro are perfectly welcome, and I am one of them, to cough up their extra $500 million if that is what they want to do. But why should the rest of the province stand bail for one city's erratic planning and incomprehensible choice. There is no reason whatsoever, Mr. Speaker. The taxpayers of Ontario have more than enough on their plate as it is and a good deal of it is already going to pay for transportation in Metro. To provide an extra $550 million with the extra expense cannot be justified by the results because the rejected system, even on the most unfavourable assumptions, comes out to be equally as effective as the chosen system. And it is $550 million less for us to pay.

The province, in my opinion, Mr. Speaker, has one clear choice to make; now! It must say to the council of Metropolitan Toronto the following: "In itself we have no interest in what you do with your city's transportation and count us out in the Spadina debate. We want no part of it. But your request for subsidy appears to be based on thoroughly inadequate financial planning and so far as we can see, you have gone out of your way to choose an unnecessarily expensive system for yourselves. Until you can demonstrate that this system is actually the most economical we will not approve another penny for it. Please let us know when your studies are complete."

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Our telephone number is—

Mr. T. Reid: And I would urge the members of this House to take that position.

Mr. Sopha: How about that, Mr. Minister?

Mr. T. Reid: And there is one temptation which we all, and in particular the Minister, must resist very strongly. Metro is going to be replying to us, and Metro is going to reply to him the following; this is what Metro is going to come back with, these are the arguments that Metro will make to the minister. Metro will say, will reply, as follows: "We are wondering about the whole system too and we are probably going to review it, but we are half way through the Spadina expressway now and we cannot stop here. Do not waste millions of dollars you have given us for it. At least let us finish it and then we will study the results of the system properly."

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are two reasons that I urge upon the minister, and the government, why these arguments, put by very prominent members of Metro council and its chairman, are hollow arguments. And both of my arguments are financial.

In the first place, very little of the $65 million spent to date on the expressway will be lost by stopping now. Over half of that $65 million went for land and a trunk sewer, and these expenditures will never be losses. The land could be sold at a profit tomorrow.

The bulk of the rest has gone to build the road down to Lawrence. Now no one, even the most fanatical Spadina expressway person, suggests tearing it up. The province will lose only its share of the money that went to prepare the road bed between Lawrence and Eglinton. That amounts to several million dollars. While no one likes to lose several million dollars, it is vastly preferable to losing $550 million. While Metro councillors do not seem to be worried about Metro's extra $550 million—to be blunt about it, Mr. Speaker, they do not appear to understand what they have done—the rest of the province has no interest in playing fast and loose with hundreds of millions of dollars this way.

Now the second reason why Metro's response should be viewed with suspicion is that Metro planners have repeated again and again that the system is a single unit. Metro planners have said that they cannot build a few links and then stop; the result would only make traffic problems worse and would leave thousands of cars spilling off expressways at a few overburdened points with nowhere to go when they got off.

Mr. Hans Blumenfeld, a world-famous city

planner, stresses this fact. If Metro builds the Spadina, it must build the crosstown too. The western end of the crosstown would then create a similar tidal wave of cars, if the Christie-Grace expressway and the 400 extension are not built.

In other words, if we go along with the first part of this system—the Spadina down to south of Bloor—we will find that we will end up going along with the entire system. This basic fact that Spadina is a necessary link, is a vital link and is a core link to the entire system of transportation, is stressed and underlined once again by the staff of the Metropolitan Toronto planning board in their latest report, the one last month entitled "The Review and Appraisal of the William Allen Expressway".

In that report, on page 14, they refer to a "total network of expressways" and so on. Then again, on page 9, they state explicitly that the Spadina expressway, as they have adjusted it, must be seen as part of an overall system. And I quote from page 9 of this report of last month:

> The validity of the Allen expressway—the Spadina expressway—and rapid transit line proposals, can only be measured within the context of the concept of the metropolitan plan.

So there is no question, Mr. Speaker, that the Spadina expressway, and this report still holds to that core argument, that Spadina is part of that expressway system which was opted for in 1964 which has a ratio of 6.5 miles of highway to one mile of subway. We have the planner's own words for it. And in the process we in this Legislature will find ourselves issuing tax bills and raising taxes right across the province, or cutting back on our other programmes to the tune of half a billion dollars more than was needed.

It is worth mentioning that a controller in North York, Mr. Lastman, has a proposal which might, apparently, solve the traffic problem that North York faces more cheaply and more quickly than the Spadina expressway. He advocates using the CN and CP rights of way from North York down to the Union Station, which together form a giant "U", for a rail system. He estimates that the whole system would cost about $20 million and could be in operation within a year.

The Spadina expressway, Mr. Speaker, by contrast, will serve only one part of North York. It will cost about $200 million and will not be open until 1975.

This scheme by Mr. Lastman needs thorough investigation, but Mr. Lastman has so far been unable to find a single authority who says it will not work. So delaying for proper financial study and construction of a more sanely priced system might not condemn North York to worse traffic hardships than now. On the contrary, Mr. Speaker, it might improve the lot of those particular drivers within a year.

In conclusion, what is the overall picture?

First of all, the Metro planning board points out that its planning for the system does not include a budget. It points that out clearly. That it does not try to build the cheapest system and does not compare the value per dollar of the chosen system with the alternative system. From a financial point of view this planning can only be considered a farce.

Secondly, the board did look at an alternative, in 1964, which moved people around the city as fast or faster; and which because it is 57 miles shorter, would cost $1.14 billion less. And for the province that would cost $.5 billion less from the provincial treasury.

Thirdly, the system that now has been started with Spadina is a single unit, if part of the new construction goes ahead it must all go ahead. The Spadina expressway must be re-evaluated and halted until a systematic review has taken place, because if it goes forward it starts a process which cannot be stopped. It represents the final acceptance of an overall system of transportation in Metropolitan Toronto.

Fourthly, the province of Ontario is committed to paying half the costs of expressways and subways in Metropolitan Toronto and it appears, from all the research that I can do, that it is like one of those federal-provincial shared cost programmes; if a municipality keeps putting up the price the province has to pay 50 per cent of an open-ended price. I urge the minister to consider that seriously and at some point perhaps to clarify it for us.

This Legislature will be taking its proper responsibility, Mr. Speaker, only if it asks immediately, and in detail, why Metro expects it to pay $550 million more than is necessary for Metro's roads and subways, and if it puts a complete freeze on any further subsidy until there are satisfactory answers.

As for the request of the Metropolitan transport committee in its February 1970 report that: "The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council approve", and here I quote directly:

> Approve the establishment, laying out, dedication and construction, as a metropolitan road, of the William Allen express-

way from its southerly limit, according to bylaw 2146, at Walmer Road, in a south-easterly direction to Spadina at Ardwold Gate, then proceeding southerly along Spadina Road to the existing northern limits, according to bylaw 3025, at Dupont Street, and commencing again at its southerly limit, according to bylaw 3025, and proceeding southerly along Spadina Avenue to Bancroft Avenue.

I urge the minister to simply say to the Metropolitan Toronto council, when they come to get approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council for an extension of the Spadina expressway down to Harbord, that he will say, simply, that in no way do two wrongs make a right and the basic questions must first be answered before the frills and the other tinkering problems of adjustment are even put on the agenda for discussion between his department and the metropolitan government in this area.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to deal with that particular issue. I feel strongly about it, and in this House I have argued, simply in terms of our responsibility for putting up 50 per cent of the money, that there is no rational basis by which the metropolitan people in this area have given the minister and his colleagues in the cabinet and this Legislature—they have not given us a rational basis on which to make a decision. And I say the onus is on them to prove that they have seriously examined alternatives to the present system.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to turn to an area which is perhaps more appropriately in my own field of concern and that has to do with education, and I am making these remarks as the official opposition critic for education and university affairs.

Mr. Speaker, we in this party want an immediate freeze on new secondary school provincial capital grants pending investigation of incredible cost increases for school construction. We urge an official inquiry into soaring school costs by the Legislature's standing committee on education and university affairs. We feel that this must be an intensive three month investigation of high school building projects, which have nearly tripled the cost per new student place in Ontario since 1959.

Mr. Speaker, costs soared from $1,360 to over $3,580 per student place from 1959 to 1968, and they are still rising. The blame rests squarely on the Conservative government's worn-out, incompetent administration. They simply cannot shift it to either the construction industry or to the unions. It goes far beyond the effects of higher material prices and wage increases during the period. Public funds have, in my opinion, been literally squandered, and the time for reckoning has arrived.

Investigation by the standing committee must go on the road if we, as Ontario legislators, are to meet our responsibilities to the taxpayers of this province.

It is our submission that there is a large credibility gap between what the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) says and what the people see happening across this province in their own schoolyards. There has been serious negligence in the handling of public funds, which has gone too far for too long. We are not, of course, claiming corruption; but we do see evidence of managerial incompetence on a scale that is mind-boggling.

For 1966, 1967 and 1968, well over $385 million was approved by The Department of Education for new secondary school building construction. There has not, Mr. Speaker, been a hard-headed evaluation of the use to which that additional plant has in fact been put, and yet The Department of Education continues right now to issue new approvals for the same kind of school building projects. A government, I submit, Mr. Speaker, that does not bother to find out the consequences of previous decisions has no rational basis on which to make similar decisions for the future.

I want to cast serious doubt, therefore, on the competence of the present Department of Education to carry out first rate evaluation studies on previously approved capital projects; and I shall do this by questioning the department's ability to manage its own internal housekeeping affairs, especially in the area of control over expenditures and accounting records.

Here, Mr. Speaker, is a statement, word for word, from the November 28, 1969, provincial auditor's report, and it is found on pages 18 and 19. I shall read this with absolutely no editorial comment on my part. Here is what the provincial auditor says:

> The report on the audit of The Department of Education dated April 23rd, 1969, contains numerous recommendations and comments, many of which were included in previous reports, regarding the accounting records and controls. The individual branches of the department still appear to act in an autonomous manner in determining the nature of any records which they will keep. The lack of direction in this regard from one essential source has resulted

> in deficiencies in the system and operation and a general reduction in the controls over revenue.
>
> It is again recommended that the departmental business administration branch be given complete authority to determine the type of accounting records to be maintained by each branch, and of the related forms and procedures necessary to adequately control the processing of departmental revenues and expenditures. It should be the function of this branch to exercise a high degree of supervision over the continued use of these records and procedures to ensure that they are operating in a manner that will provide a full accounting of all government funds. The internal audit section (of the branch) has not performed any verification of branch records.

These remarks, Mr. Speaker, by the provincial auditor, Mr. George H. Spence, FCA, who has really very limited authority compared to his federal counterpart and who is known to be generally uncritical of the government's operations, amount to a condemnation of the financial management of The Department of Education.

The provincial auditor has greater faith than I do in the ability of the departmental business administration branch to bring the present sloppy and inefficient expenditure practices of the 13 organizational units and the more than 3,000 members of The Department of Education under control.

How can we expect the people of this province to trust such an incompetent department of government with the mandatory, hard-headed, systematic evaluation of the more than a billion dollars the department approves to be spent on education each year? How can we trust such an incompetently managed department of government to evaluate objectively its own past decisions concerning approvals for new secondary school construction. We cannot. We would get back only the usual platitudes and statements of self justification about why the school building construction costs have been allowed to soar in the 1960s from $1,360 to over $3,580 for each additional student place.

The department is simply not competent to carry out such a sophisticated analysis. It would also have, sir, a basic conflict of interest in such an investigation. This is why I want the Legislature's standing committee on education to take on an investigative role with an outside, independent and skilled investigation staff.

Why, Mr. Speaker, by way of an example, with all the talk by education officials and school boards about the need for more subsidized transportation for students participating in approved school programmes "outside the school," is construction planning still based on the old space requirements per pupil, which assumes the classroom is confined to four walls within a school. Construction costs per student place should be falling, or at least stabilizing, rather than soaring.

I hope that the present Minister of Education will say that the main reason for the fantastic construction cost increases for providing additional space, lay in the heavier per student place cost for vocational and occupational training programmes which were expanded in the secondary school system in this province during the 1960s.

In 1968 about two-thirds—$68 million, of the $102 million spent on new secondary school construction was in connection with vocational programmes in the secondary schools. Another $25 million was for manpower retraining programmes in the secondary schools.

For 1969-1970, Mr. Speaker, we find in the estimates book on page 51 under "Financial assistance to school boards" the following:

> Construction and equipment of additional vocational units per school board and construction and acquisition of accommodation for Ontario manpower retraining programme centres, etc., $70,750,000.

That, sir, is a good deal of money to go into a construction programme in the secondary schools. It represents close to 70 per cent of the money that is going into the new secondary school construction.

At the same time that this government was, and is, pouring money into new secondary school plant facilities for vocational and manpower training programmes; a great deal of the money it was pouring into the 20 new colleges of applied arts and technology across the province was for similar plant facilities.

For example, the construction costs outlay for the 20 new colleges of applied arts and technology were as follows: For the fiscal year 1967-1968—$6,314,000; for the fiscal year 1968-1969—$45,000,000; a jump from $6 million to $45 million in one year.

In 1969-1970, $42 million stabilizing below $50 million a year—that is a lot of money, with $45 million going into the construction of the colleges of applied arts and technology and over $100 million going into the construction of secondary school facilities—two thirds of which were for vocational education.

Some examples of the amount of money going into the colleges of applied arts and technology are as follows, Mr. Speaker. The Kirkland Lake campus alone of the Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology cost over $6 million, and just the Finch Avenue campus of Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology is costing over $4 million. Loyalist College in Belleville proclaims proudly in its brochure: "A full range of technology and technical programmes is offered. The college has the latest equipment and facilities."

Money is being poured into the physical facilities in the colleges of applied arts and technology. In fact, Mr. Speaker, so much money was put into the college of applied arts and technology construction programme—what I call the CAAT programme—in 1968-1969, compared to 1967-1968, that the amount The Department of Education gives to the CAATs to meet the principle instalments and interest on the capital debt for new construction is going to jump seven-fold, or $480,000 in 1968-1969, to a budgeted $3,317,000 in the current financial year.

This heavy expenditure of $45 million last year and $42 million this year on CAAT construction coincides, Mr. Speaker, with the highest ever new construction cost per student place in the secondary schools, out of which $68 million was for vocational purposes. The simple fact is that there is not only massive duplication of expensive vocational and manpower training planned in facilities in the secondary school system and the CAAT system, but the duplication, sir, is growing even greater.

As each day goes by, one branch in The Department of Education approves over $1 million for new vocational and manpower training construction and equipment in our secondary schools, while at the same time another branch of that same department is literally approving hundreds of thousands of dollars for new duplicate facilities and equipment in the colleges of applied arts and technology in this province. It is almost as though there were two branches in The Department of Education in some sort of weird competition for survival to see which can give the most money away.

It would therefore take, Mr. Speaker, an intensive, independent investigation to determine the depth of the unnecessary duplication of capital-intensive vocational training facilities between the 20 colleges of applied arts and technology, with their more than 25 campuses, and the 100 secondary schools nearest to those 25 CAAT campuses. That is to say the extent of the duplication between the 25 campuses of the colleges of applied arts and technology and the high school closest to them—which works out to one in five high schools in this province.

A carefully planned and well administered sharing of such expensive facilities and equipment would not only reduce immediate and long run construction costs, but would also reduce the total annual operating costs of vocational training in the colleges of applied arts and technology and in the secondary schools; over $200 million for the non-academic programmes in the latter for 1967. It would do this and cut the combined operating costs down by reducing the degree of unused capacity in both systems for similar programmes.

I intend, Mr. Speaker, to back up my charge of massive duplication by quoting directly from Department of Education and CAAT publications: (a) concerning the aims and purposes of vocational and technological education training, which are identical in many respects; and (b) concerning the many identical and closely related courses.

Well, what is the similarity in purpose between vocational education training in secondary schools, compared to the stated purposes of technological, vocational and technical training in the colleges of applied arts and technology? My thesis is quite simple, Mr. Speaker. If the aims are the same and the courses are identical, why do we not have co-ordinated programming and planning, particularly in the area of construction?

Well, the secondary schools programme is described as follows, and I quote directly from a Department of Education source:

> The specialized courses of instruction in technical subjects are designed for pupils who have special interests and aptitudes in the technical or practical field of business and industry, and who expect on graduation to enter employment in the type of work for which these studies have a direct practical value. During the first two years, instruction is exploratory in nature and the pupils spend some time studying all or most of the technical subjects available in a particular school. This provides an opportunity to ascertain the special aptitudes and capacities in the interest of the pupil.

There is the stated purpose of the vocational training programme in the secondary schools.

To return to the aims and objectives of the technological and vocational training programme for the CAATs, here is the type of

quotation we get from their publication and indeed from publications of The Department of Education. In the publication of the department entitled "Horizons 1970-1971" we find the following description of the total programme in the colleges of applied arts and technology: "A chance to develop special skills needed by business and industry."

If we look at the Sheridan College of Applied Arts and Technology statement, we find that this is what they say:

> All courses are vocationally directed so that each graduate will be prepared to enter his place in business, industry or a service.

If we look at what the George Brown College of Applied Arts and Technology says about the aims and purposes of its programme, we find statements such as the following:

> The education provided is specifically designed to train, upgrade and expand the horizons of people in particular work skills to meet the needs of today's employers.

We find a reference to the particular technological division of the colleges of applied arts and technology in "Horizons" which makes the following statement:

> The technological division provides a variety of programmes of one, two or three years for apprentices, technicians and technologists.

The point I wish to make there, Mr. Speaker, without belabouring it any further, is that the aims and objectives of vocational training and education in secondary schools as spelled out by The Department of Education is very, very close—certainly overlapping, if not identical—to the aims and purposes and objectives of the programmes offered in the colleges of applied arts and technology. They are particularly comparable to the description of the technological or training courses within the colleges of applied arts and technology.

I simply state again that the aims and purposes are the same in both institutions—both the secondary schools and the CAAT—that there are grounds for stating that there must be gross duplication of purposes, if not in fact.

The second part of my argument lies in the comparison of particular courses which are offered in the secondary school vocational school education programme, particular comparisons between those courses and some of those programmes offered in the colleges of applied arts and technology.

Mr. Speaker, let me put it this way. The secondary school vocational programme offers, for example—and I took this right from department publications—the following courses: air conditioning and refrigeration; machine shop practice; sheet metal practice; welding; plumbing; industrial chemistry; drafting; mechanical, electrical, architectural; auto body repair.

The colleges of applied arts and technology, Mr. Speaker, offer air conditioning and refrigeration, for example, at Fanshawe; machine shop practice, for example, at Algonquin and George Brown; sheet metal practice at Humber, Algonquin, Fanshawe and George Brown; welding, for example, at George Brown; plumbing at Fanshawe; industrial chemistry at Northern and Algonquin Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology; drafting at almost all colleges; auto body repair, for example, sir, at Fanshawe College of Applied Arts and Technology.

My point is simply this, that most of these courses which are offered both in the secondary schools and in the colleges of applied arts and technology across this province require expensive buildings, lots of expensive equipment and many, many well-paid teachers. It is time, we submit to you, Mr. Speaker, that what happens in the colleges of applied arts and technology and what happens in the secondary schools, is planned and co-ordinated and shared to ensure the efficient use of such buildings, equipment and teachers.

It is simply idiotic and irresponsible for The Department of Education to allow two of its branches to each go their own merry, individual and grossly expensive ways. It is time, sir, to paraphrase the provincial auditor in his remarks about The Department of Education, to stop the individual branches of the department from acting in an autonomous manner.

Mr. Speaker, massive duplication is occurring, not only in the area of vocational training in the different educational institutions of Ontario which receive public funds from the same member of the Conservative cabinet.

Take the educational television facilities in Thunder Bay, formerly known as the Lakehead, as an example. My information is that there are three ETV production studios financed entirely or substantially by grants made by the present government. One, at Hammarskjold High School, at a cost of $216,000. Another at Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology at a cost of between $250,000 and $400,000. And one, at Lakehead University, at a cost of about $150,000.

There are also, sir, persistent rumours that the empire builders in the ETV branch of The Department of Education want to slap in yet

another additional ETV facility in Thunder Bay, an ETV broadcast facility, estimated at $3 million.

It is this kind of horrendous example that leads to such a shocked public credibility gap between the statements of the present Minister of Education and what is actually happening in this province.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): He is going to retire anyway. He will have to.

Mr. T. Reid: In one small community, having The Department of Education finance the production studio for the educational television in a high school and then, close by, at a community college and, close to both of those, in the Lakehead University. Imagine the gall, sir, for the planners in the educational television branch, working without coordination, wanting to establish another $3 million ETV transmitting station in that area. That, sir, is irresponsible, and this government should have nothing to do with it.

The shared construction and use of expensive facilities must, of course, go a lot further than just the colleges of applied arts and technology and the secondary schools. It is criminal that the Northern Ontario Regional School of Nursing has planned, in its own autonomous, independent way, to build a separate teaching residence facility just across the road from the Kirkland Lake campus of Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology. The Kirkland Lake campus was constructed with laboratory plant space and facilities for 1,600 students, and has, in fact, today only 244 students, and the ratio of students teachers is five to one.

No attempt, Mr. Speaker, is being made by this government for a joint sharing of expensive facilities, particularly laboratory facilities, over the next five or 10 years between that campus of Northern College and the Northern Regional School of Nursing. That sir, is irresponsible. That type of thing should have been cut out a long time ago.

There is also the issue of the planned coordination of library resource centres in the schools and nearby libraries within the jurisdiction of the 14 regional library systems which make up the provincial library service. Mr. Speaker, both systems of libraries, in the schools and in the provincial library service, receive extensive grants from the same department of government, The Department of Education.

In 1967, for example, Mr. Speaker, the public library boards received grants distributed from a legislative vote of over $6.5 million. So here is another area of capital and operating duplication in expenditures which should come under intensive, systematic evaluation by a group of people who do not have a vested interest in coming out with a particular result.

There is another area, Mr. Speaker, where there is duplication of cost and facilities and programmes. There is a question of uncoordinated construction of athletic and recreational facilities in schools and in the communities off school grounds. As we all know, the Smith report dealt effectively with the chaotic state of grants from this government in this area. We must have integrated programming and integrated planning to cut down construction costs and maintain the services as they are.

A freeze then, Mr. Speaker, on new secondary school capital grants, pending an intensive on-the-road, three months investigation by the Legislature's standing committee on education—independent from The Department of Education, which should have a vested interest in the investigation—is the very least this government must do to maintain a basic credibility with the taxpayers of Ontario.

The top item—we must not be distracted from this—the top item, in my opinion, for the committee's agenda, is an on-the-spot investigation of the present and planned duplication of vocational facilities and equipment between the 20 colleges of applied arts and technology, and the 100 secondary schools nearest to the campuses of those colleges of applied arts and technology.

Mr. Speaker, in concluding my remarks on this area, let me meet two superficial criticisms of the proposal we have made to freeze new approvals for secondary school construction for three months while the members for the standing committee on education find out, for themselves and for the people of this province, the extent of the duplication of publicly financed plant facilities.

The first criticism is that this is a useless exercise. That is a stalling proposal.

Let me put it to you this way, Mr. Speaker. The facts of duplication are there. I have given only a few examples. The facts concerning the duplication are overwhelming, but to a considerable extent they are hidden away from the public's view like the invisible poor. The duplication of costly educational facilities is invisible to the public to a massive extent, but I believe them to be duplicated. The Legislature's standing committee would bring these facts out into the open under the

full scrutiny of the public. I dare anyone to call that a useless or a stalling exercise.

I am confident that this investigation by the standing committee, made up of members of all three parties, and the report of the committee, would have an immediate impact on construction priorities financed out of the public purse, as they relate to the colleges of applied arts and technology and to the secondary schools, the libraries and sports and athletic facilities in communities. A complete re-organization of the more than 3,000 members in the 13 organizational units of The Department of Education would result. The recommendations of the provincial auditor would, at last, be implemented.

For example, I think it would become quite clear from an investigation that the amount of money that this government puts into The Department of Education for the specific purpose of "school plant approvals," which is part of the schools administration branch of the department, is totally inadequate. Mr. Speaker, in 1968-1969, the salaries for those people who are involved in school plant approval—that is over $100 million for the secondary schools alone—have salaries of only $114,000. Their travel expenses were only $7,500, and their maintenance costs were only $12,500, for a total of $134,000. This sir, is peanuts.

This particular section of the department must be beefed-up. It must exercise, not only school-by-school approval, but overall planning and control of new construction programmes for the secondary schools and at least the colleges of applied arts and technology. They must be closely inter-related and co-ordinated. I find it so hard to believe, sir, that this group within the department which is concerned with school plant approval can do its job, or has been doing its job, if they only spend $7,500 doing on-the-site investigations.

Another area where I think the standing committee on education would quickly come up with criticism is in the area of architectural fees. We find that the architectural services branch in The Department of Education is a very, very highly specialized branch; it spends only about a quarter of a million dollars each year. The interesting thing here, sir, is that one of the reasons, the new costs, for secondary school construction in particular, is that the architects locally are taking off 10 per cent.

Now, if you really beefed-up the school planning and building research unit in The Department of Education, I think we could knock down the local architectural fees by at least 50 per cent. Knock them down to perhaps three per cent of the total building costs. Remember, sir, a ten per cent fee to the local school by local architects in a $1 million construction project is $100,000. That is too much. I maintain that if—

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): When did they get 10 per cent?

Mr. T. Reid: The member can find out in his own area. It is 10 per cent.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): But that is their tariff.

Mr. Snow: Six or seven per cent is normal.

Mr. T. Reid: Well, I will provide members with examples.

The point I am making here, sir, is that the standing committee on education would find out that there is no co-operation of planning for the secondary school vocational facilities and the vocational facilities for our colleges of applied arts and technology. I think when they look into that they will find out there is absolutely no managerial control within the minister's department on these two very expensive areas.

So I meet those particular criticisms, of the "stalling tactic," with those arguments.

The other argument against the proposal which we have made is that somehow we are interfering with that mystical thing called local autonomy.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): There is no local autonomy, the chairman of the board says so.

Mr. T. Reid: Yes; and this is exactly the fact, the point itself. The argument is that local autonomy *vis-à-vis* the construction of new facilities is very much limited right now, as any informed observer knows. Not a hole can be dug nor a wall built without the double stamp of approval of The Department of Education—however inefficient that is—and the Ontario Municipal Board. To anyone who says that effective management by The Department of Education under existing legislation over the secondary school building projects for the department is a threat to meaningful local autonomy, I say I am not an apologist for inefficient management. I am calling for a rational, efficient, least-cost allocation of school taxpayers dol-

lars by The Department of Education for construction projects in the secondary schools and in the colleges of applied arts and technology—on an integrated, co-ordinated, systematic basis within the terms of existing statutes and regulations as they pertain to local autonomy. And I maintain, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, that this is a responsible approach for we in this Legislature to take as trustees of the public purse.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak to the throne debate this year I wish first of all to congratulate you.

I suppose I congratulate you on merely lasting. As I whirled around the rink this morning—it just shows what I think of you, sir—you just came into my mind. I thought what a wonderful goalie you might make. I am sure that the member for Kingston and the Islands (Mr. Apps) still has his old prowess, at least the sparkle of it here and there. I intend to approach him about you and would elicit your goodwill in this regard. After all, sir, on that occasion you would have us all in front of you and on your side, which would be a welcome change I am sure. Perhaps we would put Lamoureux at the other end.

I want to congratulate the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) too, for having the perspicacity, that high quality, of adopting my recommendation last year during two splendiferous, if I may say so, and acute speeches on the constitution of Canada. On that occasion I asked the Prime Minister to set up a committee of the Legislature so that we might, conjointly, study the constitution and wise man that he is—I will not pause in my reflections to animadvert about the Liberals, they did not go along with it, you see, on that occasion—however the Prime Minister of this province has done so, and this is a move in the right direction.

The moves in the right direction, as I see them occurring on the other side, are almost glacial in their slowness. The aeons go by and we wake up on the odd morning of our lives and we see a little lichen, perhaps, growing on the rocks.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Pretty tough rocks, hard rocks at that.

Mr. Lawlor: We all rise with hope because there is a gradual erosion of outmoded concepts taking place.

Even the Attorney General of this province (Mr. Wishart) is subpject to this slow erosion. His attitudes, and the perennial, the ancient Tory attitudes towards the ownership of property, are gradually changing—almost imperceptibly changing, but changing—in terms of social benefit and social good and the sense of the social whole; instead of that enduring savagery of the social that the individualism of the past has always represented, to the extent that you hold to that vicious doctrine and many of us in this legislative chamber still do, that it means there simply has not been a dawning of the basic, common consciousness that we are all in the boat together and that we must share with one another.

And that has a great deal to do with this committee on the constitution, because we are gradually coming to see what are the things we share in common in this country; very gradually coming to see. There is a fading light and we reach for it.

It is hard to define. Our poets have not articulated it for us yet. And they are the people who tell us about such things first, because of a certain sensitivity, and tell us that the things we have in common make a difference. As Chesterton said, that the things that we hold in common are infinitely more important than the things that we hold to individually. And with that sense, this committee can begin to grow and get going and make a positive contribution, as I will outline in a moment, to the positive good of this country as a whole and not to a parochial or provincial spirit.

The economic implications of our destiny are becoming daily more apparent, so that even those flatulent continentalists up in Ottawa, much less the thin ones down here, are coming to have a growing recognition of what is involved in the sellout of our birthright for the proverbial mess of potage.

The business of our banking institutions in the past having been protected in their being against the competition of the Rockefeller interests is a case in point. And that was a case, you know, which I took with some misgivings personally, because if any structure in our society ought to be shook up and ought to have a competitive burr put into it, it is that oligopolistic situation with the eight major banks in effect running the country.

It is not true in the United States, it is not true in any other civilized country in the world, the enormous concentrated power of banking in this country. And they have been effective, under the guise of a nationalism and perhaps of their power structure, in effectively preventing other powerful banking interests of

an international ilk coming in to dispute the ground which they consider so hallowed and preserved to themselves.

So when it is done, one looks askance and wonders if it is altogether to the good of a country. While you wish to preserve your financial institutions intact, what a terrible price to have to pay to do so in terms of escalating bank interest.

I shall never forgive Mitchell Sharp! It was Sharp who brought into this country the lifting of the ceiling on bank rates. There was the flaw! There is the source of our internal inflation, and not the imported kind.

There lies the fatal source! How they got to him, I do not know. But you see what has happened ever since. The whole bank and interest structure of this economy, upon which depends the curve of inflation, derive from that single source. May the man learn to rue it.

Not that you fellows are any better. When I think of Fleming, you cannot have very much to say. He converted all the bonds for the predilection of his friends — an equally monumental piece of stupidity in the fiscal community.

But Sharp's error—or was it an error—outweighs what happened there.

We have all heard about Denison in the past few days, and one waits with bated breath the outcome of the power struggle that goes on in the innards of Mr. Trudeau in this regard. Will he capitulate? We shall stand and watch. I am sure they will find some middle ground out of the situation.

In this committee of the constitution I think we will have to come face to face with Trudeauism in all its stupidity so far as the constitution and the way in which he handles this country are concerned.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): I thought the member really admired him.

Mr. Lawlor: In some ways I do. One cannot help but like style, you know.

But in this particular issue, Trudeau in my opinion is dead wrong and he is doing a great disservice to our country and will do so in the future. Trudeau is an internationalist, and therefore he looks down his aristocratic nose at all the pigmy nationalists who believe—and I think this is a fundamental test—that you do not skip adolescence, you have to live through it. You do not skip or cancel out portions of history by an act of will, or transcend it because you want to transcend it, and you consider the other positions silly or petty.

You have to live through your nationalism. We have not really begun to live ours.

And so too with the rest of the nations in the world.

In almost every case the emerging nations have to go through this period of adolescence. Adolescence, growing up, becoming self-conscious, establishing a certain kind of self-awareness, involves being aware of a nationalistic flavour and being affirmative of a national situation; and to the extent that Trudeau, the internationalist, abnegates that, he truncates us in our own growth. We will never grow up if we cannot come through the other way. He cannot take us on this road in the arbitrary way that he is seeking to do, and at the same time selling us out in the process.

The second thing that Trudeau is quite Neanderthal about is his theory—he is a real throwback—a reactionary of the first water in regard to the situation in respect to sections 91 and 92 of the constitution. Like the Fathers of Confederation, and in the same vein as Macdonald himself, he regards these as air-tight categories — to which respect must be paid.

They were set up in exclusion and in contradistinction, each to the other. Trudeau has this "layer cake" theory of the constitution—you lay one layer on another and never the twain shall meet. Or if they meet, then grudgingly, let us meet as little as possible; let us give as little as possible to the municipalities; let us have no direct rapport. Let us confine ourselves to the area of the constitution set out and as far as the province is concerned, let it remain within the confines of section 92 and not move out of there. The only theory of a constitution—and I trust that this committee will learn that this is so—is that picturesquely called the "marble cake" theory of the constitution which is—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Trudeau learned his theories in the NDP lab.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: That was the direction of our evolution from the time of the depression; this is the direction in the Rowell-Sirois report; this is the direction, if we are to have the wherewithal to conduct provincial and municipal government, that we must go.

This is the direction that Trudeau—with all his logic, with his abstraction, with his abstract intellectualism, as a theoretical professor ruling over the constitution—rejects.

Again the facts are going to be, and are presently, most detrimental to the development of this country; and in this respect the "swinger", the "pragmatist par excellence" is a throwback—a reactionary into the past. The reasons he does it are manifold; mostly Quebec but that is quite beside the point. There is no visionary there. Quite the contrary.

If this committee is to operate with any degree of fecundity, the members of this Legislature are going to have to stop being lazy. It seems to me, watching the degree of absenteeism that takes place, watching the quality and nature of the research that go into the speeches, watching the whole tenor and movement of this House, that it is demeaning. It is not up to me, like a schoolmaster, to stand and castigate my fellow members, but really, the quality of this assembly would make some kind of an aborted child cry—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Where does the member get the right to?

Mr. Lawlor: I have to listen to the member all the time.

Interjections by hon members.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Speaker, we have had a pay increase and we had better dam well earn it.

Mr. Sargent: When is the member going to start?

Mr. Lawlor: This member, and all of us, are among the privileged 7.8 per cent of the population of Canada who make more than $10,000 a year. When are we going to justify our pay? When are we going to be present to attend upon the affairs of our people?

Mr. Sargent: Has the member a guilty conscience?

Mr. Lawlor: The Prime Minister will stand up and say that is not the work that we do in the House here; that we do not have to be present in our seats for any great portion of the time because the members are out helping their constituents. I do not believe it. I know that they are not out helping their constituents tonight.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Well, I remember last spring you were absent in Florida for weeks.

Mr. Lawlor: In most cases I would be very interested to see where the modes of dalliance take place and where they are. I think that this chamber—

Mr. Sargent: If you have a guilty conscience, give your pay back.

Mr. Lawlor: I think that this chamber must be televised.

Mr. Sargent: Give your money back if you have got a guilty conscience.

Mr. Lawlor: I am here enough, and participate enough, to justify it. If only you will do so.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Lawlor: You will hear more. Open your mouth and we will cram it down.

What this chamber should do so far as television is concerned cannot be done in terms of simply photographing the question period; the leaders take too much time on that. What has to be done here, and I suggest that we should face it, is that some institution like Ryerson should put in cable TV, which is becoming more and more popular in this province, and that all the hours of this Legislature and everything that goes on here should be televised for the people that want to listen to it.

If people do not want to listen to it that is up to them. I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that at least we have made ourselves available. You will watch and see just how the members attend when that happens; you will see a miraculous change in the quality of debate all of a sudden.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Want to bet?

An hon. member: Perhaps the constituents do not need them any longer.

Mr. Lawlor: I can even envisage little groups forming throughout the province—politically minded people of non-partisan kind—choosing, say, between 9 and 9.30 any evening as the time to tune in on the television to watch the goings-on of the Legislature of Ontario, and making notes. We are then up for grabs in public portrait; I think it would be altogether a beneficient thing to do and—

Mr. Sargent: If we had TV there would be a blackout tonight I can tell you.

Mr. Lawlor: That is all right, I can stand it.

An hon. member: To your great advantage, but not for financial reasons.

Mr. Lawlor: I was thinking today, Mr. Speaker, that the speech made by the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root) should have been televised; there was a good deal of meat and marrow in that speech. He was outlining the OWRC, but how many of us gave any cognizance to it? The member for Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr) made a speech in direct conflict with everything that had been said by the hon. member. We should get the public to sit and compare—

Mr. Nixon: That was the anti-fluoridation speech, was it not?

Mr. Lawlor: Let them make up their minds as to who is right in this regard.

Mr. Trotter: They are both wrong.

Mr. Lawlor: That is a possibility.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Can you imagine the television cameraman focusing on that?

Mr. Lawlor: Working together I trust, in the committee on the constitution, we would have to adopt, at least I trust we would be able to adopt, a completely open and flexible approach to the workings of that body. I hope it would not be inhabited by those hard-working lawyers in this assembly who carry the heat of the day, by and large, and I would hope that it would be carried out in the best sense of a pragmatic approach, not in the Trudeau system. There is a kind of pragmatism that is being practised abroad these days that has to do with social engineering; these social technocrats who think they can manoeuvre men and things to some kind of degree of efficiency that is quite superlative. That is not the kind of pragmatist I am talking about or would want on that body. Chesterton said about this, "If a thing is worth doing at all it is worth doing badly", and that kind of goodwilled inefficiency is the thing that will sustain us in this particular regard.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member a question?

Mr. Lawlor: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: If the television cameras were on tonight would the hon. member be reading his speech from a script?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): He is not reading it.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): He never reads it.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Just copious notes.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): He at least can read the notes; the minister could not read them.

Mr. Lewis: They are completely indecipherable even to him.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: There, you accepted the challenge.

Mr. Stokes: We will set him up against the minister in open debate any time.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order please, let us hear from the member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: Finally, I would ask this committee to come in without preconceptions as to the BNA Act. I would ask them to go that far; that as they approach a committee of that kind they would throw sections 91 and 92 out completely and start all over again. At the end of the road they may come back to something substantially similar; I very much doubt it. I know that they will not.

I put what I want in extreme form, Mr. Speaker. It seems to me not to make an iota of difference as to whether or not the province of Quebec wants to run submarines up and down the St. Lawrence River. If it is foolish enough to do so—to "trench", as the old word goes, into national defence and have its own submarine system—that is its crazy business. If you start with a view of the constitution like that—saying that everything is up for grabs and that there is no designated area that belongs to anybody specifically and of necessity and by some kind of divine right—if that is where you start with the constitution, then you must think it through and align all your categories quite differently.

At the end of the talk, while the members of that committee and the members of this House may not emerge as the new fathers of the constitution, as the Fathers of Confederation, at least they would be carrying out their full responsibilities as filial sons and doing a job that absolutely needs to be done.

So again, in winding up this portion of my speech, I thank the Prime Minister for his adopting my suggestion on that occasion. I have found that humility does not matter;

that unless one thumps one's chest and brings all these things to the fore in a quite cavalier manner, there is no point in being in this assembly, because your light does not come out from under the bushel; nobody is going to remove the sack.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Lawlor: Oh, sit down!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Speaker, I want to spend the next little while discussing Benson's proposals, the white paper of Benson. What I have heard thus far in this House—

Mr. Stokes: It is obvious you have never read them; you might as well hear about it.

Mr. Lawlor: Thus far in the House very little has been said by the Tories, even less by the Prime Minister. The superficiality of the present treatment of the white paper deserves a bit of ridicule. What I would like to do tonight is draw a little blood, you know, just to get a little beneath the skin. We are not going to perform major surgery on this document. It is a very deep and very intricate thing.

For the member for Sudbury, for instance, to get up and say he is "for it" is just about ridiculous. You cannot be for or against the white paper. You have to segregate out those areas that you think are valid within this document and those which you do not think so, and the Tories have been as notoriously subject to this particular form of infamy and obscurantism as anybody else. I have never seen anything like it.

The Prime Minister comes out—he usually manifests stability and intelligence—but in this case he does a blanket job. You should be ashamed of yourselves, having no regard at all for intellectual honesty or for even the basic virtues of being able to tell what you like and you do not like about this particular document. About 90 per cent of the white paper you already have brought into being. The white paper is a document which Tories should love.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Where does the member stand?

Mr. Lawlor: We will get around to that. I am telling the minister where he ought to stand, and where he apparently does not for very suspect political reasons, and for, you know, a low cunning, if I may say so, in terms of confusing the populace.

The Treasurer of this province (Mr. MacNaughton), Mr. Speaker, in his budget statement, I think, on March 4, 1969, made the following statements about our taxation system:

> The government of Ontario is planning a major re-design in the form of the provincial tax system. This is necessary because the present system is demonstrably deficient in terms of its equity, efficiency and capacity to raise necessary provincial funds in the years ahead.

And then he goes on, on the next page and says the present system also denies the province any role in determining the structure and method of income taxation appropriate for Ontario: "In this government's view the present system is grossly deficient in terms of equity and simplicity."

And in speech after speech this has been the recurring refrain of the Tory government for the past five, six years since it came to its epiphany in the select committee report.

I am sorry that the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White) is not here tonight, because I would very much invite him, challenge him, after the work that we did in that misspent summer to justify the present stance of the Tory party in Ontario, repudiating in effect its own proposals and backing up.

It is a form of betrayal, betrayal to all the forward elements in their party and to the people who are responsible for issuing the government's budget statement for 1969.

Where do they stand on their budget statement now? One cannot get a word of sense out of them; it is all an emotional blast. They obscure all the issues, there is no straight talk; and we want straight talk over here.

Where does the government stand about its own white paper of a year ago?

Mr. Stokes: What say Allan?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Here is the member for Sudbury. Does the member want to repeat that?

Mr. Stokes: What say Allan? Where does the Minister stand?

Mr. Lawlor: A month later the Treasurer of Ontario went up to the York Mills Progressive Conservatice Association and made an interesting little speech, praising the Benson proposals on that occasion to the party elect, of all people. "I think this is a major overhaul. It is an exciting challenge," he says. "I regard it as top priority in government administration, but I am acutely aware that

it is a difficult feat, a highly technical task, this tax reform and a potentially explosive issue involving century-old traditions."

Charlie, oh Charlie, where are you now?

Explosive issue? You are telling me! But who is Guy Fox? Who put the dynamite under the citadel? Who is he trying to blow up?

Explosive issue? I want to know who is doing the exploding now!

It is the Tory government of Ontario via the Benson document.

I want it understood here, by the way, before I get too far into it, I have the gravest reservations about Benson, as members perceive. It seems to me to be, probably, a very deeply defective document that does not reach anywhere close to a true tax reform.

However, over against the blatant mischief you fellows are doing now, the thing is a shining light. If they force us into an invidious position—

Mr. Sargent: What a bunch of nonsense. It has nothing to do with our budget.

Mr. Lawlor: —into the invidious position of taking a stand and on behalf of the document, let me see what they have to say about it one of these days.

Mr. D. Jackson (Temiskaming): That will be something new!

Mr. Sargent: What has the white paper got to do with Ontario?

Mr. Lawlor: Oh, for heaven's sake! That is the kind of thing I would like the people to see on television. The member would never get back here for an hour.

Mr. Sargent: How can you control it?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: Why be a nincompoop; in front of everybody! Can he not go out in the hall?

Mr. Sargent: I would be much farther ahead than to listen to this nonsense.

Mr. Lawlor: What has it got to do with Ontario?

An hon. member: Has the member no shame, has he no shame?

Mr. Lewis: Come on now, here comes the member's leader.

Mr. Sargent: I will behave now.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: That is the way he starts his speech. He goes on to say he laments, he weeps.

I have to tell you, however, he is saying this to the, you know, the initiated, the ones who have the stamp on their foreheads, like all members opposite have. It is a kind of masonic sign.

I have to tell you, however, that there is at present no meaningful dialogue taking place to achieve that goal in his tax reform. Ontario's reform programme stands by itself, alone, and so here is the isolated Ontario Treasurer; in the wilderness, the winds blow above his head, he is the sole tax reformer. No Benson, no erstwhile Benson; no others come onto the stage. He is left alone.

When somebody else appears a change of heart takes place; the cagliastro changes his tune, he is no longer on the spot. Where is the dialogue now? Who is dialoguing with whom? When does the Ontario Treasurer start talking?

Mr. Sargent: Is he an NDP, this Ted Liasco?

Mr. Lawlor: It is you who have retreated from the dialogue at this stage; it is you who have abdicated common sense. And you are getting everything you deserve if you do not make better rapprochement with the federal government in terms of revenues. It is because you are void, and have chosen your position as being negative and to damn, and you will get a negative and damning reaction from the other fellow. This is human nature; you are asking for it, so suffer the consequences of your own reactions.

Then he goes on, in this masterly speech of his, about the comprehensive study of the Ontario Smith committee on taxation: "embracing both provincial and municipal requirements and relating them to family group income to prove that our existing system does not distribute the tax burden fairly. In proportionate terms our taxes fall more heavily on families with lower incomes than on those"—

Mr. Sargent: Who wrote this? Who wrote this?

Mr. Lawlor: The Treasurer.

"Taxes do not fall as heavily on those who are more fortunate. The demand of relatively

greater tax requirements falls on those who can least afford to pay."

You see, he is full of social reality. He understands; he has seen the statistics. What has happened to him? Has a certain blindness struck? The Benson proposals, at least as I outlined them—some of these proposals with respect to exemptions are beneficial and are a step forward—they are progressive measures.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): What happened was the new approach—

Mr. Lawlor: He goes on to say—and he becomes ethical, he becomes moral about it; I can see his eyes roll: "This constitutes a serious violation of our concept of fair play, brotherhood, Christianity, or any other moral code."

He's covering the waterfront. I said that I could lead you right down the garden path, I will be behind you: "Our objective must be to establish a fair relationship between the incidence of tax and the ability to pay it."

Is that what you are saying now? Is that what Stanfield is saying now? It seems to me it is not at all what is being said.

Mr. Sopha: That is what John Bullock is saying.

Mr. Lawlor: "The Ontario income tax needs greater simplicity than the federal system and greater progressivity." The Prime Minister of this province the other afternoon talked about progressivity. He is against it, he does not want greater progressivity.

"The Ontario income tax entails greater simplicity than the present federal system and greater progressivity."

As the Carter commission points out, the present highest rate of 80 per cent is almost confiscatory and yet the loopholes are such that rarely do they ever apply. Then what happens? It is stupid enough in Carter. Benson comes up with his proposal—this is a black mark, and this is one of his defective aspects—he comes up with a top rate where no one will pay more than 50 per cent of his income as taxes.

That is better than this government could do; that is real Toryism, that is beautiful. You can hold that up to the light and look at it, like a jewel, a Tory jewel—50 per cent of the top rate. No matter how much money you make, after you make a certain figure you keep one dollar in two. The guy down below does not, but you do. That is great. And where does he set his top rate? Carter set that top rate of 50 per cent at $100,000 a year. Where does Benson set it? At $24,000 a year with a family of four. Really, is that not tremendous? Progressivity starts about as soon as you hit that, for a single man at $3,400; when you hit $24,000 the lights go on.

Is that not beautiful? That is a Tory piece of business. It is a most unfair and inequitable setup for a tax system. I think this government should adopt it. I think it should come out tomorrow morning and say, "Benson is the best thing that has happened to this country and we adopt it wholeheartedly," because it fits the whole scheme of it. If it does not fit it, I say to the Attorney General, I want to hear from the members of his party as to why it does not fit it. I have not heard a word to indicate that to me at all. I have been sitting waiting and waiting and all I have heard is phlegm and invective.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Lawlor: Oh, I will get around to the minister in a minute. Sitting on the platform up there, he at least had the educational advantages of being on the select committee, which the poor Premier did not have. What has the minister said that is in the least positive or constructive with regard to analyzing the Benson proposals?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): I have been too busy.

Mr. Lawlor: He was not too busy to go to the Granite Club that night.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, having harangued the Tories for the past period of time, Mr. Speaker, my naturally genial nature asserts itself and I will say something nice about them. You know they are dead right on tax credits and Benson is dead wrong. I do not understand Benson on this point at all.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: But the member said we never had any opinions on it.

Mr. Lawlor: Oh, not at all; I say, unlike the member for Sudbury, you cannot be wholly for or against this particular document, it is much too complex. The government has some good points, but make the good points and do not go scuttling the *Graf Spee*, because we will all go down with it. Leave the boat float, but refurbish it.

With the tax credit system, first of all, you can save money. Our estimates are you can

save one third of a billion dollars a year by wiping out the exemptions as Benson sets them up and substituting tax credit in their place instead.

Exemptions apply to all levels of the income tax and, proportionately speaking, they are far more beneficial to the people at the top end of the scale. If you figure it out mathematically it comes out that way, whereas tax credits are allocated to and serve the purposes of the lower end of the income tax structure. This is precisely that area of the population which, willynilly, whether you like it or not, simply in terms of preserving your economic system—leave out for the moment the humanity aspect—but in terms of straight self-interest and purchasing power in the economy, you have to sustain it.

This is the element of the population that will be the ones to buy consumer goods, because they need consumer goods. The consumer is not the element above $10,000 who invest their money; who have the basic wherewithal to buy, and who can then make savings. It is the people who receive transfer payments; it is the people who could get tax credits by way of a negative income tax, who would spend every dime on the consumer market, giving acceleration and through it impetus to the economy, making it grow and live. This is what you are supposed to be doing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Is that not budget paper B of last year?

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, I do not know if the minister was here earlier.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But that was provisional. That is our policy now.

Mr. Lawlor: I am certainly pleased to hear it. The policy has been obscured, to say the least. I hope the minister comes back and asserts it firmly.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, it is in front of you.

Mr. Lawlor: All the statements in the past two weeks, I had them all before me—the statement of your alter-ego who sits behind the minister there. If you read the speeches of the Minister of Mines, you would know.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Has the member read the speeches of the Prime Minister?

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, the speeches of the Prime Minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Has he wavered?

Mr. Lawlor: Wavered? The man does not even know what is contained in his documents, much less waver. He repudiates, and he does not attack forthrightly what the issues in this paper are. Rarely does he really take issue with Benson. I will come back to this theme as we develop it. If we go on like this, we will be here for several more days, because I have not started on Benson yet.

Mr. Sargent: And you say we do not earn our money listening to this stuff?

An hon. member: We should get $5,000 just for tonight.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, here are a list of your sins. You say you wanted more progressive rates—that is what the hon. Treasurer said up at York Mills, he wanted more progressive rates. You have got more progressive rates and you squawk.

You wanted a lower top rate, you got a lower top rate. You squawked with a vengeance. You wanted a capital gains tax. I should quote to you the hon. Treasurer's statement about it. I think I will: "We also include capital gains providing in the course of appropriate allowances made for risks and losses. Ontario proposes to embrace this field."

I can see him doing it. Kind of a bear hug. Capital gains, you know, close to his breast, you can feel the beat of his heart: "Alone, if necessary, but preferably in concert with a programme covering all Canada."

There is the Tory party out in the vanguard of history, cutting little cleavages in the web of all things forsaken. You know this to be so.

I finally got to the first page here, I thought I was halfway through.

So he wanted a capital gains tax—you have it, and you still squawk. So you wanted more equity at the level of the lower wage and salary earners and you got it, and you still squawk. You wanted to integrate with the federal estate tax; you are quite able to if you want to. Why do you not? However, I suggest that you do not surrender the succession duty field in this province to the federal government in return for any form of largesse.

There are a number of defects in the federal system and some are fairly obvious. One of the defects is the family unit concept, at least to the extent of the relationship between husband and wife.

You know, if a man who is fairly wealthy dies, say, at the age of 53, and his wife lives for another 25 years, his whole estate passes

to her without any succession duties at all—with no estate tax. So the government collects nothing on that money for a quarter of a century. It sits there, with no benefit to the public treasury whatsoever. And then the plot thickens; it gets worse.

If, when the wife dies, she dies in a non-Canadian domicile—if she takes herself out of the country and goes to the Bahamas, the United States, or wherever she wishes to go, the tax paid on Canadian property at death is 15 per cent.

Mr. MacDonald: Quite a steal, eh?

Mr. Lawlor: Ah, that is not the end of the matter.

If she sets up a foreign holding company, non-domiciled, she can get away without paying a dime of tax at all. This is one of the defects in the present Estate Tax Act at the federal level.

There are grave deficiencies in the Act. That is by allowing the thing to go on, stretching over the life of both husband and wife. Something is going to have to be done about it. I would suggest what might be done about it is allow the wife to have a certain basic sum, say, a quarter of a million dollars, tax free, without tax at all. But at least the rest of the moneys, on the passing of the husband, would be subject to taxation.

Mr. MacDonald: See how generous he is, a quarter of a million.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, this is kind of a carrot, rather than a stick. But the rest of it at least would bear tax at that time and not escape this form of taxation.

Now, the Minister of Mines—you know that St. George has been said to have been a mythical fellow—there are no dragons, in other words.

Mr. Sopha: He was scrubbed from the roster of saints.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Santa Claus.

Mr. Lawlor: There has been a good deal of talk about, and it is in your white paper too, about the taxation, that if you have sufficient capital gains taxation linked with gift taxes, you would be able to wipe out succession duties and estate taxes at death. I want you to hear what a friend of mine has written—in addition he is a tax lawyer:

> In addition to the fact that capital gains are not presently subject to income tax, it is hardly an argument for a wealth tax whether levied as a death tax or otherwise. An estate is subject to exactly the same amount of estate taxes, and succession duties irrespective of the capital gains which the deceased may have realized during his lifetime, or the unrealized capital gains on property which he owned to his death.
>
> The estate of an individual who dies with $1 million in mortgages who may never have realized a capital gain in his life will be subject to exactly the same estate taxes and succession duties as the estate of a person who dies holding common stocks which have appreciated from $100 to $1 million while he was holding them during his lifetime.

Wealth taxes, therefore, cannot be considered as a substitute for capital gains taxes, as the Treasurer of Ontario suggested in the quotation I read earlier. If capital gains should be taxed, and I believe that they should, the proper technique is either a specific capital gains tax or the inclusion of capital gains in the comprehensive tax base. That is what Benson proposes as recommended by the Carter commission, rather than in the use of death taxes. Similarly, the existence of capital gains taxes cannot justify the elimination of death taxes. The Ontario committee on taxation, under Lancelot Smith, quite properly points out in paragraph 3, page 132:

> Wealth taxes cannot be justified in any form at the provincial level by any strict interpretation of the principle of benefits received. And yet there is considerable merit in the point of view that the private accumulation and maintenance of wealth are made possible in good part by the action of government in creating and protecting the economic and social structure within which such assets are amassed.
>
> This contribution by government is surely of greater value than the cost of providing the services paid for through taxes. It can be argued that the state, as a silent partner in the accumulation of private fortunes, properly should share, on behalf of all citizens, in the prosperity of its more affluent members.
>
> Even if the estate taxes are not considered primarily as devices for redistributing wealth, there is considerable doubt that they have any significant effect in this area. They could certainly be justified on the basis that they assist in a more equitable sharing of the tax burden.

For those two reasons, the statements of the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) recently—he went around the province making four speeches; the Minister of Mines is the white knight against Benson—show that if he would stick to his chores as Minister of Mines and extract the metals and stay away from taxation issues, he might have a great deal more credibility. Where he touches in this area, he runs counter to a type of real understanding from people who know what they are talking about. He is in real danger. I hoped that he would have been here tonight because I had been anticipating—

Mr. Sopha: Now that is an honest way of saying that he has not got a clue.

Mr. Lawlor: I will not go into the federal gift tax situation; it does give $2,000 a year to any single individual. Within a family group particularly, that can be quite a considerable sum of money. It could include up to 16 or more people—that is $32,000 a year. The sum can rise very rapidly over the years, and can be given away in this way without attracting any tax whatsoever. However, we were talking about sums of $2,000 a year; I do not want to be niggling. There will be ways in which money may filter out of the system. I do not think you can close them all. Over and above the other horrendous loopholes that we are coming to now, they scarcely count.

I want to talk about capital gains taxation. When the Treasurer of Ontario last year had to bring down his budget, he opted for a capital gains tax on the American model. The American model has a number of features: the taxation of gains when they are realized. But the business of the Treasurer saying that these gains should be realized on death or on immigration is not part of the American model. How he hopes to enforce it quite puzzles me. I do not think it can be done.

In any case, the total tax paid on American capital gains is 25 per cent of that gain. Its structure of proportions goes from seven per cent of the capital gain up to 25 per cent at the very topmost limit, which has very little relationship, I think you will have to agree, with a graduated income tax. That is precisely the way in which it is operated. And this is only in terms of the long term gains.

I would like to refer to what an American has to say about this, a man by the name of George Break of the department of economics, University of California. I beg the members' patience because it is a fairly long passage, but I think this should be in the record to show what this party, at least, thinks about the proposal of the Tories to bring in an American model of a capital gains tax. It is just a subterfuge.

Mr. Sargent: Give us the page and we will read it later on.

Mr. Lawlor: No sir. He says:

> We have, as you know, taxes on capital gains in the United States, short term capital gains, which related to assets held for six months or less, are subject to full personal tax rates which now range from 14 to 70 per cent, and long range capital gains which relate to assets that are held more than six months, at rates starting at seven per cent—exactly one half of the personal rates—but going to a ceiling at 25 per cent at the top.
>
> The differential between capital gains and ordinary income starts at seven per cent and widens to quite a substantial margin at the top. There is evidence that investors are sensitive to substantial tax rate differentials of this sort and so they hold on to their capital investments for greater periods than six months so as to cut down the tax that they will have to pay.

And jumping down the page:

> We have a tax-free stepup on the basis of the value of property at the death of the holder. The heir takes the market value of the property at death as his basis, and any accrued capital gain goes completely tax free.

That really is what I think you were after.

> On death in the United States, the capital gain goes completely tax free. You can see that with 25 per cent tax free, an older investor saving mainly to accumulate an estate has the option of selling and subjecting himself to the 25 per cent on the capital gain, or holding and facing a zero tax rate.
>
> We have some calculation made of the amount of corporate capital gains which slip through this loophole of a tax system, and although the calculations are necessarily crude, because the data are hard to come by, I think they support the conclusion that the amounts slipping through are substantial. The figures given suggest that somewhere between two thirds and nine tenths of all corporate capital gains in the United States now are not taxed because they accrued on property passing to death.

Members can see what a great capital gains setup they have over there. And this is what the government proposes. Or is it? What does it propose? I have never heard a single member of the government party stand up and say what it is it proposes.

Mr. Sargent: We never have a chance as you are always talking.

Mr. Lawlor: I was going to call you a cretin but I changed my mind.

Another conclusion I would draw through the United States experience is that the system results in very haphazard, inequitable burdens. Different people are subject to different effective tax rates. What is a nominal top rate of 25 per cent, probably on the average works down to eight or nine per cent. These are some calculations made recently by Bailey of the University of Chicago. I do not recommend the United States system as a model to follow, and members can see why we would not recommend any such system.

On the Benson proposals there is a very tricky piece of business, that in the case of shares held in widely held corporations—that is basically stock exchange shares, or shares that are under the counter that are traded but unlisted—in that type of share, the accrual to the value of those shares should be assessed every five years. Members have heard a hullabaloo about this issue and I do not suppose they have heard very much said about it in the press or otherwise. It is a complex thing. It is the first time in any economic system that it has been proposed that this be assessed every five years, and a tax imposed.

There are many reasons, and I intend to go into them to some depth, but the basic problem on the five-year accrual is to determine whether it is possible to do it administratively, or whether one should take the position that the Premier has taken in his recent speeches where he does talk in concrete terms about something.

He has taken issue with this particular form of assessment of tax, but what does he propose as the alternative? The only alternative that one can see is that capital gains, as in the closely held corporations, will be taxed on death unless they are transferred during lifetime. But there are reasons not to transfer them, to lock them in. But I can hear the howl, Mr. Speaker, if not only were the capital gains of a lifetime taxed on death, but apart from that the estate tax and succession duties were also imposed at the same time.

They do not really mean what they say. They cannot possibly mean what they say, because they would then howl over that a fortiori double taxation. Never was there such a double taxation in the history of mankind; because what is the alternative. Somewhere along the line, who cares whether it is five years, it may be seven years or 10 years in terms of capital kinds of shares, bringing in the accrual matter, but somewhere you will have to determine the value of those shares from time to time.

Mr. Sopha: Did Mr. Benson not renounce that this very day?

Mr. Lawlor: Has he? I have not seen it.

Mr. Sopha: Oh yes, he has.

Mr. Lewis: No, he did not renounce it. An official of his department questioned him on the difference.

Mr. Sopha: Oh, no, it was in the afternoon edition of the *Star*.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, I will have to see that. I would not be surprised. I would not be surprised. The political pressure is so great that it probably dies. He is going to abandon a number of other things; but I think that it should be looked at very hard. I think that there is some basis upon which you might come to a conclusion that it is a very intelligent thing to do.

Take Benson's own reason as to why he wants to do it. On page 41 he says:

> Periodic evaluation is necessary because it would also reduce the lock-in effect which might well occur otherwise. If a taxpayer faces the tax on the sale of an investment, and that tax is postponed if he holds on to the investment, he may feel locked in. As long as he holds it he would have, say, $100 working for him. If he sells, he would only have say, $90 or $95 to reinvest.
>
> Such periodic re-evaluation would reduce this lock-in effect. It would reduce it, but might otherwise be an obstacle to the workings of the capital market.
>
> Revaluation would also make it feasible for the government [this is his second reason] to classify more corporate re-organizations and merges as tax-free transactions than would otherwise be the case, thus removing a tax barrier that might otherwise have impeded transactions that are desirable for economic reasons.

This has happened over and over again in the United States.

If you are going to impose a capital gains tax, you do not want to get corporations locked in, nor do you want individuals holding their shares in corporations indefinitely, because if they last till death in the United States, they can escape it entirely. There is no liquidity in the economy; there is no flow. It stagnates artificially as the tax devices sap the free flow of the economy. You would think that in a free enterprise economy such as this one, this would be avoided like the plague as being a thing most detrimental to the kind of economy that they claim they have, and which their tax system goes against.

Finally, the third reason:

> It would reduce the tax postponement that would otherwise result from the treatment suggested in paragraph 342 that has to do with death, to those cases where lack of marketability of the assets made the treatment compelling.

With respect to the business of the five-year approval on widely held shares in Canadian corporations by Canadian residents. In that I think we would have to distinguish, which Benson has not done, and it is a defect again, between people who hold portfolios of stocks. There, the five-year approval could take place, but there are individuals who have very wide holdings, large blocks of stocks in corporations which are easily marketable. Special provision would have to be made with respect to forcing a tax every five years on the accumulated gains made on these stocks which are non-fluid, inelastic and dormant.

In those situations, then, I would think that Benson's proposals might become palatable at that particular stage.

Mr. Sopha: If my friend will forgive me, on a point of order. I apologize to him that the announcement was from the finance department to the effect that, if we were not taxed every five years, or periodically, they would have to be taxed on the death of the investor, so my friend was partly right.

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, that was what I was saying, and I am going to repeat this. If you are going to tax them on the death of the investor you are going to get a double taxation feature. You are going to have the succession duties on top. Well, how many estates can stand that and what a howl will go up? They say that the estate tax now forces Canadian corporations to sell out their interests to foreigners in order to get enough money to pay their succession duties, and this is the argument.

They published an economic paper—the Economic Council of Ontario argued this last year, by the way, on some nice selective piece of business, they chose their cases carefully to prove their point. Carter said just the contrary, he could find no evidence that Canadians were forced to sell out because of the provisions of succession duty, but I would think myself this is fair. If you had both taxes falling on death, this would be most detrimental to the retention in families, or otherwise, of Canadian corporations in Canadian hands.

Mr. Young: Why not let them pay succession duties in stocks?

Mr. Lawlor: Well, there is a suggestion to pay them in stocks. I do not know; governments have never been willing, as far as I know, to accept stocks in privately held corporations particularly. They are fairly unfluid things. They may not be worth much—they have a book value, but what can you do with them?

May I say that Benson is his own worst enemy. The man is completely politically inastute. If he had enough brains he would not say half the things he says in here. If he put it another way, or if he adapted himself with a little more finesse, he would not have half the blast he is getting.

Take the business of homes. Of course homes ought not to be taxed on capital gains. Of course farms ought not to be taxed on capital gains. Carter suggested a capital gain up to $25,000 profit on a home, and he felt that it would wipe out most instances of taxation. He felt that mansions might well be taxed.

Why did he not take Carter just as he stood? Why does he run into the face of public invective, and the yahoo calls of the other side over here? Why does he invite unnecessary invective?

Mr. Sopha: All right. What if he is smart enough to give in to the yahoos on homes?

Mr. Lawlor: I do not consider that particularly smart. I do not think you raise a storm in order to back down, so to speak. He will back down on that in the next few days or few months. I do not think he is in any hurry to back down yet; he will play it out. The same thing with five-year accrual of capital gains. He will back down on that; he will back down.

There is another area here he may back down on, the small business corporations.

In any case, I say that is one aspect, his political astuteness in this regard.

He also, you know, starts out on page 10, and when you piece it at page 36 as follows: "The government has decided to include capital gains and a number of other benefits in income subject to tax."

That is portentous. You can include capital gains, but the fact of the matter is that he does not. He makes quite a distinction as you come through on reading it. When you get the top capital gain, you will pay on shares held by you on the stock exchange, that is on widely-held Canadian corporations, a maximum of 25 per cent, not a dime more.

Now is that a full integration of the money you make into your income stream? No. He gives them special privileged positions. It is like the present income investment credit of 20 per cent except that it has now gone to 25 per cent for investing in Canadian corporations. That is the limit.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): It is 100 per cent for closely-held—

Mr. Lawlor: In the case of closely-held Canadian corporations, the capital gain is 50 per cent, nothing beyond 50 per cent. It is not 100 per cent. This seems to say it is 100 per cent and will include capital gains on income. But it is not.

Mr. Gaunt: They should both be the same.

Mr. Lawlor: Well that is an argument, except it is 50 per cent of 100 per cent. The other one is 25 per cent. It is taken as 50 per cent of 50 per cent on the widely-held, so it comes down to 25 per cent that you pay.

When I listen to the cretins in the public, the John Bullocks and the others, baying against Benson, this is what they are saying. They said Benson says he is going to tax capital gains, bring it right into the income stream. The problem is they have not spent five minutes considering that this is not what he says at all. The concessions he makes as a matter of fact are precisely the same concessions, with respect to capital gains, by and large, as what this government's white paper last year proposed—a 25 per cent rate, the American rate.

Maybe this government's was more flexible in the sense that they go down from 25 per cent, taxed even less *à la Americana*, but they are substantially the same.

Why all the furor? What is all the fuss about? The dust is so heavy in the air I can hardly breathe; I have not seen for a week. It is just like a fog coming out of—

Mr. Sopha: Yes, but is it not a wonderful exercise in participatory democracy? These are still only proposals.

Mr. Lawlor: I think what Benson has done is very fair, but look at how they have undermined it, look at how they have scuttled it. Look at how they have turned it against themselves.

If I were a Minister of Finance in this country I would never do it again. I would never throw my financial measures out for general debate with the kind of yahoos around that one has to contend with. Why should you subject yourself to that sort of thing?

It was a generous gesture and I give him credit for it. It was the first time in the history of this country that it was done, but they turned it against him. They have used every invidious technique to make it purblind.

Mr. Lewis: He invited discussion!

Mr. Lawlor: He invited discussion!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: So Benson, I say, is misleading us in his proposals on capital gains taxation.

Let us discuss for a few moments the distinction between the present existing thing which you would think had been descended down from Pentateuch or some ancient volume of lore, from Babylonian times perhaps, that corporations under $35,000 bear a tax in Ontario of 23 per cent, and when they get over that sum—they then bear a tax of 51 per cent. This is holy law.

It has been in effect actually, at the most, 16 years, but people have grown accustomed to it. They barnacled over. This is something endemic to the economy which could not possibly be changed.

First of all, consider the whole concept of integration. Let me go back. Benson does two things, both at the same time which have a reformist tinge to them. He assimilates the shareholder to the corporation, and secondly, he assimilates the capital gains at a certain percentage to the income. But when he does both of these things at once, the double-take causes confusion. Working on that basis this is called integration and if there is integration, it really does not matter whether the tax rate is 23 per cent or 51 per cent.

In the case of the closely-held corporation, the one example that everybody mentions of

course, is Eaton's. But it really means the great mass of small companies. Out of the 200,000 corporations in this country, I suppose there would be about 150,000. They do not make a great deal of money, these small closely-held corporations, usually family concerns—

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): The backbone of the country.

Mr. Lawlor: Very good; I am all in favour of them. I think in some ways they have been treated badly here and I would like to suggest some solutions to the situation.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You sound like a "yahoo," now.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, in their case they will then pay, like every other corporation, a 50 per cent corporations tax. But with integration, every dime—100 per cent of the 50 per cent—is attributed as tax already paid in the hands of the shareholder or of the income-maker in that corporation—the individual. His taxes are being paid for him by his corporation. That is what integration means, whereas in the widely-held corporations, only 50 per cent of the 50 per cent—we are back to the 25 per cent again—because the widely-held corporation like the closely-held, pays a 50 per cent tax, right out of the profits, right off the top. But 50 per cent of that 50 per cent is then deemed to be tax already paid by the corporation on behalf of the shareholder.

The reason we did it this way, as far as I can see, is that if we allowed full integration, that is for the full 100 per cent of the tax paid to the corporation to go through, the financial loss would be staggering. So we had to cut it in half for the widely-held corporations. As you look at Benson's proposals, at page 95, he shows that by doing this—by bringing the shareholders together with the corporations, and deeding the money made by the corporation to be money in the hands of the shareholder—by doing this he effectively wipes out any differential in the tax.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member a question?

Mr. Speaker: If he will accept it.

Mr. Lawlor: Yes.

Mr. Apps: Mr. Speaker, I would like to give an example and perhaps the hon. member could tell me how he could work this thing out. When somebody goes into business he puts all the money he can into it, and he goes to the bank and he borrows all the money he can from the bank, and he uses that money to start a business. Unfortunately, the bank wants him to pay that back, and he pays it back out of net profits. So supposing he makes a profit of $20,000 in the year, and he is obligated to the bank to pay $1,000 a month; the government takes $10,000, the bank takes $12,000, he has got $7,000 or $8,000 tied up in accounts receivable and $5,000 or $6,000 tied up in inventory, how on earth is he going to get the money to pay his taxes?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He uses a credit card.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, when you mention $20,000 profit, of course this is profit after all deductions; that is deductions for his salary and for the expenses of running the business, and perhaps for a secretary, and maybe his wife for some reason or other, and everything like that. Do you not think that there would be adequate moneys left in his hands? He is going to have to tighten himself pretty much, I agree—

Mr. Apps: There is no way; there is no way that a fellow can carry on.

Mr. Lawlor: I have seen them carry on.

Mr. Sopha: Sure there is.

Mr. Apps: No he cannot.

Mr. Lawlor: On this integration, you would have thought that the Conservatives of Ontario, and those in Ottawa would have been gratified. Integration is the finest thing that came down the pipe since Santa Claus. I said a moment ago, the loss on doing it is estimated by Benson as $273 million—that is at the end of the five-year period when it comes into full bloom—$273 million gone down the drain. You are losing as much on integration as you are gaining by taxing capital gains; you just offset one against the other.

Where do you get your extra money from? By the higher rates—the more progressive rates on certain ranges of income—that is the only place you get your money from under Benson's proposals.

It is defective in this particular regard but I say that you should be gratified with these proposals of Benson allowing full integration with closely-held corporations. It does permit

the small businessman to accumulate quite well because his tax is being paid. Every dime he gets is being paid through his corporation; there is no separate corporation tax—the 23 per cent like the other fellows—and so integration seems, to me, largely to obviate the difficulties there. But you must make provision for other things—certain kinds of loans and accelerated appreciation and whatnot—to aid this situation over the hump at least.

I was not interested in these matters, before arriving in this House a couple of years ago. It is all a new world to me and it is a very mysterious and intriguing world, too, like most things are after 40. If you think you are going to die in a few years, everything becomes infinitely interesting.

In any event, the government has been saying—and I read it in *Hansard* and I have seen it in speeches—that it hates double taxation, that the taxation system ought not to impose a double taxation first on the corporation and then on the dividend arrived from that corporation to the taxpayer. Those members said it season out of mind, and when the proposal comes along, they say, "I agree with you fellows." That is what Benson is saying to them: "I agree with you; I am going to change it completely; I am going to turn it inside out; I do not like double taxation of corporations and therefore I am going to integrate and make only one tax. The corporation belongs to the shareholder and therefore there is only one tax going to be charged."

Again I thought the government would take a holiday; you know, dance around the maypole for three quarters of an hour. Not at all. They want to eat their cake and have it too. They want integration; they do not want integration; they do not know what they want.

I have not heard a sensible statement—this is the fifth time I have repeated this tonight—emanating from your party, least of all by Stanfield; you know, that pseudo Lincoln character you thought you would get some common sense out of once in a while, but he has gone whole hog, he has become a politician. That is the end of him; shame. That is why politicians are held in slight regard because of this ability to obscure and not to face issues, not to see things as they are.

I want to know from your party, as quickly as may be, where you stand on this issue of integration. You should be for it, but you have spoken and your Prime Minister has spoken against it. He says that it is the ruination of the economy; it will undermine us all. A very strange position which escapes logic, escapes any kind of explanation as far as I can see.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You just said we have no opinions on it and now you have been criticizing our opinions for an hour.

Mr. Lawlor: Darn right! You know you have not been around long enough, the minister must take these things with a grain of salt. You did not expect to get off that easily.

The problems with the two-tiered system of tax, that is the 23 per cent and the 51 per cent, are so overwhelming in terms of what lawyers and tax accountants have done to the system in the way of tax avoidance and evasion, that it has become one monumental mess and it simply has to be wiped out. If Benson gives in on this issue I think he is doing a grave disservice to the people of Canada, and even to the small businessmen themselves, because there is quite a difference between a small businessman and a small business.

Mr. Sopha: Why do you not write him a letter and tell him so?

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Send him *Hansard.*

Mr. Lawlor: I will send him *Hansard.* He will also see where I do not go along with him.

Mr. Sopha: If you do not send him that speech of yours, I will send it to him.

Mr. Lawlor: In the report of the 1967—

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the hon. member could now shortly find a suitable place to break his address, so that we may adjourn at the adjournment hour.

Mr. Sopha: It was so enlightening, I would sit here all night.

Mr. Lawlor moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Grossman moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.25 o'clock, p.m.

No. 13

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Wednesday, March 11, 1970

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CONTENTS

Wednesday, March 11, 1970

Legislation re closedown of industries, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 461

Vesting of company pensions, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Deacon 461

Code re farm animal waste disposal pollution, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Nixon, Mr. MacDonald 461

Shutdown of Dunlop plant in east Toronto, questions to Mr. Robarts and Mr. Bales, Mr. MacDonald 464

Steven-Bird assault case, questions to Mr. Bales and Mr. Wishart, Mr. MacDonald 465

Supreme Court decision on Metropolitan Life case, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Lewis 465

Grace Hospital and other graduate nurses, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Burr 466

Investigation into irregularities at Windsor and London raceways, questions to Mr. MacNaughton Mr, Paterson 466

Consumers' Gas shutting off gas supplies, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Gisborn 467

Hydro purchasing policies, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Sargent 467

Ontario Human Rights Code, 1961-1962, bill to amend, Mr. Pilkey, first reading 468

Labour Relations Act, bill to amend, Mr. Lewis, first reading 468

Resumption of the debate on the speech from the throne, Mr. Lawlor, Mr. J. R. Smith, Mr. Ben 468

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Pilkey, agreed to 503

Motion to adjourn, Mr. MacNaughton, agreed to 503

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: In the east gallery this afternoon we have students from Holy Family Separate School in Toronto; in the west gallery, from the Toronto French School in Toronto, and the Adult Education Centre, Toronto Board of Education, Central YMCA in Toronto; and, in both galleries, from Essex Senior Public School in Toronto. Later this afternoon we will be joined by students from Gosfield North Central and Dr. S. F. Millen Public School in Cottam and McGillvray Central Public School, Ailsa Craig.

Statements by the ministry.

Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Premier. Is he prepared to consider the preparation and introduction of legislation which would put a heavier responsibility on industry which is considering closing down or changing its enterprise in such a way that it will deeply affect the employment of those people concerned with the industry?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this problem is one which we have recognized and faced in a variety of ways. I do not know that I could answer by simply saying the answer to the question would be, yes. We might consider, in the way the question is worded, I think, that it really indicates an awareness of the burden that does fall upon individuals when shifts in employment and industrial activity take place.

We are constantly looking for ways to lighten the burden. I outlined some of these in the discussion of this we had the other day. I cannot say at the moment that we have any legislation that we contemplate introducing immediately. I would make it very clear that we are aware of the problem and that we are searching for ways in which the burden of these events on the individual can be lightened and, at the same time, permit industry to function freely if it is to create new jobs in the province that we think it must.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: Would the Premier agree that the effective use of tax moneys at the federal level through manpower services and, at the provincial level, through the extensive facilities of The Department of Education might be brought to bear much more effectively if law or regulation required substantial notice of such changes? This is not an unreasonable aspect.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I do not think that is an unreasonable approach and that might be something that we will look at.

Mr. R. M. Deacon (York Centre): I would like to ask, Mr. Speaker, about the vesting of pensions being made compulsory at a much earlier date than, say, 10 years. If five years' vesting of all company contributions to pensions were compulsory it would make it much easier for the people to obtain other employment.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I think we might look at that, although if one permits one's mind to go back to the time the present pension legislation was introduced, this was a matter of some debate. There was some argument about the vesting, even at that time, in the 10-year period. To make it function, you have got to invest and you have got to reduce the right of the future pensionee to get at that money as well.

I recognize fully that social attitudes change and that a short time period might be more acceptable today than it was at the time that legislation was introduced, but at the time some people questioned even the wisdom of vesting.

But I would be happy to look at that and ask our pension committee to look at it as well.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Can he give the House further information as to the development of what has come to be called the code of practices associated with farm animal waste disposal pollution? Second, what was the role of his department in the development of this code? Third, what other arms of government were involved in it?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, re the development of the proposed, or suggested code of practice, it was drafted by officials of our department and the officials of The Department of Energy and Resources Management, with officials from the University of Guelph, Ontario Agricultural College, who have spent a great deal of time in studying and in research connected with disposal of animal wastes.

The proposed code of practice was simply a suggestion which was drafted for discussion with farm groups. Many meetings were held with farmers across the province. As a result of those meetings certain suggestions were made which would seem to have a great deal of merit. These have now been considered by the committee that drafted the original proposals, as a further proposal which will be again discussed in many places, particularly throughout the rural areas of Ontario.

We have undertaken, through discussions with the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management and our own personnel, to carry on the discussions with the farm groups and with farmers themselves so that we may have the full benefit of all the discussion possible, and the benefit of their advice as to the practicality of the application of this code of practice.

I think we must recognize—and I speak now as a farmer besides being a member of this House, Mr. Speaker, and one of the ministers—that there are changing conditions throughout rural Ontario today. We must recognize as well that, with the concentration of livestock and poultry units that we do find throughout the province, problems can develop which may cause problems for other people.

I should think that it would be in the interests of the farmers themselves to try to adhere to a reasonable commonsense type of code of practice with regard to the disposal of animal waste, so that those who may be offended by such odours and who may not be very conversant with or used to these, will not enter into some of the lawsuits that have plagued some of the farmers of this province because of these problems.

I think we have to recognize that there are two groups of people here that we must be concerned with—first of all, the farmer and the problems that he has, and also with those who may move into the communities and find some difficulties there.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): All right, write him a letter, get on with the question period. Write him a letter.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: This is the status of the situation at the moment. We hope that after further discussions we will be able to arrive at something that is practical for all concerned.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: Would the minister disagree, then, with the contention of the executive of the federation of agriculture that the code was developed without consultation with the federation?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, as far as the executive of the federation is concerned, that is quite true, but there were many federation members who were involved in the original discussions. We have offered to discuss this with the federation of agriculture. As a matter of fact, I have tried on two occasions to arrange such meetings. It was not convenient for them on one occasion and on the second occasion we had the committee drafting new proposals. We want to discuss the new proposals with the federation executive—this will be done just as soon as they are ready—but I think it is unfair to say that the proposed code of practice was drafted without discussion with farm people. As a matter of fact—

Mr. Nixon: Well, the minister was involved there.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh well, yes, I was involved, but going far beyond me, it involved at least one county council agriculture committee with whom the committee discussed this matter and visited certain farms and certain areas and saw the problems and discussed with them how they might best cope with these situations.

Mr. Nixon: One last supplementary. Does the minister expect this to be put forward simply as a commonsense code or, in fact, will it become a regulation of The Department of Energy and Resources Management to which the farmers will be forced to adhere?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am afraid the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, Mr. Speaker, would be in a much better position to answer that. But as far as—

Mr. Nixon: Oh no.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It is his bill.

Mr. Nixon: Yes, it is his bill, but—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, there is a bill that will likely be drafted, but this is not a regulation, nor is it proposed as a regulation of the bill. This is simply a code of practice that is being drafted now and is being studied by the various farmers.

Mr. Nixon: Would the hon. Minister of Agriculture's responsibility in this be as extensive as the other minister's?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I beg the hon. member's pardon?

Mr. Nixon: Is the hon. minister's responsibility as extensive as his colleague's in this?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: My responsibility? No. My part in this—

Mr. Nixon: As the Minister of Agriculture?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: As Minister of Agriculture I undertook to carry out the series of meetings wherever we could with farm people through the extension branch of our department and the extension branch engineers. I think that we are in a position to do so in our department, working with farm people all the time, and through our extension engineers, who have discussed plans with farmers that they are making for either the development of new livestock or poultry operations, or the expansion or renovation of existing ones. I felt that our department, on the request of The Department of Energy and Resources Management, could play a very useful role in bringing to the attention of the farmers the problem which some of them had already discussed with us and obviously were wanting some answers to, so that we could be helpful in this particular regard. But it is not, as an administrative problem, associated with our department.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question: Would the minister provide such members of the House as are interested with a copy of the first draft of this code of practice, so that we might as least be involved in the discussion and know what is going on at this point too?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The first code? I do not think there are very many copies around, quite frankly, and it has already been discarded because there have been things added to it already.

Mr. MacDonald: If the minister has one copy, would he make copies so that such members of the House as are interested in seeing it in its formative stages might have an opportunity to do so?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: This is a matter that can be taken under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Is the minister aware that the federation of agriculture has these copies and is distributing them?

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member for York South was asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food and then the Leader of the Opposition rose on a point of order at the same time the member for York South arose. I give the floor to the Leader of the Opposition for his point of order first, and then the member for York South will have the floor.

Mr. Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I simply wanted to put it to you, sir, that the code that is under discussion is already publicly available from the federation of agriculture.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, obviously that is not a point of order. It is just usurping the next question I wanted to ask.

Mr. Speaker, if this is now available and is being discussed, we will ultimately have to consider passing this legislation. Can we not have a copy of the draft, without any further consideration being given to it? Can we not have a copy of the draft, so that we will be as knowledgeable at the formative stage of this legislation too?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Let me say, Mr. Speaker, that the formative draft that our hon. friend from York South refers to, was simply used as a basis for discussion.

Mr. MacDonald: That is what we wanted to see.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: So certain suggestions were made regarding that. As a matter of fact, I did not see it before it was discussed with several farm groups.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): You got one too.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh no, I did not see it before it was discussed, because this is—

Mr. MacDonald: On a point of order. Will the minister answer my question instead of delivering another speech? Will he give us a copy of the original draft that was circulated across the province so that we of the

Legislature might know what is going on in the formation of new legislation?

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South has asked a question; the hon. minister may reply to it in any manner he wishes, or he may not reply to it. It is his decision.

The minister now has the floor if he wishes.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Oh, this is ridiculous.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, I have already replied to it. I said we will take that into consideration. I frankly think it is quite useless to talk about it at this time.

Some hon. members: Why?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Because they are not duplicated.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Leader of the Opposition completed his questions?

The member for York South has questions?

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It is difficult not to get exercised in this Legislature.

I have a couple of questions of the Prime Minister, in the absence of his Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales), with regard to the proposed shutdown of the Dunlop plant in east Toronto. Would the government consider conducting a feasibility study of the economics involved in the maintenance of this plant in operation, and meanwhile, avoid the dispersal of the current work force?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): That plant was antiquated 18 years ago when I worked there.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not know that we could do this at the present moment. If the company itself wants any assistance in revising its decision, we would be happy to give it. But I assume that it has examined the economics of the situation and made its decision.

The company has been in touch with The Department of Trade and Development, to see if this plant would be suitable for some other form of activity, so that it would not completely go out of production. But I do not see what value would be served at this time if we were to undertake what would, in effect, be a review by this government of the decision made by the company that this operation is no longer economic.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: One at a time, please, then I might be able to understand what the members are talking about.

Mr. MacDonald: A supplementary question: Has the government been presented in any form at all, by the company, with an assessment of the economics which led it to the conclusion that the plant could not continue to operate? Have they presented it to the government and has the government examined it, as an alternative to doing a study itself?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I cannot tell you specifically what was presented to the Minister of Labour, but I know that he had discussions with the company. I would be very surprised if they did not set out, in some detail, the reasons why they were doing what they were doing. There would be no point in them coming to us and telling us otherwise.

I can only say that this has not been presented to me and therefore I cannot answer the question specifically. But I have no doubt that in the meetings that the Minister of Labour spoke about when this matter arose, I believe the day before yesterday, they did then present to him the reasons why they were doing what they were doing.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, just so that we can resolve that doubt, or make certain of it. May I ask the Minister of Labour, who just entered the Legislature, did Dunlop present to the Minister of Labour any details regarding their assessment of the economics which led them to the conclusion that the plant could not continue in operation, so that the government could assess whether or not that was a valid conclusion?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, my discussion with the president of the company was of a general nature, but it also dealt with their difficulties in the past years in that particular phase of their industry. There has been a serious problem in sales because of imports into this country selling at a lower rate than they can sell.

I explored what changes had been made in the company structure, from an industry standpoint, in recent years. I was told they had modernized this plant and spent considerable money doing it, but 1969 had not resulted in an effective increase in sales, because of imports from abroad at a lower price.

Mr. MacDonald: May I switch, for a related phase of this, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Labour? Would the Minister of

Labour consider establishing the necessary machinery for an annual assessment of what happens to each member of this work force so that we can get a clear picture of the kind of hardships that are faced by a work force when they are dispersed and seek employment elsewhere, over, say, a five-year period?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, this matter was discussed at a meeting that I had on Monday in my office with the president of the union and other officers. I think it may be something that we might want to assess over a period of time, but to pick five years at this time is too long. I think it is a matter of looking at it over a limited period of time and then seeing what further assessment needs to be made. I would think you could look at it over a period of a year and see where these people are then. Some of them may be well and permanently situated, others may not. But I think it is a matter of assessing it at that point, not now.

Mr. MacDonald: As a supplementary, is the minister indicating that he is intending to do that? I am willing to buy a year by way of a start.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I am looking at the feasibility of doing this. I am not making a commitment that we are doing it; I am looking at the feasibility of doing this at the present time.

Mr. MacDonald: A question of the Minister of Labour on a completely different topic. Would the Minister of Labour table in this House a copy of reports that were presented to the human rights commission by the human rights officer in Hearst last April with reference to the Bird-Steven assault case?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that under consideration.

Mr. MacDonald: To the Attorney General: In this afternoon's *Telegram*, in the Ron Haggart column, there is a quotation from a letter that the Attorney General sent to a *Telegram* reader, with reference to the role of the justice of the peace in the Bird-Steven assault case, in which the Attorney General stated:

> —it was unfortunate that the justice of the peace took it upon himself to advise these individuals that the crown attorney would not be acting on this particular complaint.

Since that decision was made by the justice of the peace literally within a day or two of the assault, on April 5, and it was confirmed by two officers of various government departments some 10 days later that they were not going to move, was it not within the powers of the crown attorney to reverse the position and to take up the case any time before Mr. Karswick took it over at the end of the month of April?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member asked a question about this last year and I made some partial answer in the House. He spent some time in his debate in reply to the Speech from the Throne, and nothing his remarks—and actually he raised the question again earlier before he spoke in the House—I took it upon myself to prepare a complete statement, as I had promised him an answer. That answer I will give in the House and I will include, at that time, an answer to this question. I will deal with it fully.

Mr. MacDonald: A further question of the Minister of Labour. Would the minister indicate when the government proposes to introduce amendments to The Labour Relations Act to meet the situation which was created by the supreme court decision on the Metropolitan Life case?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, that is under consideration at the moment and will be dealt with in due course.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware that there are at least 20 cases now before the Ontario Labour Relations Board which have been placed in total jeopardy because of the government's refusal to introduce legislation?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question is merely: Is he aware certain cases are before the board?

Mr. Lewis: I will terminate it there. But I would like an answer, because I am not sure the minister is aware.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I am very much aware of the situation.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware that certifications which have been granted are now being reviewed, and the entire collective bargaining process adjourned, awaiting a government amendment?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, as I said at the beginning, this matter is under careful and active consideration and that is the case.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware that it is a simple and elemental

change in wording which is required, and that it could be introduced tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker: This is not a proper supplementary question. The minister has stated he is aware of all these facts.

Mr. Lewis: There are now thousands of people not benefiting from collective bargaining.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a final question of the Minister of Health. Why did the minister last week tell the conference on nursing education that the only way Ontario could keep a good nursing work force was to rely on immigration, despite the fact that a great many Grace Hospital nurses would be available if they were allowed to write RN exams on the same basis as immigrant nurses coming into this province?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Of course, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member had researched this a bit he would have found that special arrangements have been made for the Grace graduate nurses. Indeed, as I gave assurances in this House last year during my estimates, I took this matter up with the College of Nurses, and they agreed to extend the waivers and allow those Grace nurses who failed in their exams the last time to write again before January 31, 1971.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, we have asked many questions on this and we would have appreciated that reply earlier instead of its being kept secret.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I might say it has not been kept secret. It was communicated about two weeks ago to Mrs. Dorothy Mathers, who represents this group, and met with me about two weeks ago.

Mr. MacDonald: That is not bad; that took a whole year.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The member is uninformed, that is his problem.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Sandwich-Riverside a supplementary question?

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Yes, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary: Has the minister, then, received satisfactory replies from the College of Nursing, which he asked for last year, regarding the permission for the graduate nurses who had an interruption in their last five years of experience to write the examination?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, the college is still looking into that. I have not had a resolution of that part of the problem.

Mr. Burr: Is the minister pressing for an answer?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I never press anybody, but I asked them if they could let me know as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex South.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Yes, Mr. Speaker, a question of the provincial Treasurer; I have given notice of this question. Can the minister, on behalf of the Ontario Racing Commission, report to the House as to how the investigation is proceeding into the irregularities regarding the possible doping of horses at the Windsor Raceway last fall? Also, is it true that specimen samples had to be sent to British Columbia for testing, that the Ontario Racing Commission could not do this work, and further, how are the investigations going on under the similar circumstances that occurred in London a few weeks ago?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for having given me notice of this question. The answer to part one is that investigation into irregularities regarding the possible doping of horses in Windsor on December 13, 1969, is now completed. The hon. member for Essex South will no doubt remember that the race in which the affected horses were entered was canceled and was not run. From a technical point of view, therefore, no offence was actually committed against either the rules of the Ontario Racing Commission or the Canadian Trotting Association. The evidence available was not sufficient to take any other legal action. As a result of this incident, all racing authorities in Ontario have been alerted and security measures have tightened at all tracks.

The answer to part two of the question is that urine samples taken in connection with this investigation were sent to a laboratory in British Columbia by the Canada Department of Agriculture, which is the government agency responsible for urine collection procedures at all tracks in Canada. The provincial laboratory in Toronto is able to do this testing and does regularly perform in this capacity. However, the Canada Department of Agriculture makes use of other provincial laboratory services to test some of the urine samples collected in Ontario, and similarly the Toronto laboratory tests urine samples from horses in other parts of Canada.

The answer to part three is that the investigation of the incidence at London Raceway on February 21 is not as yet completed. However, the commission is unable to find any connecting link with the Windsor case in December. I can, if it is wished, Mr. Speaker, make a further report in two or three weeks' time for the member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, my question is of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Will the minister take action to restrict the privileged prerogative of Consumers' Gas to shut off gas supplies without notice to residents because of delinquent payments?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, I was not aware that Consumers' Gas shut off gas supplies to its customers without notice, and certainly I will find out if they do so. I was always under the impression that there was some form of a notice, or a warning, before they did such a thing as that, particularly in wintertime.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, a question of the first minister, as the member for London North. Will he tell me if he is in favour of the practice of Ontario Hydro, or any government agencies, giving orders to a Japanese firm, as against Dunlop for $350,000? If this is the case—

Mr. MacDonald: That was asked yesterday when the member was away.

Mr. Sargent: Was it? I am sorry. Is the Prime Mniister in favour of this?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I answered this question. I said that Hydro had certain purchasing policies dealing with Canadian content, and so on.

On the other hand, in this particular instance there was a difference of 26 per cent in the cost. I know from the tenor of many questions asked the government by this member on previous occasions that he is very cognizant of the expenditure of taxpayers' money. He is always very alert to the idea that their money might not be spent properly. And, as I say, the difference in this particular case is 26 per cent, which is too large a difference to overlook.

We do not, as in some provinces, limit purchases by emanations of this government to Ontario firms only. We get a certain amount of pressure from firms in this province to do so because they suffer from discrimination in other provinces. But we do not believe in it and we do not discriminate any more than we have to. On the other hand, we want as much material bought that has Ontario content as possible, of course, in order to provide jobs in this province.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): A point of order, Mr. Speaker. I want to raise a point of order that is directly related to the question period, and which—

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I might announce that the question period is now over; the time has expired. We will now hear the point of order and trust that it is not a question.

Mr. Sopha: Are you ready? I will begin again. I want to raise a point of order that is directly related to the question period and amounts to, what I contend, your honour, to be a breach of the privileges of the House.

That point of order surrounds the fact that the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) this mornnig held a press conference at which he announced a matter of government policy which directly, and very pervasively, affects the economic life of the Sudbury basin. One would have expected that if he had regard to the conventions of parliament, he would have come in here and made a ministerial statement—

Mr. Speaker: The member has stated his point of order—

Mr. Sopha: I have not completed it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will then stick to the point of order and not the evidence by which he wishes to prove it, because it is the Speaker's duty to decide—

Mr. Sopha: You will not know until I have finished.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will resume his seat while the Speaker is on his feet and I will then yield him the floor. The hon. member will state his point of order, not the evidence by which he proposes to prove it. If he has a point of order, then I will be glad to allow him to bring it to the attention of the House and to help him.

Mr. Sopha: I have finished with that point, but according to the customs of parliament he should have come in and made a ministerial statement about that matter of government policy. At the very least, he ought

to have come in and submitted himself to questioning by myself and the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel), who are vitally interested in this announcement of government policy. I contend that his actions in holding a full-blown press conference this morning, in respect of that important announcement, amounted to a contempt of parliament.

Finally, since it was a matter of government policy to which that press conference related, I had hoped that I would be able to direct a question to the head of the government to ask him, in the absence of his minister, to give the House details concerning that announcement of government policy.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is now off his point of order. The hon. member is now complaining that he did not get the Speaker's eye, and he did not.

Mr. Sopha: That is the difficulty.

Mr. Speaker: Again, might I ask the hon. member to resume his seat? I will try not to put him down more often than I have to.

The hon. member has raised a point of order which, if it is so, is quite a good point of order, but as far as Mr. Speaker is concerned, he would have to check into it and find out. I know nothing about any conference and I will be glad to see if there was one. The head of the government is here and I am sure that he will look into the matter also, because it affects, as the hon. member has said, government policy and how government policy statements are made. I think the hon. member's point is well taken, but I think it will have to rest there at this moment. If the member has anything further I will be glad to hear it.

Mr. Sopha: Well, yes. I just wanted to ask, in the case that he is here tomorrow, would you let me catch your eye?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That assumes that the hon. member will be here tomorrow.

Mr. Sopha: I am here more often than you are.

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member for Sudbury that he had caught my eye, but not until two other members of his party had. Had we had an hour's question period today there is no question the member would have been in, but we only had half an hour. We had some very long dialogues, or such like, in the short, half-hour question period. I would hope we can avoid that in the future and get more questions in.

Petitions.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE ONTARIO HUMAN RIGHTS CODE, 1961-1962

Mr. Pilkey moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Ontario Human Rights Code, 1961-1962.

Mr. Speaker: I trust the date of notice has been given.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, this bill adds the sex of a person as one of the grounds on which no person may discriminate against another in the manner set forth in the Act.

THE LABOUR RELATIONS ACT

Mr. Lewis moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Labour Relations Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, the requirements that employees be members in a trade union for certification purposes is replaced by requirements that the employees have authorized the trade union to represent them. The amendment would modify the strict requirements for membership laid down by the courts in the recent unreported case of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company versus the International Union of Operating Engineers. We are thus pleased to facilitate the government introduction of an amendment.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The third order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Last evening, Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, I invited you to become a goalie. But apart

from that, I was attempting to cut beneath the skin of the Benson proposals and the reaction by this government, the reactionary reaction under this head: I wanted to make Benson bleed a bit, to get away for a few moments at least from the superficiality and the obfuscation that has surrounded this most critical issue of our times.

I cursorily compared the MacNaughton white paper of last spring with the Benson proposals, pointing out their similarities and their contrasts and I came to the conclusion, which I think was well merited on the evidence, Mr. Speaker, that the Benson proposals are fundamentally by and large and in essence a Tory document. If such is the case, then I wondered, with the gravest kind of misgivings, as to why on earth the Tories of this province—and that fellow who is wandering across the face of the Dominion making completely backward speeches, the federal leader of that party—should take the position that they are. There has been forthcoming before this House no legitimate, nor any explanation whatsoever, as to the present Tory stand *vis-à-vis* Benson. This is a dereliction in their responsibility, particularly as their position on examination is really very close.

I briefly ran over what I thought our stand on succession duties ought to be, that we ought not to abandon succession duties in this province, particularly in view of the defective nature of many aspects of The Estate Tax Act the federal government brought in a few months ago. And finally we had something of a discussion on capital gains taxation as such, to which the government in power here gives lip service, but the capital gains tax, as far as being a fructifying and worthwhile situation as envisaged by the government's white paper, fails lamentably. I pointed out that as far as Benson is concerned, Benson seems to be—and the public propaganda says so—taxing capital gains, when in effect, so far as people holding shares in the widely held companies are concerned, there was only a 25 per cent capital gains tax and 75 per cent went scot-free.

A man who is making his money by way of dividends in the stock exchange, say to the point of $8,000 a year income, is therefore in a much better preferred and privileged position against the same man making $8,000 by way of working in a factory. This is extremely discriminatory legislation, and for anyone to pretend otherwise than that this is the gist of the current emotional appeal, goes contrary to the fact and to any rational examination of what the Benson proposals actually say.

I have launched at this stage, then, into the area of small business about which such a horrendous howl has gone up in this province and elsewhere across the country. Fundamentally in its adjectival phase some things can be said for the howl, but fundamentally I have never heard them make a distinction.

I was speaking to a lawyer friend of mine the other day, and in the course of the conversation he said he had spent time at a cocktail party one Sunday afternoon discussing nothing else but the fate of the small businessman under Benson. And I said to him, "Well, you know, of course, that Benson does not affect unincorporated entities, clubs or partnerships of all kinds, and these are the vast host of small businesses in this country and this province." He said, "Oh, is that so?" And I said, "Glory be to heavens, we cannot make any real contributions to the cause on that basis. When such a singular fact is also so saliently omitted, how can you possibly talk rationally about it at all?"

We are in no worse and no better position except that the rates are higher on incomes after certain levels than they ever were. And so the small business fraternity in this regard is not in any way being robbed or in any way being overburdened, in my opinion, as long as it is unincorporated under the Benson proposal.

That takes about two thirds of the slices off the pie. Let us deal with the other one third, these small businesses that are incorporated and that are also closely held corporations. There are large businesses that are closely held, but most small incorporated businesses are closely held. Whatever that phrase means, Benson never spells it out nor do we know with any precision exactly what he is after. The tax structure is arranged in two tiers at the present time and special preference is made to small incorporated businesses with 23 per cent of their profits up to $35,000.

What Benson proposes is that you go right through the corporate veil, you integrate the money made by a taxpayer's corporation, as at present, with personal corporations and with certain kinds of closely held corporations under the federal income tax. You simply penetrate the corporate veil. The money made by the corporation is also income in the hands of the shareholders of that corporation and the tax that the corporation pays to the full extent of that tax—50 per cent tax on the taxable profits of that corporation and 100 per cent of that 50 per cent—is deemed to be tax paid on behalf of the shareholders.

The sifting through on that basis, if you look at page 95 of Benson, indicates there is considerable revenue lost both to this province and to the federal government precisely because of that integration feature. Far from making money on the deal, if the government is losing it, at least somebody must be saving it, and I can only say to some extent this applies to the small businessman who is working within the incorporated entity.

All right, suppose it is subject to dispute, and I am willing to concede that Benson's proposals in certain peripheral instances will detrimentally affect the interest of the small incorporated businessman. If that is so, then there are many devices, without in any way disarranging or dislocating the logic of our tax structure, to compensate such individuals, and where they deserve it they ought to be compensated to remain in business and to be able to accumulate capital to expand and grow in their businesses. Concessions must be made to small businesses that need not be made to large business enterprises because of the paucity and dearth of funds in the capital market. Trying to get a loan from the bank means you have to have as much money sitting in the bank as you are borrowing, generally speaking; the terms are very high. Small businessmen do run into an infinity of trouble in this regard.

Well, why not in this context, segment this out and give, for instance, accelerated depreciation to these people? Depreciation is used by both small and large businesses as a way of capital funds being made available for the renovation and the expansion of an existing enterprise. Look at the way they accelerated the mining taxation. Acceleration, when it is practically reduced to zero, can be wiped out as they see fit and there is no reason then, in this area, which is a tender and delicate area in our economy, that particular measure might not be taken.

The second thing that might be done is that loans may be far more easily available to the small businessman.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): There is quite a difference between that and the suggestion—

Mr. Lawlor: I cannot hear the minister.

Hon. Mr. White: Terribly different.

Mr. Lawlor: I cannot hear.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Speak up.

Mr. Lawlor: If the Tories of this province—

Hon. Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, I am following the hon. member's remarks with interest, but I would point out to him that—

Mr. Speaker: Is the minister on a point of order or asking a question?

Hon. Mr. White: I am making a comment, if the hon. member will permit me.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member will accept a question, then the minister may ask it. Otherwise he is out of order, unless he has a point of order.

Hon. Mr. White: Will my hon. friend concur with me when I say that accelerated appreciation is simply an interest-free loan, whereas preferential tax status is a way by which a small corporation can develop capital on its own account?

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, and I think that under the interest-free loan concept, in order to have some kind of rationality, if you are going to have a structure in corporation tax, then let the structure stand.

Let me go further than that. Let me give the reasons to this House as to why you simply must abolish the differential rate because of the iniquities and inequities that it breeds. It becomes so overwhelming in tax law as to rule out any argument in their favour at all.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Even the Toronto *Telegram* says you should.

Mr. Lawlor: I am reading from the 1967 conference report of the Canadian Tax Foundation at page 69. The commission states its objections to the split rate in volume 4, page 270, by giving six and then commenting:

> 1. The low corporate rate does not apply to unincorporated businesses which may have just as much or more difficulty in raising funds.

All partnerships are in the same spot; why preferential status simply because of corporations?

> 2. An income of $35,000 or less does not mean that the corporation is owned by low income shareholders – that is, has few assets, or small gross sales, or that it is new. Using the low income criterion as a means of selecting the corporation's eligibility for low rate, results in a situation where the incentive has little, if any, relationship to the underlying problem, which is the inadequacy of funds for expan-

sion because of the imperfections in the capital market.

3. The low rate is inefficient as an incentive because it applies to the first $35,000 of corporate income regardless of the magnitude of the total income of the corporation. It thus reduces the average rate of tax for larger corporations which have no difficulty in raising funds on the capital market.

4. The concession is also inefficient because it applies whether the rate of return is high or low, or whether the assets or sales of the corporation are expanding or contracting. The concession has no time limit so there is no inducement for the corporation to expand. Indeed, as its income expands, its taxes increase more than proportionately and therefore it acts as a block or a break in the economy.

5. By reducing the tax on low income corporations in perpetuity it tends to cushion the market pressures on inefficient and declining firms.

6. The concession also creates many potential avenues for abuse.

This is where I am really concerned.

To stop the worst loopholes it has been necessary to enact elaborate provisions designed to prevent the breakup of large income companies into a number of small income companies that would each enjoy the reduced rate of tax.

Hon. Mr. White: That problem has been solved.

Mr. Lawlor: The original intention—

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): What is the citation?

Mr. Lawlor: This is the Canadian Tax Foundation volume for 1967.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): You are not going to read the whole thing, are you?

Mr. Lawlor: Pretty well.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Just listen and you might learn something.

Mr. Sargent: Tell us what page you are on and we will mark it down.

Mr. Lawlor: The hon. member makes a very good hockey player, but as a tax expert, I think he has missed his vocation.

Mr. Ben: Could you tell me what page you are reading from?

Mr. Lawlor: Sixty-nine.

The original intention of the legislation was no doubt to provide an incentive to small businessmen, but as it has worked out, it has provided an incentive to small business, which is by any means almost the same thing. If a number of small businessmen join together to pool their efforts in a single company, tax will be paid at the lower corporate rate on only the first $35,000 of their pooled income, and the excess will be taxed at the higher rate.

On the other hand, a wealthy businessman may be involved in many small businesses, each of which will be entitled to the benefit of the lower tax bracket if he takes care to avoid the associated corporations rules. If the businesses are clearly separate and distinct he need have little fear of the discretionary powers of the minister to associate companies under section 138(a) of The Income Tax Act.

The members may as well have a lesson in tax avoidance. These things are used by tax lawyers and are very neat devices. You do not have to pay $1,000 for these next 15 words.

If he holds no more than 50 per cent of the voting shares plus a casting vote as chairman of the meeting, and if the remaining shares are held by different groups in each company, section 39(4) will be inapplicable.

Therefore, the company remains in the lower tax bracket.

If more than 50 per cent of the shares are involved, he can often arrange for other members of the family to hold them rather than himself, an arrangement which often ties in quite well with his estate planning programme. It is clear enough that the present system is absurd and must be replaced.

He is not a New Democrat that is writing this stuff.

Hon. Mr. White: Well, you socialists are all alike.

Mr. Lawlor: I am saying to you that you do not recognize the nature or the colour of its eyes. This man is not a New Democrat; he is probably more Tory than you are.

Mr. MacDonald: One of the editorial writers of the Toronto *Telegram*.

Mr. Deans: More intelligent, too.

Mr. Lawlor: In any event, under the Benson proposals the small closely held corporations,

if they wish, they have an election to be taxed as partnerships rather than as corporations. They are in no different position either one way or the other.

All right. These are alternative proposals. I still believe there may be a nucleus of truth to the fact that they will be oppressed and their capitalization programme made more difficult under Benson. If such is the case, do work on the accelerated appreciation; make loans available to them at low interest rates. If you Tories in this province were half as interested in helping the small businessman instead of blowing your horn about him and doing nothing, as you are in bringing in magnificent American corporations with interest-free forgivable loans, then something might be done in this regard.

Mr. MacDonald: That is a fact.

Mr. Sargent: Now you are starting.

Mr. Lawlor: Good. Thanks Eddie, you are on my side.

Mr. Sargent: First intelligent thing you have said all day.

Mr. MacDonald: Your own income tax on small business is the same as big business.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Speaker, I want to talk for a few moments about the concept of integration itself. It is the central core of Benson and of Carter. I have grave misgivings about it and I have not seen very much said on the other side of the coin. The economists, the theoreticians, the tax lawyers, are almost overwhelmingly in favour of this integration. That is where the moneys belonging to a corporation are deemed to belong directly to the shareholders; they own the corporation. I wonder if that is any longer so?

James Burnham wrote a book called "The managerial revolution" some many years ago. He pointed out that there is a grave distinction between the ownership in a modern—I am thinking of the large corporations—a great discrimination between ownership of a corporation and control of a corporation. The control vests in the boys who run the corporation. The shares are widely dispersed, so that the individual shareholder has not a sufficient weight within the body of the corporation to make it felt. He gets a notice maybe once a year; the annual statement of the corporation.

In the great majority of cases the shareholders do not attend the meetings. Most of them make out proxy forms, or if they do not do that, then they just simply sit and wait for the dividend statement to come in. In the modern world, a corporation is a separate and distinct personality, for all intents and purposes, from its shareholders. They are not one and the same entity. In law a corporation has a personality; as I said the other night, it can do everything but blow its nose. I suppose a goodhearted shareholder might blow it for it, if it came to that.

But to say that a corporation is merely an intermediary between a body out here and its shareholders, and that the veil should be completely lifted may not be the best step taken, when you, particularly, give regard to the fact that the revenue loss in integration is very staggering—on the scale of $273 million, according to the Benson estimates, but according to the MacNaughton estimates not quite so high, $75 million.

For the purposes of consistency, for the purposes of rationalizing a fiscal system, I would be inclined, on the other hand, to give a certain weight to the integration cut, if the loss on the revenue were in any way commensurate with what the Ontario studies say it is. If it is only a loss of $73 million to $75 million, then the benefits in terms of rationalization seem to me to overweigh that, particularly as I think it will be caught up in the future as the capital gains accruals begin to come into the income base.

I wish sincerely, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. Treasurer for Ontario (Mr. MacNaughton) could have heard; I missed him sorrowfully last night. I could not really get myself worked up.

Mr. Sargent: Is that why you are giving the same speech today?

Mr. Lawlor: It is quite a different speech.

Mr. Sargent: Same thing you said last night.

Mr. Lawlor: You would not know the difference.

Mr. Sargent: Just think what you sound like to us.

Mr. MacDonald: Tie him up.

Mr. Lawlor: You know, he sounds like a fox terrier nipping at my heels. Would you go and sit on him, Mr. Speaker? A nontaxable fox terrier I think is what we have here.

The federal government estimates that $630 million of increased revenue would be brought into the Treasury. The Ontario people say $1,285 million. I would like to know from

the Treasurer as quickly as possible who is right.

There is a radical differential between these two sets of figures in this area of integration, with the Ontario government saying a figure that is about one sixth less than what the federal government had estimated as revenue loss arising out of integration. These are crucial factors which one must have at one's fingertips in order to make a decision as to the benefits or otherwise and the contrasting merits of this whole integration concept, which I say everything in Benson turns upon.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): That is why we put the figures forward.

Mr. Lawlor: Have you got them finally worked out?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: You have got them.

Mr. Lawlor: Oh? Well, good.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: You have got them. You are referring to them now.

Mr. Lawlor: No, these are the figures that you took along with you. You were going to resolve your differences and you wanted an extra 10 days. You wanted the conference put off so you could sit down and, in the quiet of your study, with your own little computer, work all these things out, Mr. Treasurer.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Not true, we were doing other things.

Mr. Lawlor: I would like to see the figures from the final resolution of the issue.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Have you got them resolved yet?

Mr. Lawlor: Yes; have you got them resolved? The federal people—

Mr. J. Renwick: Is it too early to press you?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: It would be, but I have not got it.

Mr. J. Renwick: What have you been doing?

Mr. Lawlor: It is terribly important. What have you been doing? They have been down for over two weeks. I understand, Mr. Speaker, that the federal authorities came into the Ontario Treasury; they made a trip to Toronto to work over the figures conjointly—this over a fortnight ago now. We still sit in some kind of limbo of misinformation or non-information from the Treasurer.

Particularly before his estimates get going, this is fairly crucial to make an assessment to which way one should follow integration.

There is one other aspect of the matter that must be considered—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Oh, you have.

Mr. Lawlor: —if we do not go for integration. If we say that the corporate entity is a separate and distinct personality from its shareholders, which has been our rule up to now and is the rule in most of the western world, ours is a new departure, a new—completely new—principle. If this is done, then there is one catch and that is the argument of double taxation—that the dividends issued by a corporation to its shareholders ought to be a deductible item.

They ought to be treated in precisely the same way as debt capital borrowed in the form of bonds or debentures, or otherwise where the interest that goes out to the capital loan is a recognized and valid deduction from the corporate earnings in order to reach net profit.

That is a very hard point, and again, just to get some kind of figures—and neither yourselves nor Benson have gone deeply into this matter, this possible alternative—the loss there I suspect would be greater than the loss that would take place through the integration process. The loss to the treasury of contemporary governments on the magnitudes that we are talking about, $73 million or $250 million, is just too harsh a burden, particularly considering the restrictive nature in our crying for funds. It is an absolute necessity to have funds in a diversity of regions for the proper industrial and proper growth of this society, and therefore we can not easily toss away moneys of this kind.

So the thing revolves around what is finally going to come up as far as I am concerned as to what the precise loss will be. I rather suspect, Mr. Speaker, that the federal figures are more likely to be accurate than those proceeding from the Ontario government. They have worked through Carter; they have had the expertise on a scale that is not available here. I think you are going to get very much of a black eye, Mr. Treasurer, when you finally come up with your figures. You may be sitting on them now for that very reason.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is more wishful thinking than actual fact.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, we will abide by it.

Mr. J. Renwick: When is it going to happen?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Do not hold your breath.

Mr. Lawlor: We will see what happens on it. That would be my suspicion.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I think it would support that.

Mr. Lawlor: I think the suspicion would have many grounds and I will be able to stand up—

Mr. J. Renwick: We do not mind you making whatever you want available, as long as you can support it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. Renwick: He got some of the OHSIP figures mixed up.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: They are not mixed up, you are mixed up.

Mr. Lawlor: Really, with integration, the distinction between widely held and closely held corporations is neither logical, nor has any merit in any other regard. The only reason that it has been brought into being is that the federal government simply could not afford full integration. With full integration, your loss would have been so great as to be prohibitive.

I want to deal now for a few moments, Mr. Speaker, with natural resources and the taxation of our mineral industries, and with the minister who is the Santa Claus of all giveaways in this House, the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence). He has been traipsing about the province making numerous speeches in this regard and I think he should be called up short. It is too distinctly complex an issue in the field of taxation on depletion of mineral resources and oil, to be able to give any final, or even an indication of, a final solution.

But let us see what Benson is trying to do at least, before we hear all the catcalls and all the invective that we have had to put up with. Benson, at 13 in his summary section, which brings all his proposals together at the beginning, says this:

> Too many changes are proposed. The first would replace the three-year tax exemption for new mines with a special role permitting capital costs depreciation of fixed assets purchased for the development and operation of a new mine, to be charged off against income from that mine as quickly as desired. This change would take effect in 1974, at the expiration of the period for which the government in 1967 gave assurances that the three-year exemption would continue.
>
> The new rule would ensure that in the high risk business of mining business taxes would not be paid until investments in new projects were recovered, but it would do so on a more economical basis than the present exemption.

That is number one, depreciation.

Second paragraph, on depletion.

> The second change concerns depletion allowances. The existing maximums would continue to apply, generally no more than one third of production profits. But a taxpayer could run out of depletion allowances unless he continues to explore for and/or develop Canadian minerals.

I emphasize it so strongly, because what is the purpose of giving tax holidays, accelerated depreciation allowances or depletion allowances of $1 in every $3, which applies to no one else in the whole economy, to someone who is wasting resources—irreplaceable ones—if not to give an incentive to exploration and development? Benson has at least had the acuity to focus in on this particular problem, wiping out all the rest of the muck and all the aid that is given to the mining and oil companies.

He says: "I am going to zero you boys in on development and exploration. Unless you go forward with further exploration and development of mining industries of this country you will run out of your depletion allowances."

A brilliant solution! I say that the thing is obscure and complex because it has all kinds of other features, but that simple core has much merit; and I wish that the Minister of Mines were here to meet this particular one, because he is such a great guy for giving money away in our depleting industries without any form of logic or any rationale whatsoever—

Mr. J. Renwick: Except to swell profits!

Mr. Lawlor: He is just atavistically inclined to giving money away to these enterprises because he is a big shot now, allied with this particular industry. Benson is zeroing in. Every $3 of qualifying expenditures made

after this white paper is published would "earn" the taxpayer the right of $1 depletion allowances, if and when his production profits permit. Depletion allowances on new properties would have to be earned; there would be immediate depletion and unearned allowances would be continued for five years on existing properties as a transitional measure. Then he goes over this and that, listing the capsulated area of explanation. Next he draws out some of the, it is an eyebolt—I will spare the member for Grey-Bruce more pain—

Mr. J. Renwick: No, no, no!

Mr. Lawlor: But I mean his cerebral processes move with that enormous speed that takes all evolution into account.

Mr. J. Renwick: Keep quiet; you are only antagonizing the man.

Mr. Lawlor: No, I should point out too that he was so anxious last night to read all the pages. Just start at page 60, 61, 62, 63; and I shall just read a little on page 65.

> At present the profits derived from the first three years of operations of a new mine are exempt from Canadian corporate tax. This provision provides an incentive to corporations to commit the large amounts of money necessary to develop a mine and recognizes this commitment must often be made at a time when the extent and quality of the ore body cannot be clearly ascertained.
>
> However, the government believes that in many instances a three-year exemption is too generous. Neither exploration and development costs, nor depreciation, need to be deducted during the exempt period.

When they get the tax holidays they think they are getting double deductions, they are getting double depreciation. Who ever heard of people being able to depreciate anything you own twice?

"Neither explorations, the benefit costs, nor depreciation need be deducted during the exempt period."

> As a result, many more than three years' profit are effectively exempt, and taxpayers can recover much more of their investment without becoming taxable.

That is the general provision that he makes. He speaks of the inefficiencies of paragraphs 5.38 and 5.39, which I will not go into, built into the present system; the inefficiencies and the disincentives, really, that exist. He goes on and then says:

> The government believes that both of these inefficiencies can be substantially reduced if the depletion allowance is one more directly related to the activities which it is desired to affect. Consequently, it is proposed that after a suitable transition period in respect of mineral rights held by the taxpayer on the day this white paper is published, depletion allowances would have to be earned.
>
> The existing maximums would continue to apply, that is generally no more than one third production profits, but the taxpayer could only deduct these maximums, or any amount, if he spends enough on exploration for or development of mineral deposits in Canada or on those fixed assets described in another paragraph that are acquired for the exploitation of a new Canadian mine.

He goes on:

> Under the proposed system a taxpayer could run out of depletion allowances unless he continues to explore for and/or develop Canadian minerals.

What does the brilliant "white knight from St. George" say about incentives to explore? He made four speeches. This is speech number two of January 28, giving us a holiday in Barrie, on page 14:

> One other matter that concerns me as mines minister, one who is particularly concerned with attempting to formulate policies to have Canadian resources developed by and for Canadian. As a developing nation we cannot afford the luxury—

Oh, I am sorry. It is the wrong one. I will come to that in a minute. This is speech number one.

Hon. Mr. White: It read pretty well, it read all right. That is the best part of the member's speech.

Mr. Lawlor: This is speech number one, a few days earlier, as a matter of fact the previous night. This is at the Cobalt community hall.

> But what now happens, in the face of aggressive and successful international competition for an apparently declining, or at least hard to get amount of new capital development. Our federal government proposes, in Mr. Benson's white paper on taxation, to drastically reduce, and in some cases eliminate, the incentive and encouragement provisions that have helped so

> much in the past. At the very time that we in the Ontario government are providing new incentives for the life blood of the mining industry, namely prospecting and exploration, our government in Ottawa is proposing that what they now have be curtailed.

I leave it to this House. In all fairness, anybody with any common sense at all can judge between the mines minister and Benson on this particular policy and see who is right.

Mr. J. Renwick: Hear, hear; That is easy, the member will get a vote on that one right now.

Mr. Lawlor: The mines minister's statements are unresearched and completely scandalous. For a minister of the Crown to have so much ineptitude and so little knowledge of his own department with the taxation policies he brings into being is a thing that is incredible to me.

Hon. Mr. White: We are trying to develop the mines.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Tell us about the development in Cobalt.

Hon. Mr. White: Before hon. members condemn us, look at the Australian taxes.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: I was mentioning another speech. I just wanted to point up the perspicuity of this minister with regard to taxation policies generally. He made this speech that I mentioned, at the Holiday Inn. On page 14 of that one he said:

> As a developing nation we cannot afford the luxury of an estate tax or succession duties.

I had not realized that that was government policy.

> These facts have helped us turn into a capital exporting nation at the very time we need all the capital we can get to help us develop. A sensible, fair and equitable capital gains tax, yes, but only if it means the abolition of the state tax, death duties or succession duties.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Did the Treasurer see that?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The Treasurer thinks that is great. Why not pay it as you go?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: Last evening, Mr. Speaker—I will not recapitulate last evening—but I dealt with this problem at some length pointing out that that was a whole total fallacy and the position of the Treasurer of Ontario with respect to this whole thing is ill-advised to say the least, and probably purblind. Read my speech!

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): He is calling the Treasurer names.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, I gather that he does not care much for us.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, I am beginning to agree that I have spoken long enough on the issue, having given the government a skipping résumé of the contents of the Benson proposal, or points against their own.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: What did the member do?

Mr. Lawlor: What did the Ontario government ever do about Carter's proposals, with their advisers, with their economic council, with their report? Well sir, I have not seen an official government statement one way or another about this. They have had since 1967 to explore, to analyse. Did they pay any attention to it?

Mr. J. Renwick: It has nothing to do with the minister. How much revenue do they need?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: The government knew that Carter would be likely, at least in part, picked up in any tax reform proposals it took. Where is the public assessment? Hon. members opposite think that Benson descended *deus ex machina* from the highest heavens. Benson is merely, in a large part, borrowing from Carter.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I am having a little debate with the member for Riverdale on the side here. It is most sanctimonious.

Mr. Lawlor: When Benson brings out his proposals then the Treasurer begins to howl in his wilderness. He knew all about Benson years ago. It was not anything new.

Mr. J. Renwick: Nothing new?

Mr. Lawlor: They digested it because it is all in Carter, or the bulk of it is. What did the Treasurer do?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): He did not know who Benson was years ago.

Mr. Lawlor: Last night I quoted at length a speech of the Treasurer's, congratulating him. It was on April 2, when he was up talking to a Tory conference saying what a marvellous document it was. Full of enthusiasm he was, for the proposals that came out of Benson; these proposals that he had digested since 1967 and knew all about.

But why the sudden change of heart? Why has he been afflicted with doubt? Would he say there are some changes, something that he had not envisaged previously, that he has suddenly altered his whole position?

Now I am beginning to get to him. Is not that nice?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Exactly. I said it in the House. I did not say it in a conference.

I ask him whether he thinks that he or his party has any monopoly on the pursuit of equity in the taxation system?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is what I was talking about; because we do believe in equity in the tax system, as the hon. member, who is a member of the select committee, well knows.

Mr. Lawlor: As far as I am concerned, the recent statement to the province, by the Treasurer and others, are a veiled repudiation that everything we did on the tax committee was a waste of time.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: No way, no way!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): The Minister of Revenue was a winner; the government will come to it.

Mr. Lawlor: What has this government done? It placed the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) as the forerunner in the small business field—demoted him from whip on one side of the fence and made him the plenary spokesman for all small businessmen in the province of Ontario.

Mr. J. Renwick: And he has not appeared since.

Mr. Pilkey: And the Minister of Revenue is looking for the Treasury.

Mr. Lawlor: He does not know the difference between a partnership and an incorporated entity. I am told he was put up to it by the Prime Minister himself.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: I hope that, as far as the Minister of Mines is concerned, while one could not possibly deflate that balloon, at the same time perhaps a little barb will stick in the hide of that rhinoceros skin and that he will not completely forget that his expertise in taxation matters leaves something very much to be desired.

I shall spare the Treasurer this afternoon. My intentions are that his estimates will be coming on shortly and we will use that opportunity to dissect, to see what the anatomy is like, and the statements he had made around the province to obfuscate it, purblind as they may be.

I had intended to speak at considerable length about inflation, Mr. Speaker, but I am throwing a sop to the House, and that will be to the budget speech. So I will cut out all that stuff.

As far as the present Tory position is concerned, I think the best way to assess it is as I did in the House the other day, that they are a group of economic Pharisees. Having set up a position in terms of equity, of having prated and paraded up and down, at the present time all that is out the window. You scuttle the Benson ship; when you scuttle it you scuttle your own ship, because, by and large, as I explained last night, it is the same ship. Benson's is a Tory document. You should be supporting it.

Mr. J. Renwick: You should be pleased with it.

Mr. Lawlor: You should be very pleased with it on the whole. So you have seen the sellout of your own policy. As far as I am concerned, and I think the province will assess this, it is a Lazer betrayal on your part of the low-income people of this province. At least Benson was seeking to raise the exemptions and to remove many people from the tax rolls that are presently on. But regarding your putative and dreamed-up progressive tax rates, you are now complaining about the progressive tax rates that are set up. What were yours going to be like? Can you give us a little unveiling of the colossus?

Your position now seems to be a reaffirmation of the ancient Tory stance that you are out to protect those numerous interests which you identify with—those forces of self-interest in the province of Ontario who are in the entrenched seats of the mighty. While you just could not care less of a damn if you hurt them, you are not going to hurt them in order to benefit the great numbers of this population.

Mr. Pilkey: The middle class.

Mr. Lawlor: When it began you walked right up, you marched in disciplined order to the possibility of tax reform. But when you came to the door you refused to open it, and Benson has opened it ahead of you and you refuse to march in, because it is the same door.

Yours is a perpetuation of the existing depositories of power in this province and it is sad for a goodwill fellow like the Minister of Revenue to find himself allied, having to swallow and repudiate the positions. You cannot have it both ways, gentlemen.

Mr. Speaker, we have all been bought at a very great price and the price of tax reform comes high. If you are not willing to swallow it, in one of its other forms, all I want to know is, specifically and concretely and definitely, what particular areas of the Benson paper do you take issue with? Let there not be just a *carte blanche* tossing out.

I have tried in this speech, which has been all too long, to discriminate between area and area, pointing out merits and defects in Benson. A policy can be framed on that particular white paper and something viable for the growth of the country, but you are not going to do it your way. Benson is defective, but the basic stance you have taken is infinitely and despicably worse than anything Benson says.

Well, to wind up I will paraphrase a line or two from Yeats: "The sluggish beast—"

An hon. member: Here he is.

Mr. Gaunt: He just got in in time.

Mr. J. Renwick: It could bear repeating.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Yes, it could bear repeating.

Mr. Lawlor: No, no.

Mr. Pilkey: The ombudsman from the north.

Mr. J. Renwick: Just encapsulate that remark about the—

Mr. Lawlor: I will send him a copy.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: This is going to murder Benson.

Mr. Lawlor: With ribbons around it. I missed you.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: Quoting:

This sluggish beast (the Tory party)
Its hour come round at last,
Slouches toward Methtro
There to die.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few minutes to discuss a certain document—possessing, appropriately enough, a bright red cover—which emanated from the federal Department of Finance last November 7. I am, of course, referring to the white paper on taxation.

In my judgement, the federal government's proposals for tax reform cannot fail to have the most serious effect on future economic growth in Canada. The entire document appears to be based on one basic concept—equity—and to carry the underlying assumption that there is something nasty and amoral about saving and investment, whereas on the other hand, spending constitutes a noble and desirable sentiment.

This is an incredible concept upon which to base a national tax system, given both the type of economy and the level of economic development we currently have in Canada. If we had a mature, homogeneously developed economy generating more than sufficient domestic capital for our own needs—such as, for example, West Germany or Sweden—then equity, or neutrality, might well be appropriate concepts upon which to base a system of taxation.

Unfortunately, Canada is neither a mature nor a homogeneously developed economy and it is also quite incapable of generating sufficient capital to finance its present standards of living, let alone attain a higher one. To the contrary, our country is actually a collection of regional economies at varying stages of underdevelopment. Indeed, the federal government already recognizes this economic fact of life through payment of vast equalization grants to underdeveloped areas of the nation. How, therefore, is it possible to impose a so-called equitable or neutral tax system on an inequitably developed economy and still expect that economy to grow and thrive?

As far as domestic capital generation is concerned, Canada, at present, must import approximately 40 per cent of the capital required to finance its present living standards and the situation has now arrived at the point where the resultant erosion of our economic sovereignty has reached alarming proportions and has become—quite rightfully—the subject of intense national debate. And yet, incredible as it may seem, along comes

the federal government with new tax proposals that will take hundreds of millions of dollars of Canada's most precious commodity —domestically generated investment capital— for subsequent redistribution in realms of endeavour that will not contribute one bit toward solving the problem of the continual erosion of our economic sovereignty.

It does not take any great degree of economic expertise to ascertain that, unless Canadians are willing to accept a lower standard of living, then that capital must be replaced. Moreover, since the federal government, by virtue of other measures outlined in its white paper, appears determined to make it more and more difficult for individual Canadians to replace what their government has confiscated, then it appears that the only way in which this money can be obtained is through increased importation of foreign capital, a measure that can only intensify still further the erosion of our economic self-respect.

I also find it beyond belief, Mr. Speaker, that in an era when Canada is suffering from one of the most severe bouts of inflation in its history, when millions of Canadians, particularly those on fixed incomes, are seeing both those incomes and the savings of a lifetime mercilessly eroded by the cruellest of all taxes—inflation; when the federal government is bullying, cajoling, threatening and pleading with provincial and municipal governments, business and individual Canadians to curb spending, while at the same time, incidentally, allowing its own expenditures to rise nine per cent above what they were last year, that same government would calmly bring forward so-called tax reform proposals that will divert by its own calculations, and one cannot be quite sure how accurate these are, approximately $525 million per year from the investment and savings stream into the area of consumption.

Mr. Speaker, since the government itself tells us that money saved combats inflation by virtue of not being spent, and since it is also true that money invested in new and modern plant and equipment combats inflation by enabling Canadians to control their unit costs of production, thereby resulting in some measure of price stability, you will pardon me if I confess to some degree of bewilderment at the federal government's protestations that its tax reform package is really quite non-inflationary. Neither are my feelings of alarm assuaged by the statement attributed to the Minister of Finance himself that inflation will be under control, anyway, by the time his tax reform proposals come into effect, or by remarks attributed to certain other officials of his department to the effect that people should not really make too much of measures designed—in a period of rampant inflation, mark you—to encourage consumption at the expense of saving and investment.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Speaker, it is little wonder that the federal government's white paper on taxation has been greeted by a steadily rising chorus of protest from all segments of Canadian society.

Interestingly enough, I can tell the members of this House that I conducted a random sampling of 5,000 households in my riding— my opinion poll survey. Over 89 per cent of those returning their cards, which was approximately 20 per cent of all those who received them, were opposed to the principle of Mr. Benson's white paper.

Might I express my profound agreement with those who are calling upon the federal government to withdraw its white paper and bring forward alternative proposals for tax reform, based not only on the concept of equity, but that also take into account equally relevant considerations, such as the protection of our economic sovereignty, the desirability of maintaining adequate levels of economic growth and, perhaps above all, the necessity of eradicating the scourge of inflation.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to touch, now, upon an area which a number of the hon. members have already discussed in this House at one time or another. I feel this area has become so important—so critical—that it is essential that we, as a governing body, take an even closer look at it than ever before. I speak, sir, of pollution—pollution and its devastating effects on our province and its people.

And I speak of all types of pollution, whether it be air, water or land. I refer to pollutants such as phosphates, DDT, exhaust fumes and many, many others which are rapidly making the water and air around us so terrible that it often takes a great deal of effort and willpower for a person to keep from retching.

Any hon. member who would dare drive down an industrial avenue when the wind is in the wrong direction—any hon. member who would dare to cup his hands and scoop up some of the slime of Hamilton Bay, and other polluted bodies like it—would agree with me that this is not an exaggeration, that it is a fact.

Man, Mr. Speaker, has achieved a great many advances in technology over the past 50 years. And these advances have had a far-reaching effect on life itself. For example, the DDT that I spoke of, when it was first developed, was hailed as a wonder chemical —a salvation to man's agricultural problems. Who would have thought that it would turn on the very people themselves in the long run?

Then in his desire to cleanse himself, man developed a variety of detergents that would make things "spanking" clean. The addition of phosphates made shirts even whiter than white—and that is pretty white. The automobile, the jet aircraft, and a variety of other piston and turbine engines were developed to increase man's mobility, and they were intended to serve man. But all of these, Mr. Speaker, and many others, have reversed that intention. While serving man they are, in fact, turning his world into a cesspool and a septic world, not only in terms of water—but in terms of land and air as well.

So, in fact, Mr. Speaker, man's technology has brought him to the point where scientists wonder whether he will be able to survive. We have ecologists like Paul Ehrlick and Barry Commoner telling us that there is no way that world famine will be inevitable in the 1970s. Yet other experts tell us that the world's oxygen supply is diminishing at an ever-increasing rate and that North America uses much more oxygen than it can now produce. And in the face of this, we continue to wipe out large tracts of trees, forest and other oxygen-generating suppliers at an ever-increasing pace.

What's more, we continue to pour more and more pollutants into our waters and air and land. The automobile, as only the one example, continues to dump millions of tons of pollutants into our air every year. Each year hundreds of thousands of automobiles are added to already vast numbers, thus increasing the pollution rate.

All this has had a direct effect on many things. The effects of air pollution on health are quite well documented. Polluted air is responsible for a large number of diseases. Those suffering from skin and respiratory diseases live in sheer agony where heavy pollution of air and water is common.

I bring all these matters to the attention of this Legislature, Mr. Speaker, because pollution has a very direct effect on how man lives and how he is going to live. It has a great control on his day-to-day actions, and it will have an even greater control on his actions in the future if we permit it to do so.

Today, sir, man is being hemmed in on all sides. He is being squeezed tighter and tighter, regardless of where he lives or works. In other words, he is constantly losing freedom of movement; the amount of his recreation space is rapidly decreasing. Yet, man finds himself—and ironically this is primarily due to continued technical development—with more and more time on his hands. Because of these things and many others, and because of tremendous pressures of today's living, we are rapidly becoming a society suffering from a general malaise.

Basically groups like Chop in Hamilton, Pollution Probe in Toronto, and other public opinion groups whose prime purpose is to make the public aware of the seriousness of the problem that exists and to show the people that only through their co-operation can anything be done, are gaining public attention and esteem. This involves use of the media, speaking at schools, union groups, church groups and the like. In order to gain publicity it is often necessary to undertake projects such as the Don River inquiry, or the "auto ban" at McMaster University in Hamilton, with which I am more familiar. These things may seem to be radical and simply attention-getters. Perhaps they are, but they do serve to draw public attention toward the problems of pollution. This is basically what our society needs.

I would like to suggest, Mr. Speaker, that perhaps The Department of Energy and Resources Management might consider forms of assistance to such publicly oriented pollution control groups so as to try and generate greater public concern about pollution matters in our province.

I think the thing that is on my mind the most at the present time, chiefly because of the auto ban which was held on Thursday at McMaster University, is the problem of the automobile. The automobile is the so-called "sacred cow" of our North American society. You can speak to people about banning phosphates and detergents, about Stelco and Dofasco and Procter and Gamble and so on, and they are quite willing to listen. But as soon as the people are told, "Your automobile is causing pollution so you have a means of stopping the pollution of our environment", they turn off. They simply are not interested. Their automobile is a necessity; a way of life to them. This is, of course, wrong.

The new anti-pollution devices that are being fitted on all 1970 cars, the ones that are being considered in California and the ones that are being developed by a firm in Hamilton are being watched closely by the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) are only stopgaps. Legislators in California are making it illegal to drive a car with an internal combustion engine after 1974.

This, sir, is where I differ from my colleagues. This government spends millions of dollars annually on highways and roadways in our large metropolitan cities so that the people can spend billions of dollars on cars which will pump pollution into the air of our congested cities. Something is very wrong here; something is lacking. Engineers tell us the automobile is a terribly inefficient way of moving people around. It would appear logical to me that we would do well to direct those millions and billions of dollars toward developing transporting systems that would leave at least our air clean and healthy.

Since the last session of this Legislature, Mr. Speaker, the Steele commission has tabled its report recommending that a metropolitan form of government be set up for the Hamilton-Burlington-Wentworth region, which would be a two-tier regional government to be known as "the municipality of metropolitan Hamilton." The hon. members of this assembly should remember that the region proposed by the Steele commission is also supported by the Peel-Halton review (Plunkett 1966, page 83) and the Niagara review (Mayo 1966, page 59). Thus, three commissions appointed by this government of Ontario recommended the same basic jurisdiction.

The three commissioners, comprising the Steele commission, are certainly to be commended for their exhaustive research and the efforts they put into the composition of their brief. Their patience and encouragement in soliciting and hearing briefs and representations by all interested citizens, municipalities, and other organizations are, too, most commendable.

I was particularly impressed by the independent testimony given to the Steele commission by Dr. Andrew Burkhart, department of geography, McMaster University; Dr. Gayle Cook, department of economics, University of Toronto; Professor Silcox, department of political science, University of Toronto; and Professor John Wayne, department of sociology, University of Toronto. These gentlemen, recognized as specialists in their own field, were brought before the Steele commission by the county of Wentworth and its 10 municipalities to testify in support of their brief. Unfortunately, the message of the Steele commission has been clouded by the results of a plebiscite called regarding the union of Burlington with Hamilton and Wentworth during last autumn's Burlington town council elections.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Tell us how the minister clobbered them.

Mr. J. R. Smith: I will be very interested in the remarks of the member for Hamilton East on the Steele commission. I did not hear him speak on this during the last session of this House.

Mr. Gisborn: It is the first time the member has spoken about it—

Mr. J. R. Smith: I spoke on this at great length on two previous occasions.

Since the results of this election showed a decidedly anti-Hamilton feeling by the electors who exercised their franchise, I wanted to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) the following statement which he made when he prescribed the guidelines for regional government. It is as follows:

> However, we have also adopted three additional criteria. The first of these is community participation, where possible, community acceptability, if this does not mean that any municipality will have a veto over regional government proposals in that area.

No doubt the hon. minister will also recall his statement of November 26, 1969, when he said:

> It is difficult to put something as complicated as the future of a municipality on a ballot.

The council for the town of Burlington submitted to the electorate of the town of Burlington on December 8, 1969, the following question:

> Which would you prefer, Burlington in a Hamilton-Peel regional government, or Burlington in a Hamilton-Wentworth regional government?

The results were that 20,776 out of 46,052 eligible voters went to the polls. Of this total, 17,337 voted for Burlington in a Halton-Peel regional government.

There is no question, Mr. Speaker, that the entire exercise had no meaning at all. You see, no facts were given to the voters in order to permit them to make a choice on the questions concerned. It appears that special interest groups in Burlington only presented one side of the story—the argument opposing Burlington's union with Hamilton-Wentworth. During the short election campaign an emotional climate was developed in Burlington, which I personally feel left many of the electorate under the impression that the choice was between association with the counties of Peel and Halton in a regional government or with the city of Hamilton in a regional government, without regard for the recommendations of the Steele commission.

Another impression was that the regional government structure for this region include Burlington, Hamilton, the county of Wentworth, the town of Grimsby and the township of South Grimsby. Regrettably the pro-Hamilton forces in Burlington felt the Steele report would speak for itself. Now they have organized a citizens' committee to muster Hamilton support called the "We like Hamilton group." How right the Minister was when he said, "It is difficult to put something as complicated as the future of a municipality on a ballot".

It would be interesting to know how many people in Burlington did in fact have personal knowledge of the Steele commission report. Many Burlington leaders now claim that the electorate voted purely on a wave of emotionalism and fear of union with Hamilton, a city which has been faced during the past year with many crises, especially affecting its civic square and urban renewal programmes. These, too, were used as arguments in Burlington to frighten people that the problems of Hamilton were a justification for going with Peel-Halton.

Mr. Gisborn: Tell us how the minister undermined the whole programme, such as pre-empting.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Nothing has been announced; it is still for consideration.

Here is a letter to the editor of the Hamilton *Spectator,* dated March 5, 1970, which adds fuel to the emotionalism claims. It goes as follows:

> In an open letter to the hon. Darcy McKeough, Minister of Municipal Affairs for the province of Ontario, Councillor Wessel Gall of Burlington, writing, in his own words, as a "private citizen", makes serious allegations of bias on the part of the Steele commission report which recommended a Burlington-Hamilton-Wentworth regional government.
>
> "Bias" is defined as "prejudice; a leaning of the mind" and "influence, usually not fairly". In this context Councillor Gall is accusing the commissioners, Mr. Donald R. Steele, QC, Mr. E. A. Jarrett and Mr. Brian W. B. Morison, QC, of serious misconduct in the manner in which they conducted the hearings and in the Steele report itself.
>
> In the letter to Mr. McKeough, Councillor Gall states, "The obvious bias and illfounded reasoning of the Steele commission that was in evidence during the hearings is carried forward into its report". In another part of the letter, Councillor Gall writes "that the members of the Steele commission did not personally prepare the report and in all likelihood did little more than scan its contents before affixing their signatures to it."
>
> Under normal circumstances reponsible citizens in this region would be greatly concerned over the contents of this letter, but Councill Gall has shown his "poor loser" colours and his lack of respect on another occasion recently. This was in connection with the Burlington Firefighters Arbitration Award, after which Mr. Gall attacked Judge Reynolds, chairman of the arbitration board, with remarks indicating bias, influence, collusion and misconduct on the part of the judge. Incidentally, as a member of the town's negotiating committee which appeared before the arbitration board, Councillor Gall lost that one too. I look forward, as do many citizens of the region, to reading the "open" reply from the minister with regard to councillor Gall's letter.
>
> Although Hamilton was spurned at the polls, we intend to persuade our neighbours with the merits of joining with this great city and the county of Wentworth, to form the strongest, most viable regional unit in the province of Ontario around the hub of the centre of the "golden horseshoe." Now that Halton has been spurned by the Peel county council's vote of 10 to 1 endorsed resolution that Peel county be a separate regional unit, I hope we can get together.

I would like to share with the members the following passage from the representations

with respect to the Steele commission submitted by the county of Wentworth, whereas on page 38 they state:

> It is respectfully submitted therefore that, given the emotional climate in which the vote was taken, one can be assured that 55 per cent of the electorate who did not cast their vote on the questions as submitted were not against Burlington being included in the Hamilton-Burlington-Wentworth area. It is respectfully submitted further that the question of regional government is much too complex a subject to submit to the voting electorate in that the voters have no means available to them to qualify themselves to determine not only what is in the best interests of the municipality, but the region.

Believing that there was a strong silent majority in Burlington in favour of a Burlington-Hamilton-Wentworth regional government, at my own expense I ran an advertisement in the Hamilton *Spectator* soliciting support for a tri-partnership at the head of the lake.

I am very pleased at this time to send over to the desk of the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs these petition forms from over 2,000 residents of our area throughout the region. They are asking that any decision on a Peel-Halton-Wentworth-Burlington area be delayed until a decision has been reached regarding the future of Burlington.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. R. Smith: To continue:

> It is respectfully submitted further that if a vote is taken on a question submitted to the electorate or a petition to determine the destiny of a region or municipality then such should be the determining criteria of all municipalities in all regions. That is, the people of all municipalities to be given the opportunity of voting on the future of their municipality, even though this is tantamount to allowing, in effect, the vote of the electorate to supersede the criteria of the Ontario committee on taxation and the criteria proposed by the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and the guidelines to regional government.

The report goes on to say that if a vote on a question submitted to the electorate, or a petition, is to determine the destiny of a region or municipality, particularly in the Hamilton-Burlington-Wentworth region, where a three-man commission has made recommendations that are not only based on two years' study and hearings but are based on a complete and thorough application of the criteria prescribed in the report of the Ontario committee on taxation and upon the guidelines for regional government as presented to the Legislature on December 2, 1968, by the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Mr. Gisborn: Will the member join our party if the minister does not go along with it?

Mr. J. R. Smith: I have stated my position quite clearly, and I will wait with interest that of the member.

We live in a rapidly changing world beset by many problems and challenges and as never before in the history of this province, we need a Minister of Municipal Affairs who has the courage of his convictions. The people of our region pray that the present Minister of Municipal Affairs may have the courage to place the best interests of the people of our region above politicial reproach or gain.

Throughout this controversy I have been reminded by the ancient wisdom found in the Book of Ruth. Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave or to return from following after thee, for whither thou goest I will go, and where thou lodgest I will lodge. Thy people shall be my people and thy God my God."

And this is just what the Steele commission's findings revealed toward Burlington's relationship to Hamiltion. Almost 90 per cent of Burlington's labour force were employed in Hamilton metro area last year; 96 per cent of Burlington homes subscribe to the Hamilton *Spectator*; 80 per cent of the Burlington telephone calls were to Hamilton; 93 per cent of the proposed metropolitan area and more than 60 leaders of public and private sectors of Hamilton life live in Burlington. And Burlington residents comprise about one third of the membership of the Hamilton Rotary, Kinsmen and Kiwanis Clubs.

As for the suggested link between Burlington and Oakville, the commission noted, and I quote:

> In spite of the supposed common interest and common problems of the two communities, it is interesting to note that in Oakville proposals for the merger of the two towns in October, 1968, was strongly opposed by Burlington council with a 9 to 2 vote against that proposal. There is little evidence to show any significant community of interest between Burlington and Oakville or the rest of Halton and Peel.

Last month a panel of members of the Canadian Radio-Television Commission heard a submission by Mr. Donald Green, president of

the Burlington Chamber of Commerce, a spokesman for one of nine groups battling for a licence to operate a cable system, told the commission: "You have got to appreciate we are sitting beside a very large city, a city that has many cultural contributions for Burlington."

Commission counsel Douglas Stewart prompted Mr. Green's answers when he asked if Burlington thinks of itself as a local identity, or part of a broader based community. "We would like to think of ourselves as Burlington people, but you have got to appreciate Burlington is really a bedroom town," Mr. Green stated. The comment drew laughter from the audience. Asked by CRTC chairman, Pierre Juneau, if he would care to correct the statement, Mr. Green did not reply.

Indeed, Burlington is a bedroom community and nobody will deny it, and one of the finest residential areas on this continent, and, as I stated last session in this House, Burlington and the Waterdown area provide the logical residential land use areas for the city of Hamilton.

Mr. Gisborn: Do not antagonize them, you are trying to get them in.

Mr. J. R. Smith: How can the bedroom not be part of the house? Our ties are so close that it is interesting to note that the major portion of the funds for the new Burlington YMCA were solicited from Hamilton interests.

Some would argue that the MTARTS study shows that Burlington is definitely oriented to the east through connecting east-west land corridors such as the Queen Elizabeth Way and other proposed non-access highways. One of the tragedies of this century has been our inability to develop rapid transit systems rather than expensive and inefficient highways designed for automobiles. A rapid transit system between the bedroom suburbs of Burlington is sorely needed to the industrial megalopolis of Hamilton. The reluctance of the Burlington elected leaders to work with their Hamilton-Wentworth counterparts to negotiate a union is most sad indeed. If those two great city rivals, Port Arthur and Fort William could come together to form the new metropolitan region of Thunder Bay, surely we, of Hamilton-Wentworth and Burlington, who share the same harbour, and the skyway bridge can work together so that our region may develop as a viable unit.

Unless Burlington is included in such a region, there is really no sense or purpose in a regional government comprising the city of Hamilton and the county of Wentworth. Someone has aptly said: "It is hard to believe that an ugly old goose like Hamilton could have hatched such a beautiful duckling as Burlington has turned out to be." Hamilton is indeed one of the older industrial centres of our nation, a city that has made major contributions to the development of this province and nation, both in war and peace; a city that today stands at the crossroads of redevelopment; a city with a view to the future and a faith in the future of our city, region and nation.

Everyone must have the opportunity to stand atop Hamilton mountain to view the terrain below. One cannot help but marvel at the sight below, of the city, the harbour and the plains of Burlington. Nowhere else in this province have such geographical economic, socially tied units been so fashioned as to form a logical region of government. The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs would do well to postpone any hasty decision on the creation of a Peel-Halton regional government until after the future of Burlington has been resolved.

Any such premature or irresponsible action by the minister would be a breach of faith to all the municipalities in the county of Wentworth, and the citizens of Hamilton.

Last fall, I read with interest, an announcement was made that a proposed widening of Highway 400 was being considered by The Ontario Department of Highways to alleviate the traffic congestion for motorists travelling north. Mr. Speaker, since this time I have been approached by many constituents, notably a Mr. Nelson Best, a well known gentleman in the automotive field in our city, concerning this proposed re-widening.

At the present time, all traffic going north from such areas as Buffalo, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Windsor, Sarnia, London, Brantford, Guelph, Kitchener, Woodstock, Hamilton, Burlington, Oakville, Mississauga, Port Credit, etc., as well as our American friends south of the border, have to travel by way of Toronto, creating a serious bottleneck within the metropolitan area of our city and clogging the heavily travelled portions of the Queen Elizabeth Way between Hamilton and Toronto.

This situation can only become worse as the city of Toronto continues to grow westward. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, it almost seems hopeless to try and cope with the ever-increasing vehicle traffic in the Metropolitan Toronto area.

In my opinion, The Department of Highways should give very serious consideration

toward the construction of a completely new highway to serve all of the above-mentioned areas which would direct the northern flow of traffic from the southwestern region away from Metropolitan Toronto.

Such a new highway might well eliminate the necessity for widening Highway 400. Such a new road could run in a northeasterly direction, beginning at Highway 401 and Highway 6 north at Aberfoyle and connect with Highway 400 at Craighurst. Existing Highways 6, 7 and 25, 10, 9 and 89 would thus be able to connect in with this new highway. It is utter madness to be directing the southwestern flow of northern traffic through the heavily congested metropolitan area, as it presently exists, with motorists having to use Highway 400 to reach Ontario's northern resort areas.

Last year, our people showed a great deal of interest and pride in the investiture of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. Later this year Canadians will have an opportunity to welcome the members of the royal family on their forthcoming tour to partake in the centennial celebrations of our great neighbours, the people of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion I would like to humbly propose that the government of Ontario extend an invitation to His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales to officially open Ontario Place in 1971.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Speaker, I hope I will not disappoint my hon. colleague from Niagara Falls (Mr. Bukator). I try to pride myself that I have taken on a new image. I was telling my illustrious leader that I have become like a cocker spaniel, friendly to everybody. So I will try to be subdued in my presentation. May I start by congratulating you, Mr. Speaker, on your—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Has the hon. member had a wet shoe lately?

Mr. Ben: —on your reappointment to the high office of Deputy Speaker. One has to give you credit for having an open mind and cheerfully changing that mind when new circumstances present themselves and new arguments from the opposition come forward to convince you of the justice of our position.

Mr. Speaker: Thanks.

Mr. Ben: I would also be remiss if I did not congratulate your assistant to the assistant, if this is what I may call him, the hon. member for Northumberland (Mr. Rowe). I trust that with a little more seasoning he will become as adept in his job as you have become in yours.

I also have to congratulate many of the members of the government who happen to be in the House. We do not see very many of them and those that we do see here should be congratulated on the fact that they have managed to survive for another year. Considering the age that those gentlemen are reaching, I imagine it is some accomplishment.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): And losing their hair.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Speaker, earlier—as a matter of fact yesterday—the hon. member for Scarborough East (Mr. T. Reid), in making his throne speech, said of our Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) that he had covered the sins of omission and commission committed by the government. In this respect I have to take issue with the hon. member for Scarborough East. I would suggest that the hon. Leader of the Opposition merely glanced over the highlights of all these sins and omissions, and that he did so out of the kindness for which he is known. He would have had to die on his feet to cover all the omissions and commissions—these evils—and besides if he covered them all in his resolution, what would have been left for the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald) to move by way of an amendment to the amendment? So I think that the leader should be complimented for his kindness to the people over to the left.

Mr. Speaker, in the light of what has been said so far, and especially in the light of what has been said by members of the government who have risen to speak—I am referring specifically to the mover and the seconder of the original motion—to me it was shocking, as a matter of fact I should say incredible, as the hon. member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) is often wont to say, to hear the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) suggest that all was in order in the house of Robarts.

Well, one must admit the house looks in order. But one must also admit that it is a house of cards and, as a house of cards, will come tumbling down when it feels the winds of change at the next election.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Speaker, the hon. Prime Minister, in rising to reply to the statements made by the leader of our party, berated the member for York South for suggesting, or having the impertinence to suggest, that we

should have an election this year. After due analysis, I was inclined to agree with the Prime Minister. But after having listened to every government member who has risen to date, I must conclude, having heard all the criticisms that they have engendered and all the criticisms that have been directed at the government of the Prime Minister by its own members, that if there should not be an election this fall or this spring, surely in the light of all that has been said by the member for Quinte (Mr. Potter), by the seconder of the resolution, and by the member who just sat down, the member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. J. R. Smith), that the Prime Minister must go. I have never heard a greater condemnation of the inability of this man to run this government through his ministers, who are the hands and the mouth of the Conservative Party.

Let us just consider some of the criticisms that they have raised, and I am not necessarily going to raise them in the order that the members of the government side brought them up. Let us just start with the hon. member for Quinte, who happens to be also the chairman of the standing commitee on health.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): You may be a cocker spaniel, but you are not a very friendly one.

Mr. Ben: I thought I was just radiating kindness toward the government.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): He is really extra kind at this moment.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): If he quotes the member for Quinte's speech he will be unkind. That will get to them.

Mr. Ben: Last year the standing committee on health brought down an unanimous recommendation. Among the recommendations that were brought down was one to unify the health services. Another one was to expand the facilities provided by nursing homes, chronic hospitals and the like. I recall the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) at that time suggesting that he was going to wait to see what his own committee, that glorious Ontario Council of Health, was going to be bringing down. Well, that report has been brought down. And it also suggests that the services be amalgamated or unified—Ontario Hospital Services Commission and OHSIP; all these services. We must now wait and see if anything is going to be done. Certainly there is not anything in the Speech from the Throne to indicate that it will be done.

In his speech here, a couple of days ago, the hon. member for Quinte again reiterated the points brought out in the report of the standing committee. And what is most galling, I would suppose, to the Prime Minister of this province, is that we in the opposition have been repeating and repeating and repeating our demands for these changes in the services supplied to the people of the province and even we were becoming nauseated listening to ourselves bring out these things year after year after year. But we just have to do it because it needs doing. Even the member for Quinte fears that he may have to continue to do this year after year after year, as he says, and I quote:

> I suppose like the hon. member for Sudbury, I shall have to make this an annual appeal.

I imagine that if this government sticks around with this leader—which thank heaven it will not—and the hon. member for Quinte is around, then year after year after year, he will have to get up and make the same appeal, because this government has just two speeds: slow and stop.

There are other points brought out in the member's speech as he says that:

> My great concern is the time it takes to get an effective programme functioning.

With this government? Surely. And he goes on again criticizing the empire building that has gone on. He says:

> I am convinced there are just as many empire builders in governmental departments as there are in any business corporation.

From the beginning of his speech to the end of his speech there was nothing but criticism of this government.

And the speech of the hon. member for Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman) was also critical. He was criticizing this government's programme of regional government—saying that there was a loss of identity, lack of sufficient consultation, disregard of the desires of the people and the communities involved. Is not that a condemnation of this government? He was talking about the Metro-Pickering proposed marriage. He said it was disregarding the wishes of the people concerned—that it was dictatorial and preemptive. Is not that critical of this government?

He was talking about the plight of our elderly people on page 111. He said that the built-in increase to old age pension is two per cent per year but the cost of living had increased by more than that amount in the last decade. Then why has this government not

done what the Leader of the Opposition has suggested and brought out a supplement for the people to see that a retired individual can survive in dignity?

Hon. Mr. White: You should be speaking to your friends in Ottawa. We tried to do that in 1963.

Mr. Ben: You tried to do nothing.

Hon. Mr. White: That was exactly what the fight was about with Judy LaMarsh.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Everybody fights with Judy LaMarsh.

Mr. Ben: Today we entertained three people who came here to speak on behalf of the senior citizens and describe some of the difficulties they had to go through, and it was not anything new. For years and years and years we have asked this government to take the load off real estate insofar as raising funds for educational purposes is concerned. We suggested that the government ought to assume 80 per cent of the cost of education. I say, and I feel that my colleagues would agree with me, that even if 20 per cent remains to be paid by local municipalities, that tax ought not to be a burden on realty. It ought to be raised by other methods.

The people who are suffering the most from the burden of education costs are those with fixed incomes, especially our senior citizens.

In the city of Toronto the criteria used in speaking of assessment and taxes is a house assessed for around $5,000 where the tax would be $450 going on to $500 now. Roughly half of that goes for education costs. Half of that, to people whom the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) described as being of the 7.6 upper limit of income, is nothing perhaps. But surely to the person of fixed income, $200 toward education costs is a heavy burden to bear. And we have been asking th's government to pass some legislation that would relieve those who are receiving old age pensions of the burden of having to continue to pay education costs.

So what is the answer we get? "When you were getting an education, homeowners had to pay education costs right up to the time that they died. Why should not you?" That is implying that the burden that our ancestors had to bear was a just one. Well, I do not agree with that.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Status quo.

Mr. Ben: If E. P. Taylor can retire a horse to stud and give him his oats and his sugar and the like for having worked about four or five seasons, then I suggest that the senior citizens ought to be given some relief after having worked 65 years. They deserve at least that. So what will this government do?

They bring out a scheme whereby the senior citizens can have a portion of their taxes postponed. Well, how many have taken advantage of that? Very few because that was an insult to their intelligence and it was robbing them of their self dignity and only the most desperate took advantage of it, and even then, regrettably.

And what does all this do besides making them scrimp and save? It is driving them out of their own homes. They find that the burden of $200 that they have to pay for education tax—and I point out that that worked out to almost $20 a month when most of them are only getting $75 a month or $90 a month from the federal government; this government is too cheap to give them the time of day—is a lot of money to those people. The result is that they have to sell their homes and ask the government to give them subsidized housing.

So what does that do? It raises the taxes again in the municipalities because the municipality has to pay for that low-cost housing and more people are driven out. And then the Prime Minister has the gall to get up there with a smirk on his face and suggest that we have not any just cause for criticism.

I was talking about building new housing. Eighteen thousand people in the city of Toronto are waiting to get into housing that they can afford and the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall)—I do not know what his current title is, he changes it so frequently, it is almost like the title of every chapter in a book—has the gall, the consummate gall, to suggest that everything is in order; that we are doing more to supply housing than any other province in Canada.

Hon. Mr. White: All of the provinces are copying Ontario.

Mr. Ben: All right, I am not going to deny that if he wants to make the statement, but I would also point out that we are supposed to be the richest province in Canada; we have the greatest influx of immigrants coming into this province—

Hon. Mr. White: Why is that?

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton) Tory government.

Mr. Ben: —we have people coming in even from other provinces into this province, so when one considers it—

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): You sold them a bill of goods across the pond.

Mr. Ben: —we should be building more housing. And the Minister of Revenue asks, "Why is that?" Well, the hon. member for Niagara Falls is right.

Hon. Mr. White: Province of opportunity.

Mr. Ben: You have sold them a bill of goods; you have gone around playing that tune, "A Place to Stand" and what those poor people who listened to that tune do not know is, that that is exactly what Ontario is, a place to stand, because there is no place to lay your head.

Another complaint that was raised by the member for Ontario South was the problem of drugs. A report has come out recently dealing with youngsters, and all it did was confirm what has been said in this House at least since 1967, when I got up and spoke about Yorkville.

At that time I tried to persuade this government to build hostels for our youth. I tried to point out that many children leave home not because they are bad but because they are good, and they do not want to be corrupted by a bad environment at home, and that these children should have some place to go besides Yorkville. Has this government built one hostel in the last four or five years? Has it built one hostel since it has been in government for 27 years? How many clinics has it established where the youngsters congregate? Again, not one.

These people who set up the trailer, the diggers and the like, almost have to come on bended knee to get a pittance out of this government, and if it was not for the social service agencies, who would be looking after these youngsters except the streets?

The Prime Minister, as I say, has the nerve to get up and say all is well in the house of Robarts.

Mr. Bukator: Well, it is in his house; he is right.

Mr. Ben: There is nothing right in that particular house. When you read the reports that come out about the indignities a lot of our youngsters have to go through, it is a wonder that this province can be treated as civilized. But the Prime Minister says everything is fine and he thinks that we have a lot of nerve suggesting that we move a vote of no confidence, and one of the illustrious members on the other side in speaking yesterday, the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root), had the audacity to get up here and suggest that we should withdraw our no confidence motion. How do you like that?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Imagine the gall; he should have been ruled out of order.

Mr. Ben: Yes, sir. He made a ringing speech, but it was all brass.

Mr. G. W. Innes (Oxford): That was before the member for Quinte's speech.

Mr. Ben: No, he came after the member for Quinte. He was almost an apologist. He talked about pollution, except that every other member that got up here has been criticizing the government about the pollution that we have in this province and about the lack of any government action in that sphere.

I imagine that the most shocking statement in this House since the throne debate started was that by my illustrious leader when he pointed out that The Air Pollution Control Act had not even been proclaimed yet, and we passed that in 1967, if my memory serves me correctly. That is speed, and if my memory serves me correctly, the predecessor of the present Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) made a statement in this House that the pollution problem would be at an end in 1970.

I guess they believed him so much that they felt that there was no need to pass any legislation, so it is still sitting there on the books unproclaimed, and that is the way it is going to be.

In the throne speech it is said—how does he put it—there is a necessity—oh, let us start at the beginning; let us just say a few things about it.

An hon. member: There is the member for Quinte now.

Mr. Ben: Oh, I was saying such nice things about the hon. doctor and he just came in.

There is the necessity of developing and providing a system of education for our children that is adequate to their changing needs.

I will repeat those words:

There is the necessity of developing and providing a system of education for our children that is adequate to their changing needs.

Mr. Deans: Must be an echo in here.

Mr. Ben: That should be echoed again and again, because the government itself admits

in the throne speech that there is not a system of education for our children that is adequate to their changing needs. They admit that there should be such a system and that they should go about developing such a system, but considering the billions we have been spending for education, why have we not such a system?

We have been spending more on the stone, steel, concrete and the glass exteriors of the schools than we do on the boys and girls in the interior. We have been spending more time arguing about the rights and the privileges and the professional bargaining status of the teachers than of the needs of their pupils.

We have been teaching our children how to use 19th century tools and asking them to build a 21st century society. In fact, in all the arguments in and surrounding the field of education, schools, their type, design, construction, cost, location, and the arguments with the teachers, their educational qualifications and their rights and their privileges, all seem completely to hide or obscure the real reason for their very existence—to prepare our children adequately to face the future.

We here have been spending and wasting our time arguing as to the compositions of senates, of governing bodies, of boards, of faculties; we have been debating how many people from the business community ought to be on these governing bodies, how many members from the faculty; how many people from the student body. But just how many times have we taken the trouble to determine whether what we are teaching them in the schools is right or wrong, is good, or bad, or indifferent? And yet education takes the greatest part of our tax dollar.

The first discussion in my years in this House on curriculum was last session when we were discussing university affairs. I have a boy who goes to school; he is in Grade 7 and I like to think he is a clever boy, he is in the top 10—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Takes after his mother.

Mr. Ben: —and the stuff he comes home with really scares me. I do not know whether to go into the school and have a dialogue with the teacher or not. He is a very good teacher but my boy comes and he tells me that the teacher says there is no God. Well, maybe there is, maybe there is not a God, but I teach my child that there is one and I would prefer that my child grow up having a certain sense of morality and in my teaching of morality I find that God is indispensable. I have to have one, so I would prefer my child to remain with a god.

There are other things like that that keep on bothering me. But if you try to bring up a discussion of that stuff, and I say I do not want that taught, then you are interfering with academic freedom. I do not know just what this academic freedom is unless it is a licence to contaminate the minds of the young. If there is such a thing as academic freedom then I suggest that we have the freedom to accept or reject it just as much as those people have the right to teach it or not to teach it, and since we are paying for it I would suggest that our right is paramount.

I am not saying that we have to have a censor in the sense that ancient Rome had, but I do think that as legislators, as visitors, we ought to concern ourselves more with what is being taught our children. This paper, the Speech from the Throne, admits that there is a need for such a system of education, but there is not a word in here that they are going to provide or satisfy that need. They do not say that they will, because, I suggest, Mr. Speaker, it is beyond their competence. The hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) made a Freudian slip when he said that this government is feeding its 19th century knowledge into 1970 computers. Well, this government is going to find at the next election that it just does not compute at all.

Mr. Deans: Knowing the Lieutenant-Governor's background, maybe it was not a slip.

Mr. Ben: Maybe it was not a slip. Maybe the member is quite right. As they say, more truth is said in jest than otherwise.

Mr. Deans: Who has ever thought to ask him?

Mr. Ben: So I would suggest, Mr. Minister, that the next time a mile-a-minute Willie gets us there and starts spouting all those words about education, we should just ask him to put on the brakes and tell us exactly what is being taught to children in the schools.

Another item that was mentioned in this speech is the necessity of providing, or of assuring, a fulfilling life in our cities. Well, life in the cities under this government certainly has been fulfilling in one respect at least, and that is that in the cities for years we have been fully filling our lungs with pollutants, sulphur dioxide in particular.

Mr. Deans: Can the hon. member tell me who the Lieutenant-Governor was?

Mr. Ben: Well, he sure got out of this House in a hurry after he read it, did he not? He did not even stop us to say hello to him. Anyway, and I say, we certainly had pollutants filling our lungs with all types of pollutants, sulphur dioxide in particular—from the operation of domestic furnaces and from automobiles, from smelters, oil refineries, incinerators, and even from this government's own smokestack. I say this because hon. members may recall I referred a question to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management and, in answer to that question, he admitted that the fuel—and it is coal—used by the Ontario Hydro at the Lakeview generating plant has a sulphur content 20 per cent higher than the sulphur content of the fuel, again coal, used by the city of Toronto at its Richard Hearne generating plant down at Cherry Beach.

Even the coal used by the Hearne generating plant has a sulphur content which is more than 30 per cent higher than the permissible content of the coal used in New York. And I should point out that in New York the permissible content is going to be lowered, starting next year.

Mr. Speaker, studies have shown, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that pollution causes or aggravates coughing, wheezing, runny noses, sore throats, breathlessness, nausea, inflamed eyes, headaches, feverishness, cancer of the larynx, and can even bring on death. In the city of Toronto it is estimated that the Richard Hearne plant on the waterfront spews 74,000 tons of pollutants into the air annually. The minister has found a way to cut down that pollution. He has given permission to the Toronto Hydro system to construct a 700-foot-high smokestack. "This," says the hon. minister, "will spread the pollutants over a wider area."

Who says that the Tories are antisocialist? This minister is willing to give to the people east of Toronto—the people in Ajax, the people in Pickering and the people in Whitby—their share, according to the hon. minister, of Toronto's pollution. Now, Mr. Speaker, insofar as we in Toronto are concerned, he can give all our pollution away, for in that respect at least we will admit that it is more blessed to give, than to receive.

Mr. Deans: Are you trying to dump it on the poor people of the environs?

Mr. Ben: But I doubt, however, if the good people—or even the bad people, for that matter—of Ajax, Whitby, Pickering, or any other municipality to the east of us, and in the path of the prevailing winds, will look upon Toronto's pollution as a blessing.

New York city has a law which bans the use of fossil fuels having a sulphur content higher than 1.3 per cent, and it will soon be lowered to one per cent. In New Jersey they are considering adoption of a law which would order plants and incinerators to shut down, and even prohibit the movement of cars, or the burning of fuel, during smog emergencies with fines up to $100,000 and imprisonment for as long as 10 years for those who do not comply. In Detroit a sailor can be fined $500 for emitting too much smoke from the funnel of a ship, while in Ontario the fine is not large enough even to be considered a nuisance.

Mr. Deans: A licence to pollute.

Mr. Ben: That is right.

If this government demanded that newer fuels, fuels that produce far less pollutants than the present gas and oil, the fossil type fuels, be used, then we also have to have stricter fines. To fine a corporation like Domtar, one of the richest corporations in Canada, $1,000, just makes the mind boggle. That is like trying to knock down the Toronto Dominion Centre by beating at it with a twig.

Mr. Deans: That is better than a wet noodle.

Mr. Ben: You like that one, eh?

Mr. Speaker, if we are going to stop pollution, a good step in this direction would be for this government to cancel the construction of fossil fuel generating plants and, instead, concentrate on nuclear reactor generating plants. Two years ago I gave a number of reasons why. I am not going to repeat them here.

It is interesting that Mr. Gathercole, chairman of Ontario Hydro, made a speech, I think it was in Thunder Bay, that the tolls on the St. Lawrence Seaway system and the Welland locks are going to increase the cost of coal. I received a letter from the mayor of Thunder Bay—

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): So did all of us.

Mr. Ben: I imagine so. I was just going to say so did all of us, yes, pointing out that these tariffs could increase the price of coal by as much as $2.50 a ton.

Mr. Deans: Mark you, after listening to the chairman of Hydro I would have to view his remarks with scepticism.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Would you ask the member for Wentworth to speak up, please. We cannot hear him.

Mr. Ben: What he says makes sense. At that time I pointed out that it was going to cost, if my memory serves me correctly, around $5 a ton for coal at the pitheads. Then we have to transport it from the pitheads in the Cumberland valley of Virginia, up to Lake Erie.

At that time I pointed out that, for the next 40 years, if the price of coal does not increase, it is going to cost us some $50 million a year in foreign exchange to pay for that fuel. This is going to raise the cost by another 50 per cent. That is, if indeed the extra tolls will drive up the price of coal by $2.50 a ton, it is going to cost us some $75 million in U.S. currency per annum to keep that coal-burning plant on the shore of Lake Erie going, with all the sulphur dioxide that it is going to spew into the atmosphere.

Now, the Richard Hearne plant, burning roughly the same amount of coal, throws 74,000 tons of pollutants in the air and its coal has less sulphur content that does the coal used by Ontario Hydro. I could only guesstimate, Mr. Speaker, that the Lake Erie plant is going to throw 100,000 tons of pollutants into the air annually, at least. This does not include the pollutants that are going to be blown into the air by coal dust being lifted from the stock pile, but this is the concern this government shows.

There are a lot of ways that this government could take action. There are a lot of things that could be done to cut down pollution, especially from the automobile.

One, this government runs a fleet of automobiles; it could convert its automobiles, as the government of California, to electricity or steam; or two, it could ban the use of the internal combustion engine in congested areas; or, three, it could compel motorists to install anti-exhaust devices in all automobiles and older cars should be taken off the road. I have already said it could convert its fleet to electric operation as has the government of the state of California. But it is doing nothing of the sort.

Another cause of pollution, Mr. Speaker, is waste. Frank Rayne, Jr., in his book "Disaster by default," published by McClelland and Stewart, described the terrifying problem created in the United States by what I choose to call the waste syndrome. He stated that until we have learned to eliminate or make use of these wastes, we can hardly claim to be civilized. Our lakes and streams are filled, or are filling, with these wastes: gasoline and oils from boats and motors; wood fibres from pulp plants; acid from refineries and mine drainage; offal from sewer systems; detergent waste from sinks and washing machines; pesticides from the farm and all kinds of chemicals from our industries. People say that we, the human race, can acclimatize ourselves to this, but I doubt it. I doubt it very much.

And water pollution in our society is no less a fearful and imminent danger than air pollution. Many of our waterways are open sewers. If one thinks that remark is an exaggeration, he need only visit and view the Don River in the east end of Toronto.

I recall playing Boxgrove, a golf course, now the property of International Business Machines and used by them for a country club, but at that time a private golf course, a fantastic course. It was such a fascinating course that it was said that Arnold Palmer and many great pros used to fly up just for the privilege of playing that course quietly.

Most of the holes were adjacent to or across the Rouge River, and I remember one time playing that course with the commissioner of works for the city of Toronto, and I said to him, "That thing looks like an open sewer and it smells like one." He said, "Why should it not, George, that is exactly what it is."

Beautiful course, beautiful river, beautiful surroundings, but boy, that beautiful river was nothing but an open sewer. And there are many other places like that.

At one time Toronto's beaches from Leuty Avenue to the Humber River were its pride and joy. Today we have two generations born and bred in Toronto—

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Who cannot swim in it.

Mr. Ben: —who have never experienced the pleasure of swimming in Lake Ontario. And I daresay that applies to Hamilton and Burlington.

Mr. Deans: Hamilton Bay.

Mr. Ben: Hamilton Bay. Two generations, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. De Monte: You used to be able to get a free ride down to the bay.

Mr. Sopha: Did they swim there at one time?

Mr. Deans: Certainly. There was a beach at the foot of James Street.

Mr. Ben: All our brochures, all the advertising that this government puts out, advertise there are beautiful lakes and bays, boating, fishing, swimming—

Mr. Sopha: *Time* magazine—high cost.

Mr. Ben: Even a lake like Couchiching, Mr. Speaker, is not suitable for swimming, because when you come out you are covered with oil or grease from outboard motors.

Wherever we go we just keep on polluting our world, and yet this government is doing almost nothing.

Mr. Deans: Oh, the minister said we were going to do something about it.

An hon. member: When?

Mr. Ben: He said we were going to clean up the water by 1970, if you recall.

Mr. Deans: Oh, this is a different minister.

Mr. Ben: You are right, it is a different minister. That is right.

Well, we have really become waste makers, Mr. Speaker. Our whole society now is based on the creation of waste. We even have a word for it—engineered obsolescence. Cars, stoves, refrigerators, washing machines, clothes, containers, everything we create—

Mr. Deans: Tory politicians?

Mr. Ben: No, I have to take exception to what the hon. member said. Looking over there there does not seem to be any deterioration, they seem to last forever. I think it is because they adopt the ways of the tortoise. They do very little and whatever they do they do really slowly with no exertion.

Anyway, to continue. Everything we create is intended to be wasted to enable more of the same to be created to be wasted. We are reaching the stage where we will be overwhelmed by our own waste. In Etobicoke, Mr. Speaker, we have created a hill out of garbage and used the hill for skiing. It was Etobicoke's centennial project. It is a good thing they did not caption it, "Pile your garbage high". But if we continue to create waste at the rate we are, eventually we shall have not just ski hills made out of garbage but we will die in our own waste, and that may be, Mr. Speaker.

But considering all this, I am starting to suspect that those who deny the existence of a hell are right, because if the human race can survive its own waste then what perils could hell present? And is this government concerned? Well, as I said, Mr. Speaker, they fined Domtar $1,000. By the way, that was the maximum fine and I rather suspect that one half of the board of directors of Domtar are still in a state of stunned stupor and the other half are ill from laughing too hard.

Mr. Speaker, firm, enforceable regulations against dumping waste into our environment must be enacted and the fines provided for and imposed made so severe that the offender will be put out of business if he continues to be convicted of the same offence.

We ought to take away the excuse that cost is a factor through long term loans at subsidized rates, so that industry can purchase and install antipollution equipment and clear the atmosphere.

Uniform legislation must be passed by all government authorities, federal, provincial and municipal, so that there will be no way a person not wishing to comply with the regulations could flee, in Canada, except to oblivion. I think, Mr. Speaker, that this government is too old for that. It is too old to think of putting teeth into anything. All it can do these days is beat its gums.

Mr. Speaker, the member for Ontario South, in his address is quoted as having said —and he did say it for I heard him:

> If you own stock in the detergent industry, if you own stock in a pulp and paper company, or a mining company, or an automobile manufacturing firm, I suggest you advise your company that you hold its management responsible for effective antipollution measures. Tell him his millions will not be much use to him if he cannot breathe our air or drink our water.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we the people in Ontario, are shareholders in the province of Ontario. We, the shareholders, tell management, this government — or mismanagers would be a better word—that we hold it responsible for effective antipollution measures. We, the shareholders, tell this management it has failed miserably in exercising that responsibility and has been found wanting in many other aspects, and that at the next meeting of shareholders this management is going out.

I was going to go down, item by item, through the points made in the Speech from the Throne. The next item is that they are providing more and more new and rewarding jobs.

Mr. Pilkey: That would not take too long.

Mr. Ben: You are right, you are right. There is one thing startling about that remark, and that is (a) that the government has not provided jobs and, (b) where it has they certainly have not been rewarding at $1.25 an hour. Well, what kind of a promise is that? Are they now going to raise it to $1.30, $1.40 or $1.50? The trouble with this government is that it either cannot provide jobs, or if it does provide them, will not pay for them. So I am waiting to see if in fact this government will increase the minimum wage in this province.

Last year, Mr. Speaker, I pointed out that the present situation is contrary to its basic philosophy, that people in this province can get more for not working than they do for working. And that if for no other reason than to give credence to their philosophy, they should change the situation so that people get paid more for working than for not working.

Mr. Deans: The member had better watch that; they may reduce it.

Mr. Ben: The member is right; he is absolutely right. I remember I got caught on that once at a golf course in the city of Toronto. I noted they were selling seven-ounce drinks for 10 cents and they sold a large drink for 20 cents, and I found out that the large drink had only 12 ounces in it. One would think they would have had double, which is 14. They also had one hot dog for 25 cents, and a 12-inch hot dog they advertised for 35 cents. Yet when you measured it it was only 10 inches long. That is about the measurement this government gives. So I complained about that at Metro council and I was out-foxed. The golf course reduced the 10 cents drinks to six ounces. I must reprimand the member for Wentworth because I rather suspect he may have given an idea to the government.

Mr. Deans: Oh, no.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member for Wentworth, if he wishes to engage in this debate, would ask the member for Humber to yield the floor to him and I would be glad to give it to him. Otherwise, I would ask him to give the member the courtesy of listening to him.

Mr. Ben: Well, I will not yield the floor to him, Mr. Speaker; I am sharing it with him.

I told you, Mr. Speaker, I am like a cocker spaniel. I am friendly to everybody these days.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Speaker feels that if this is a throne speech debate in the ordinary custom, the member who has the floor should be entitled to make his speech so the members can hear. I have heard some of the other members interpolate, and they could have been very interesting but we cannot all hear them. Therefore, unless we change the form of debate, I must ask the member for Wentworth to allow the member for Humber to continue uninterrupted.

Mr. Ben: I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for those words, I am not quarreling with your ruling, Mr. Speaker. You are asking that courtesy be extended, but considering myself to be one of those miscreants who does interrupt other speakers with interjections, I feel it was not my place to object when anybody else does. I am afraid I have to welcome any interjections that come from any side of the House. But thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for trying to preserve my rights to speak uninterrupted.

I am not going to discuss the agricultural industry, Mr. Speaker, because perhaps I am not as well versed in all its ramifications as I should be. But the next point is that there is a necessity to ensure that we have an honest and healthy climate for the conduct of business and commerce.

Mr. Speaker, when the hon. member for Sudbury was making a speech the other day, he was discussing the uranium industry. Last week I asked the Minister of Mines for his opinion on the decision of Pierre Elliott Trudeau, as Prime Minister of this country, in stating that he would prohibit the Roman Corporation from selling its shares in Denison Mines to a corporation that was American controlled.

Now, Mr. Speaker, before going further, I want it clearly understood that I subscribe to the philosophy that Canadians ought to control their own destiny and that we ought to control our industry and, for that matter, control our union. I am all Canadian in that regard. But the question was put to the Prime Minister of this province by me as a supplementary question to a question asked by the member for York South and I have the question here, Mr. Speaker, so I will read it:

> Arising out of the minister's statement that it is a federal matter, is the minister aware that what is involved here is a sale by the Roman Corporation Limited, a company incorporated under the laws of the province of Ontario, having its head office in the province of Ontario, the sale of its shares in Denison Mines Limited, a company incorporated under the laws of the province of Ontario, it having its head office in the province of Ontario, to another Canadian corporation? I am not sure where Hudson's Bay

was incorporated, perhaps the minister can help me. How in the light of that can the minister say it does not involve Ontario when it is a deliberate infringement on the rights of the province to pass laws governing companies?

The answer was:

The only answer I can give to that question is that as far as I am concerned, I do not think there is any question of the federal government's constitutional power to do what it is proposing to do.

Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister of this province took to task the minister—I am sorry—I should not say I am sorry, he probably will be the Prime Minister—the Leader of the Opposition, suggesting that we were serving the interests of the federal Liberals rather than the people of Quebec.

Mr. Speaker, had Roman Corporation and Denison Mines been incorporated in the province of Quebec, or in the province of Saskatchewan or in the province of British Columbia, or in the province of Alberta, I tell you all hell would have broken loose and the Prime Ministers of those provinces would have been berating Pierre Elliott Trudeau for infringing on provincial rights. Because I say to you that Pierre Elliott Trudeau has no right to restrict the transfer of shares of an Ontario company.

He has the right to say that we will control the sale of uranium, but he cannot dictate to an Ontario company whether it can or cannot sell its shares. It can control the mining of uranium—you have to get permits from them—but I tell you that Daniel Johnston would have been screaming blue murder over the infringement of a provincial right. And all this Prime Minister did was to say:

The only answer I can give to that question is that as far as I am concerned, I do not think there is any question of the federal government's constitutional power to do what it is proposing to do.

i.e., tell an Ontario company that it cannot sell its shares in another Ontario company to a Canadian corporation.

Now, who is this Prime Minister acting for? Is he the tail to the federal dog or is he protecting the interests of corporate citizens in Ontario? Is this what he means by creating a healthy climate for the conduct of business and commerce in this province?

As I say, Mr. Speaker, I subscribe to the principle that we ought to become the masters of our own destiny, but if Pierre Elliott Trudeau was in fact concerned with provincial rights as he professes to be in his dealings with the province of Quebec, then what he should have done was send a signal to that sailor from London and say, "Look, they are trying to sell our resources, you stop them because they are Ontario companies." Then no one would have had a quarrel with him. But he did not do it that way, so let him not accuse the Liberals of just subscribing to federal Liberal policy. We have the citizens of the province of Ontario paramount in our minds, which is more than can be said for the Prime Minister of this province.

Then the next item is transportation. The hon. member for Scarborough East made a speech yesterday and he was quick—that is not the word—but he took the trouble to point out that he was expressing his own personal opinion and that dealt with the Spadina expressway. He made a lot of strong statements with which I am not in agreement. I thought that he subscribed too much to what was said by the president of the University of Toronto, Claude Bissell, that perhaps the facts were not brought out relevant to the Spadina Road extension, as it is called, as they should have been.

It should be pointed out, Mr. Speaker, that I am the most recent arrival to this Legislature from the Metropolitan Toronto municipal arena. The person who preceded me to this House, who has city of Toronto experience, is now the Minister of Correctional Services and if my memory serves me correctly, he has been here close to 20 years. I have not looked it up in the "Parliamentary Guide" but I believe he defeated Joe Salsberg sometime about 15 or 20 years ago.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Twenty years.

Mr. Ben: Was it 20 years ago?

Mr. Gaunt: Right.

Mr. Ben: The person who has the most recent Metro council experience is the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer). Outside of the three of us, there is no one in this House who has had recent city of Toronto and Metro council experience. So there are some of us who do know something about the history of the William R. Allen expressway. I do not know if anybody will get to use that name, but that is the Spadina Road extension.

It first came under discussion in 1929 when the then Toronto and York Roads Commission decided there should be some transportation facilities to serve the northeastern part of the city of Toronto. It was discussed back and forth with a lot of committees meeting during the years subsequent to the war and before Metro came into existence. Some action was taken by the then Borough of North York to start to implement some of these plans.

Actually money was spent to acquire rights of way toward this end before 1961 when the new plan for regional transportation in the Metro area was presented. In 1962 the first major agreement was entered into which provided for this government to subsidize the building of the interchange at what is now called Yorkdale Plaza. At that time it was way north and I made a speech in this House in 1966 that it was nothing but a landing ground for sparrows.

At any rate, the plan was introduced in 1962, and in 1963 the city of Toronto at least held a detailed discussion of this proposal and I, at that time, was on the committee that heard delegations which made representations for or against the proposal insofar as it affected the city of Toronto. I must say that at that time the proposal was that the extension end at Dupont Street.

Cost figures were very vague. I make this statement because the hon. member for Scarborough East suggested that they were asked to buy a pig in a poke as there were no accurate cost figures. That is not quite so because we did have cost figures but they were just treated as guidelines.

This was a long range programme. As a matter of fact, a half-century programme. I should point out that the programme involved, as represented, the Spadina Road extension leading down to Spadina Avenue, the extension southerly of Highway 400 to follow more or less the alignment of Christie and Manning Streets and subsequently join up with the Gardiner Expressway—the Frederick Gardiner Expressway—from the east to the west limits of the city, going from Etobicoke to Scarborough; the Don Valley Parkway right out again to the northerly city limits; and extension of Eglinton Avenue and the construction of the Richview sideroad extension to meet with Highway 27 where government responsibility would then take hold. It also involved the widening of Highway 27 and the widening of what we called the 401, the Macdonald-Cartier Freeway.

Now I should point out that the hon. member for Scarborough East suggested that there was no consideration of alternative systems, when in fact there was. Even Nowlan, who in his book admits there was, although on page 39, he says:

> A careful study of the need for the Spadina expressway in the light of alternates has either not been done or, if it has been done, has not been made public.

My colleague suggested it had not been done. Nowlan then goes on to say on page 41, talking about the Metropolitan Toronto transportation plan:

> This report specifically considered both a transit oriented system and a road oriented system. It then examined and recommended in favour of a balanced system which is almost identical to the road oriented concept and is the same as the system proposed in the 1959 draft official plan.

Well, that is not quite true but what is true is that we did consider alternatives. We gave consideration to constructing a rapid transit oriented system but then all studies showed, Mr. Speaker, that rapid transit was not all it was made out to be because it had one shortcoming which restricted its use and that was people had to go where the transit system went and when the transit system operated, whereas with an automobile, you went where you wanted to go and when you wanted to go.

That was the difference between the expressway or automobile system and the rapid transit system. With the rapid transit system, you went where the TTC wanted you to go and when they wanted you to go. With the automobile, you went when and where you wanted to go. The rapid transit system is good for going to point (a) and back but if people are going to go to point (a) from point (b) then to point (c) and then back to point (b), they are reluctant to use the rapid transit system.

Furthermore, a rapid transit system is good for what you might call Land-free transportation. People do not like to use the rapid transit system when they are going downtown to shop, because it is extremely awkward to use the rapid transit system—a subway system; we are using the words rapid transit as a subway system, a streetcar system—with their arms full of groceries or their arms full of parcels. So if people use the rapid transit system, they are disinclined to shop. Now, as far as the city of Toronto is concerned, we want them to shop. We in the city of Toronto spent millions revitalizing the downtown core and wonders, Mr. Speaker, have been done in this particular area.

Office floor space has increased from about 19 million to about 33 million square feet between 1953 and 1968. Apartment units have almost doubled from 11,000 in 1959 to 21,000 units in 1969. Enrollment at the University of Toronto has increased from about 11,000 in 1954 to 23,000 in 1969 and has required

large expansion of campuses. Enrollment in Ryerson Polytechnical Institute has increased from about 2,000 in 1957 to 6,000 in 1969. Hospital beds in a centre area have increased from 1,500 in 1956 to 7,400 in 1969. Hotel accommodations have increased by 15 per cent.

In between 1960 and 1969 new buildings were constructed in planning district one—that is the downtown area—to a value of about $800 million. New cultural community services were provided downtown including the O'Keefe Centre, the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, the rehabilitated St. Lawrence Hall and the New St. Lawrence Market, the McLaughlin Planetarium, the court house and the new city hall. All these services were provided downtown because it was recognized that you must have a viable downtown.

You must continuously be changing to meet the needs of the people. It must be alive and vibrant and this is what the city of Toronto was doing. If you do not change, you stagnate. The *Star* itself had said that Toronto must be viable and they must continually expand.

So with this in mind we had to have a system that was balanced and the only balanced system was one combining both rapid transit and expressway. Now, my learned friends suggest that by utilizing a third system—actually you might call it the Nowlan system—which was rejected, you might save $1 million.

I am sorry my friend is not here, because, Mr. Speaker, the total system which was provided for in the original plan, which included the expressways which I mentioned—that is, the Frederick Gardiner from Etobicoke to Scarborough; the Don Valley right up to Steeles Avenue; the extension of Highway 400 southerly to meet with the Frederick Gardiner Expressway; the Spadina Road extension, including the rapid transit right of way down to the centre; the proposed crosstown expressway—all these, including, Mr. Speaker, the construction of a Queen Street subway and the extension northerly of the Yonge Street subway were to cost, in 1969 figures, a total sum of $1,247.6 million.

This means, Mr. Speaker, that if my friend was right, we would be saving $1 million if we adopted a system other than the Spadina Road extension; then all the rest of that stuff would have just cost us $250,000. Mr. Speaker, it is not so. Mr. Nowlan in his book tries to show how the costs have risen—well, that is understandable.

Since 1962, Mr. Speaker, there have been 20 major suggested changes in the Spadina expressway rapid transit proposal. The first one involved a parking lot for 1,800 cars and the necessary land acquisition. Then, as we went down, the rights of way were widened. At first, as I mentioned, Mr. Speaker, we only were going to go down to Dupont Street. Then it was extended to Bloor Street, and there was a fantastic increase in cost because we hit a very built-up residential area; the services underground were something fantastic and all these underground services had to be moved. The cost of land was so much higher when we dipped into this area.

Then we proceeded still further south, Mr. Speaker, to a point where we are now at Harbord Street. There was a lot of acquisition of land which was not essential to the right of way, but we had to buy what would have been isolated homes and so we did. That increased the costs of this project.

Then new concepts of sound shielding evolved and the Spadina expressway route was shielded from neighbourhoods in order to cut down on noise pollution. This is why they say in the report, Mr. Speaker, that the Spadina Road extension would cut down on both sound and air pollution. The whole right of way would be shielded. So all these things increased the cost.

For example, Mr. Speaker, to Cedarvale Park in York township. Originally it had been decided to go through this park, but the citizens were so incensed about it that the authorities decided they were going to use the cut-and-cover method. In other words, they were going to put the roadway in that area in a tunnel; that increased the cost. All down the line this was happening—increased costs.

At the time that the costs of this scheme were considered, Mr. Speaker, Metro Toronto planning took the figures for the preceding five years to determine what the construction costs would be. In those preceding five years, Mr. Speaker, the graph showed that construction costs were dropping, with a very slight curve upward again in 1961. Those of you who take the trouble to recall will remember those were the Diefenbaker years, when we experienced considerable unemployment. There was what one would call a recession nowadays, although some people felt there was a real depression.

At any rate, the figures show that the construction curve was going downward and it had leveled itself off around 1961. The Toronto real estate board figures also showed that, for the preceding five years—that is prior to 1961—housing costs, or property costs,

were relatively consistent. Then, Mr. Speaker, in 1963-1964—around that time—prices started to climb and the curve just shot up and out of sight. From the time that they timed it to the present time, Mr. Speaker, construction costs rose 70 per cent and acquisition costs also rose 70 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, if someone today were to predict what this system would cost in 1995, based on the present curve, people could call that man demented. Even the member for High Park would agree that he was a mental case, because the curve just goes straight up like a jet taking off from the international airport.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me point out something else. At the present acquisition of funds rate, by 1995 all Metro would be able to do would be to complete the Spadina Road expressway, complete Yonge Street subway up to Finch Avenue and extend the Frederick Gardiner Expressway into Scarborough. The rest of the proposed plan could not be implemented until sometime around the year 2020. So a lot of it is academic. It is easy to make a plan, but it is sometimes difficult to carry them out.

Originally rising to speak in this debate I was going to discuss the situation that exists in the borough of Etobicoke. I had asked the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) if he would consider ordering a judicial inquiry into the conduct of the present and previous members of the council of the borough of Etobicoke in rezoning some land at the corner of Richview Sideroad and Scarlett Road from R one or two density to permit the construction of apartments. They knew that this land was squarely in the middle of the proposed right of way for this Richview Sideroad extension.

Yesterday the municipal board approved that rezoning and why, it is clear now. The land would be lying idle, Mr. Speaker—if Metro did acquire it—for 40 years. As a matter of fact, it would be longer than that. It would be until some time well into the first quarter of the next century. In that time they could put up an apartment and it would have depreciated itself, so that it could be acquired as an old run-down tenement.

And they were correct, and so was the municipal board. You cannot sterilize land simply because it is going to be on the route of a proposed expressway, when that proposed expressway is not going to reach that location for 35 to 40 years.

Now I am getting to the part where I was most strongly in disagreement philosophically with my dear colleague, and that is the suggestion that this government pays so much money to Toronto by way of 50 per cent grants. He was talking in terms of $500 million.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): It was $550 million.

Mr. Ben: Was it $550 million? Well, Mr. Speaker, let me draw this to the attention of that government across there.

Metro Toronto contributes to the coffers of the province of Ontario in licence fees and sales taxes and other like imposts, concerned only with the automobile—gasoline tax and the like—some $100 million a year. From that sum, we get back by way of grants, only some $20 million a year. As a matter of fact, last year, Mr. Speaker, to be a little more accurate, I believe the sum was $22 million.

At any rate, we are only getting back one fifth of the money we pay to the province by way of gasoline taxes, sales taxes and licence fees and so on. The question then arises, who is paying the money and who is getting it? The city of Toronto, or Metro Toronto, I should say, finds itself in an ignoble and shameful situation where it cannot implement a much needed programme of highway and rapid transit construction until some time in the year 2020—and I hope that all the hon. members will be around to at least contradict my words, if not confirm them, in that year—because they have not got enough money. And yet at the same time they are paying to the province of Ontario some $80 million more than they used.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to make clear that I understand money also has to be spent in the outlying regions of the province for the construction of roads, because the people in Metro Toronto use those roads just as much, if not more, than the people who live in those vicinities. So I am not suggesting for one minute that Toronto should keep all its $100 million for its own road construction here.

One of the hon. members of my party, I am trying to think of who he was, said to me the other day, that "Toronto belongs just as much to the people up north as it does to the people in the city." And he is right, because Toronto relies for its growth and development just as much on the people in Thunder Bay, the people in North Bay, the people in Sudbury or Owen Sound or Niagara Falls, as it does on the people that live in the boundaries of Metropolitan Toronto. But I think that it is only right that the people of

the province, especially the rural members, remember that perhaps the city of Toronto is — not hatcheries, hatcheries are where chickens hatch; where they lay the eggs, wherever that is—this is where the golden eggs are laid that keep this province turning. This is where the golden egg, which continues to keep the wheels of industry turning in this province and helps supply a lot of the social amenities, this is where it originates.

So it is just as much in the interests of the people outside Toronto, as it is for the people inside Toronto, to make sure that Toronto continues to flourish and have a good climate where commerce and industry can continue to provide the funds which help to make Ontario the greatest place to live in. This is, I think, forgotten. So I would strongly suggest that my hon. friend from Scarborough East, my colleague, who would have been serving the interests of the people better if he had berated this government for not supplying it enough funds to improve its transit system and not suggesting that we are to stop it.

My friend made another mistake, in referring to this fellow Nowlan, in suggesting the alternate system as being cheaper. The alternate system was an all rapid transit system, but, Mr. Speaker, it entailed the use of the existing commuter lines or existing expressways and railway lines—161 miles of it and some 81 miles of expressways—and neither Nowlan nor my friend here added into their figures the costs of that 161 miles and 81 miles.

Mr. Speaker, I phoned my good wife at home and she dictated to my secretary here at Queen's Park an article that appeared in the *Telegram* on August 14, 1963. Permit me to read it:

ALDERMAN PRESSES FOR R. R. COMMUTER PLANS, RAILROAD COMMUTER TRAINS

A plan to convert Metro area railroad lines into a vast commuter system is being prepared by Alderman G. Ben. He wants to use electric trolley cars on the line in and out of the downtown Toronto area.

The alderman has been working on the plan for two months and hopes to finish it by the end of the year for presentation to Metro council. He says seven existing lines in the area could be used in the scheme and feels that both the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways would be eager to co-operate.

Alderman Ben says the railroads will want to use the lines for other than freight purposes once the new marshalling yards, our yards north of the city, are completed.

His plan is to get suburbanites within reach of Toronto Transit Commission services by other transit. For a small additional fare they can then transfer to the TTC to enter the heart of the city.

Although he has still not determined the exact cost of the scheme, Alderman Ben claims that this plan will be cheaper than building new expressways or subways. Railroad lines in the Ben plan include the crosstown line from Lawrence Avenue at Weston Road to the Danforth at Warden Avenue, the Lakeshore line stretching from Hamilton to Union Station in Toronto; and a belt line from Kipling Avenue to Union Station.

Alderman Ben says that trains could travel up to 70 miles per hour and claims that it would reduce carbon monoxide in downtown Toronto by eliminating much of the need for automobile transportation.

This is the *Telegram*, August 14, 1963.

Well, as a matter of fact, I did prepare this material, but this government came down with what at that time was called the "MacNaughton study" on urban transportation in this area.

Mr. Gaunt: MTARTS!

Mr. Ben: No, it was not MTARTS. That was a "MacNaughton". As a matter of fact that was the precursor to GO Transit.

You would find out, however, Mr. Speaker, that the railroad lines, the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian National, were not as eager to co-operate as I felt. As a matter of fact, they wanted an arm and a leg; and not only that but they wanted it Christmas-wrapped. The cost was simply fantastic.

The Prime Minister of this province in speaking to this House last year, and I have the copy of *Hansard* here to quote, pointed out just how much it would cost. I cannot find the quotation right now, Mr. Speaker, but if my memory serves me correctly he pointed out to this House that just for right of way, adaptability, constructing the stations, putting in the signal system and so on, the railroads were asking some $94 million. And that in addition to that expenditure of $94 million for right-of-way maintenance and adaptability, there would have to be a subsidy paid annually to cover the deficit.

As a matter of fact I do not know what the deficit is this year, but I think we have been paying about $3 million a year for GO, which is along one line alone. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, even after we paid out that $94 million and that subsidy, the rights-of-way would not belong to us but belong to the railroad.

Now this was not considered in the calculation of these gentlemen. Neither was the fact that expressways would have to be used, 81 miles of them. And the TTC itself said that the system would not work unless you used expressway buses, and it was for that reason that the Prime Minister of this province, in making a speech last year, pointed out that they were going to experiment with expressway express buses. So in essence the reason the plan as suggested by my dear colleague was rejected—he refers to it as the cheaper plan—was that, cheap as it was, it was rejected because it would be money wasted. The plan would not work at all without the 161 miles of track and 81 miles of expressway.

But to me the point was still this: that as the plan was proceeding southerly, Mr. Speaker, we did not hear objections from the president of the University of Toronto. When we held committee hearings in 1963 and 1964, there were no objections from the University of Toronto. At that time, I think it was 1963, they—the university—decided to move west of Huron Street. As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, the expansion westward of the University of Toronto displaced 40,000 people in the city of Toronto—40,000 people! At any rate they did not object at that time because the expressway was not touching them.

When there was a big debate in the borough of York about Cedarvale Park being expropriated by this transit system coming through the middle, all the citizens were really up in arms, but there was not a murmur from anybody at the University of Toronto. Then, Mr. Speaker, the University of Toronto came west to Spadina Avenue and crossed Spadina Avenue; and that was the "Rubicon."

Where in 1962 the route of this expressway and rapid transit system were a couple of good blocks west of them, now it was coming down through their own backyard and all of a sudden the call for arms went out and all those people who had not yet cut the apron strings to their *alma mater* attacked the Spadina Road expressway as being something which is not what they call it.

I now find out that even Mr. Bissell, the president of the illustrious university, has regret that such a hullabaloo was caused about it, where all kinds of reasons were given why it should not go through—that it will not succeed without the crosstown expressway, which is a lot of nonsense; that it will not succeed because the Frederick Gardiner Expressway cannot take more traffic, which is true but it is still nonsense because it was not supposed to hit that particular road. All these reasons were given, but the true reason for objecting to the extension southerly of the Spadina Road extension was, as I said, before the University of Toronto had crossed Spadina Avenue and the expressway was going to be touching those hallowed and sacred grounds.

If it had been coming down Bathurst Street, Mr. Speaker, there would not have been a murmur of objection from all those people writing so many articles and saying so many words about it.

I just wanted to point out that this is not something that has just come into the picture; this is something that has been in the planning stages since 1929; that action was taken by the Toronto and York Roads Association; that the borough of North York had acquired land for this expressway before 1945, certainly before 1955, just before it became part of Metro, it had spent some money to acquire part of the right of way for it; that it is not just to serve the citizens of North York, but is to serve the whole area to the northeast of the city of Toronto, and Metro Toronto.

Metro Toronto only encompasses 240 square miles, Mr. Speaker, but the Metropolitan Toronto planning area involves over 700 square miles, and at the present time they have the Don Valley Parkway which has already passed 401 and Wilson Avenue, which is helping to relieve the congestion as far as the northeast area of the city is concerned. But there is nothing to handle the traffic from the northwest quadrant; the area around Bramalea, which is within the planning orbit of Metro Toronto, and Mississauga, and this is why it is necessary. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member for Downsview will have a lot more to say on it and he may probably have some more figures to quote because he was involved in a lot of the planning for this expressway when he was the reeve of the then called township of North York, now the borough of North York.

Again I say that the horrible thing is that this area does not get enough money from the provincial government to carry out this very essential scheme.

Mr. Speaker, getting back to the provision of social services of high standard that the Speech from the Throne predicted, it said:

> And through the provision of social services of high standard we must ensure that the basic needs of our people are met.

Well, reading the papers these days certainly does not indicate to the casual observer that this province has done very much to ensure that the basic needs of our people are met. The papers still scream about the poor, who are barely managing to exist and are suggesting a radical change in our system, or the treatment of our welfare recipients. This is something that has been suggested by the members of the Opposition for a number of years. Why has the government not done anything on this to this time? They have been here for 27 years, and now they say, after 27 years: "We must ensure that the basic needs of our people are met."

That is an admission, Mr. Speaker, that for 27 years the basic needs of our people have not been met and that is a really sad admission to make on anybody's part.

Health: I hesitate to touch on the subject matter of health because it happens to be a department that concerns me here as the official critic.

Education I have touched on.

Housing: I recall that one of the planks in George Drew's platform was that he was going to create a corporation that was going to supply all the needed housing for the people of Ontario—a housing corporation. That was in 1943, Mr. Speaker. I quoted that statement in this House about four years ago, but still we do not have enough housing.

Mr. Bukator: Why not, I wonder?

Mr. Ben: Why not? Well, what excuse will you give? I mention the Prime Minister and the fact that he is turning out to be, when it comes to federal-provincial matters, a real paper tiger. He did not scream at all when there is an infringement of our provincial rights. I think that through old age these people are losing their teeth and all they do now, as I said before, is beat their gums. Why, you ask?

Human rights: Well, I think the member for Downsview is the one who usually speaks on those. I am going to leave it to him. But leisure and recreation and cultural activities; well let us consider them.

A report that just came out shows a lack of facilities for youngsters to make use of when they are travelling across Ontario. As a matter of fact, I pointed out at other times that there are not even facilities for older people to use, but there just are not adequate facilities for our young people.

Mr. Speaker, we pride ourselves in Metro Toronto—and I imagine even Ontario prides itself—on having probably more youngsters playing hockey than any other jurisdiction in the world, at least on a per capita basis. Almost every youngster today belongs to some kind of a league, whether it is a church league, or a social league, or a service organization league, or a municipal hockey league, and I guess my children are no exception.

I pride myself that I sponsor four teams myself. But the appalling thing about all this system is that it seems to stop when you reach high school. Youngsters are organized into leagues, but not our teenagers, to the degree that they should be. Once you get into the teenage bracket, the only league that you can belong to is the interscholastic league and very few schools have house leagues, so that it is only the ones who are better able to play hockey who belong to the interscholastic league. Or you can belong to what we call in Toronto the King Clancy series, where the boys band together and try to find a sponsor. Why cannot there be leagues in which our youth can play hockey without aspiring to be another Jean Beliveau or a George Armstrong or a Tim Horton or the like? Where they can just play for the fun of it? Now a team has been organized from among the members of this Legislature; a team organized from among the members of the House of Commons. I am sorry that I have not been able to get up to the practices, but I would like to. But they all relish the thrill of just going out and having a scramble; fellows who should be thinking of an easy chair, rather than ice skates. Why cannot we have hockey leagues? Why cannot we have a programme of hockey for people in their teens? In fact, why not for people who are in their early 20s? Not just hockey, but baseball and other sports. This province just does not have an organized programme of athletics to take in all—take in the whole spectrum—of desires. So what are they doing here talking about leisure and recreation? You supplied nothing. Well, the Minister who came in—I think he supplied some campsites. He supplies the logs there. But you have to get up there first. You can always take your tent into his woods. It is a long way to carry a tent.

But how many hostels do we have in the province of Ontario? What impressed me more about Europe—I had occasion to be

there about eight times—was the youngsters on every road, on bicycles, on motorcycles, on foot, haversacks on their back, really enjoying life. Here, where can you walk except to the closest pool room? Where are these leisure-recreational facilities? Where are these cultural activities?

We have the community folk art council. It tried to get us a grant—to carry out some programmes. They only get a fraction of what they ask for. So what is this government doing in that regard?

The member for Downsview already made some statements on the jurisdiction and procedures of our courts, questioning the appointment of the three judges and calling for a proper review of all circumstances touching on the organization of Ontario courts. I did not see the government leap to acquiesce to his suggestion. Where is that concern?

They talked in the throne speech about pollution again and constitutional matters. They talked about relations between labour and management. We saw how successful they have been in this regard this noon hour, when we were out in front of the Legislature and saw many of the workers who were displaced by the decision of Dunlop Rubber Company to close down its manufacturing facilities on Queen Street East. One would have thought that with the filing of the Freeman report—by Judge Freeman—that no more would companies just get up and close their plants without making adequate provision for the relocation of their employees. One would have thought that that report would have made it clear that workers did have a vested interest in their jobs, but no.

This leads me to one more thing, Mr. Speaker, then I am going to try to wind up the debate before 6 o'clock, and that has to do with older workers.

If one reads the statistics, Mr. Speaker, he will find that older workers, those over the age of 65, are increasing annually. In 1901, the age group 65 and over formed five per cent of our population and in 1911 it dropped to 4.4 per cent. Then it started to rise gradually: 4.7 per cent in 1921; 5.5 in 1931; rose to 7.88 in 1951 and dropped again to 7.3 in 1961. But it is estimated that it is going to reach about nine per cent in 1980.

These people are finding it extremely difficult when it comes to obtaining employment and holding on to it, there has been such a change in the requirements. At the turn of the century, close to 50 per cent were self-employed, you might say, to the degree that they were artisans or carried on some kind of a craft which made them more or less semi-independent. This has changed the point where only one out of six are now in that position.

Furthermore, the older people in our current population entered the labour market at a time when our economic life was largely dominated by the farmer and the small businessman and the independent craftsman. It is for this reason that older people today tend to appreciate, if you will permit me, the advantages of self employment.

They are in a better position to determine what workload to carry. They are in a better position to determine when to go on vacation, or when to retire, than the young people. As I pointed out, five sixths of the people in this category are reaching retirement age, or have retired, and for most of them it will be forced retirement and forced inactivity.

Too few of the people who are going to be retiring in the next few years have skills other than those required in mass production. Too few have craft skills which they can turn into hobby activities. There are less own account workers among females, yet their proportion among workers is increasing daily.

We have, in fact, become a highly industrialized nation, a manufacturing nation, a nation where new technological skills are required and these, relatively speaking, are possessed only by the young.

Thus when a vacancy occurs, it is more apt to be filled by a young person, rather than an older, or middle-aged person. Those over 40 years of age have a hard time finding a new job and for most of them it is a terrible strain.

This is where one must applaud the seniority system. A lot of people say that the seniority system preserves inefficiencies. That may be so. It may not be the most productive system but, by George, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that, in light of present thinking, it is certainly the more humane system, because it does enable people to remain employed with dignity.

Too many of our older people do not have the resiliency or the adaptability of our young people. Young people can easily start afresh, pick up a new skill and pick it up quickly. This does not apply to the older people. Our older people have to go into service occupations and become hotel and restaurant workers, or janitors, watchmen, or laundry workers—

An hon. member: Or even attendants here.

Mr. Ben: Or attendants here—where the pay is relatively low. They have to look for light work and this is difficult to find, under most circumstances, particularly for those unskilled at handicrafts.

I have pointed out how difficult it is for even a young worker, who has no skills, who is a labourer, to obtain a job when his back is hurt, or he loses a limb, or a limb is incapacitated. He becomes totally incapacitated when his physical strength goes. And light work is usually, again, low paying work and this is difficult for our older citizens.

Another shortcoming is that there is a growing tendency on the part of larger organizations to tie job qualifications to formal education, with high school graduation a minimum for most clerical and white collar jobs. This is one reason for the low proportion of older men in jobs in clerical and commercial groups.

The hon. Minister of Correctional Services, Mr. Speaker, was criticized in this House for lowering the educational qualifications for those applying for jobs as custodial officers. You may recall that I had a few words to say on this when I was critic of the reform department; I said this was lowering the standards. At that time it was lowered to Grade 10.

But there is a lot to be said for this minister's action. It may not be the most efficient method of getting the most efficient workers, but it is certainly a humane gesture, and enables those people who have native or inherent ability to get jobs which would be closed to them because of lack of educational qualifications. I think that more people should be judged for what they are instead of what diploma they carry in their pockets. A diploma does not necessarily reflect the ability of a man. As a matter of fact—

An hon. member: Or the attitude.

Mr. Ben: Or his attitude. As a matter of fact, statistics show that those who do best in school are apt to do worst when they get out into industry and that those who have average marks are ones that are probably the most adaptable and best suited to working when they get out into industry. But we have to do something to give these people a sense of belonging, a sense of dignity, a security which they lack at the present time. Too many people in our society today, Mr. Speaker, are unemployed but do not admit it. They say they are retired because there happens to be a certain—what is the word—stigma attached to being unemployed. So when they cannot get a job, and in order to maintain their status in the community, to maintain their dignity, they will call themselves retired and then almost live at a starvation level just to maintain that dignity. Surely, we owe our older people something more than that.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister, in addressing himself to our leader in his sarcastic way, suggested that we advocated the spending of money and the provision of services but we do not say where the money is going to come from. In the last five minutes of this hour, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member that we open on time and it is my intention always to close the House on time and I would ask that he go till two minutes to six.

Mr. Ben: Very well, Mr. Speaker. One of the ways we would be able to supply some of these services is by imposing a depletion tax. We discussed Denison Mines, and uranium belonging to the people. At the present time, mines are given a depletion allowance of 20 per cent saying that their asset was whittling away. It is not their asset that is being whittled away. So why should we pay them for depriving future generations of our assets? I say, Mr. Speaker, we impose a depletion tax, and it is not going to cost industry anything because the federal government has already given them a depletion allowance and they are just going to be even-steven; that is one way.

Another way, Mr. Speaker, is cutting down on some of our expenses. It occurred to me in going through the estimates that there was an item in most departmental estimates for Queen's printing, but the printing bill of the province of Ontario is so great it is almost mind-boggling. The printing account of The Department of Agriculture and Food shows an amount in a previous public account for the Queen's Printer was $260,096.07. But after I started to go through all the estimates section by section, it turned out that there were all kinds of other allowances for printing, and the total printing bill, as far as I could pinpoint without delving deeper into the matter, was $548,267.50, twice as much as it appeared on the surface. In the last public accounts that were just published again for the same department, as of March 31, 1969, the amount shown for the Queen's Printer was $308,978.22—you notice how much it was up. But then when I added all the printing costs, I could pinpoint, again by

simply looking at the report, without going back into the department, it was $621,594.04.

Mr. Speaker, I started to do that and I think I got as far as the Provincial Secretary's department and I gave up. It was too much. It was too much. You could provide all the services that are required by the citizens of this province if you stop spending so much money on paper and ink and start giving humane treatment to the people instead of more of your damned reports.

I tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the Liberal Party could supply all the services that the people of this province need without having to raise the taxes one tenth of a mill because we would just cut down the waste that you have been guilty of for the 27 years you have been in office.

Mr. Speaker: Would the hon. member for Oshawa move the adjournment of the debate?

Mr. Pilkey moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, we will continue with the debate on the Speech from the Throne tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Is there a night sitting, too?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, I am sorry, Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock, p.m.

No. 14

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, March 12, 1970

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Thursday, March 12, 1970

Salary increases in Ontario public service, statement by Mr. MacNaughton 507
Whiterock Estates group, statements by Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence and Mr. McKeough 507
Ontario-Toronto study re feasibility of municipal simulator, statement by Mr. McKeough 509
Whiterock Estates group, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Pitman, Mr. Singer 509
Crash programme to combat abuse of drugs by young people, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Singer, Mr. Pitman, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. MacDonald 510
Retirement allowance for Mr. L. D. Irwin, questions to Mr. McKeough and Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 512
Grant to proposed Muskoka regional government, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Pitman, Mr. Nixon 513
Moneys for Indian development programmes next year, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Lewis 515
Sale procedure for farm machinery, question to Mr. Stewart, Mr. MacDonald 516
Doctor billing patient for extra five cents, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. MacDonald 516
Assessments of installations of Inco and Falconbridge, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Sopha 516
Definition of "police officer in the course of his duty", question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. J. Renwick 517
Constable Goldsworthy and Fazzari trial, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Singer 517
Use of detergents in Ontario hospitals and hospital schools, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. B. Newman 517
Government drug index plan, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Shulman 518
Educational television equipment, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid 518
Family planning falling within provincial jurisdiction, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. Young .. 519
Hamilton OHSIP office, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. Deans 519
Irregularities re strike at INCO, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Haggerty 519
Killing of wolf by two snowmobiles, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Burr 520
Strike in Toronto of dairy deliverymen, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Trotter 520
Psychiatric treatment of persons suffering from drug abuse, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. Peacock 520
Penalties for use of marijuana, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Sargent 520
Jackrabbits killed by snowmobiles, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. T. P. Reid 520
Manufacturers of various speed drugs, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Makarchuk 521
Boycott of company with cutting limits in Quetico Park, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Stokes 521
Release of drivers' records to insurance company, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Gaunt 522
Microwave ovens and radiation leaks, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. B. Newman 523
Whiterock Estates area and water pollution, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Pitman 523
Second report, standing private bills committee, Mr. Winkler 523
Third report, standing orders and procedures committee, Mr. R. G. Hodgson 523
Morina Electronics Manufacturing Company Limited, bill respecting, Mr. Price, first reading 523
Sidney Goldstone Limited, bill respecting, Mr. De Monte, first reading 523
Detroit Hotel Limited, bill respecting, Mr. B. Newman, first reading 523
Fermack Bowling Limited, bill respecting, Mr. Price, first reading 524
Operation of rainmaking equipment, bill to govern, license and operate, Mr. Ferrier, first reading 524
Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Pilkey, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Sargent, Mr. Deans 524
Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Deans, agreed to 549
Motion to adjourn, Mr. Deans, agreed to 549

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: This afternoon, in the east gallery we have students from the Norwood Park Public School in Hamilton, St. Jane Frances Separate School, Toronto, and Port Colborne High School, Port Colbourne; in the west gallery, from Bayview Junior High School in Willowdale, and, in Mr. Speaker's gallery, children from the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre in Toronto.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): I am pleased to announce salary revisions which have been negotiated for the employees in the administrative, scientific and technical classes in the Ontario public service. The increases will cover the two-year period from October, 1969, to October, 1971.

Increases in the first year, which will be retroactive to the pay period beginning September 28, 1969, vary between 6.5 per cent and 14 per cent with the bulk of the increases in the 7.5 per cent to nine per cent range. In the second year, effective September 27, 1970, all classes in these categories will be increased an additional six per cent. Approximately 5,100 employees will receive increases as a result of these revisions. Survey technicians and draftsmen were the largest groups affected.

A notable aspect of these salary revisions is that, although the parties were assisted by a mediator at one stage, final settlement was arrived at largely as a result of direct negotiations between the representatives of the employees, in this case the Civil Service Association of Ontario, and the government's negotiating team.

Salary increases for related management classes will be announced shortly.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Under date of November 6, 1969, the then Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree) ordered an investigation, under section 24 (la) of The Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, into the affairs of Whiterock, an unincorporated group of companies and individuals.

Whiterock Estates, Whiterock Developments and Whiterock Realty are trade names registered under The Partnership Registration Act. These trade names are used by Rekab Investments Limited, Palit holdings limited, Basvan Investments Limited, Black Forest Investments Limited, Coldo Investments Limited and Loroland Developments Limited.

Lots have been sold on some 35 different plans in five townships in the counties of Northumberland, Durham and Victoria. The investigation has disclosed that relatively large tracts of land have been acquired and that the sale of lots to the public on a highly promotional basis has been carried out on a large scale.

My major concern has been to ensure that the purchaser is generally satisfied with the lot he has purchased. This concern relates specifically to the following areas:

1. That roads affording adequate access to the lots sold will be available.

2. That lots sold are suitable for servicing by septic tanks and that water is obtainable at a reasonable depth.

3. That lots sold are, in fact, available and properly identified.

4. That building permits be capable of being secured.

5. That hydro-electric power be available.

It seems to me that these five points comprise a reasonable, if minimal, basis for a fair deal and the inability of Whiterock to satisfy any one of these requirements should result in the purchaser receiving another lot, or the return of his money. I have made it clear to Whiterock that I expect Whiterock to meet these minimal requirements and have received assurances that these requirements will be met.

Insofar as the question of criminal breaches of the law are concerned, the law officers have advised us that the evidence brought out by our investigation is inadequate as a basis for prosecutions. Additionally, the possibility of taking action with respect to technical breaches of The Real Estate and Business

Brokers Act by individual salesmen exists, but, has no particular significance so far as the Whiterock syndicate or the total operation of the scheme is concerned.

The ancillary questions of planning and land use control generally are matters which, I feel, can be more appropriately dealt with by the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

The records seized by my department are being returned to Whiterock.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Perhaps I might follow on, Mr. Speaker, from the remarks made by my colleague on the same subject.

When the extent and seriousness of the Whiterock situation became apparent, I made orders under section 27 of The Planning Act establishing subdivision control on those townships in which this type of control was not already in force. This was the kind of action that could be taken most quickly. And I was satisfied that we should act quickly to give the municipal councils enough time to understand the seriousness of their situation and to assess their responsibilities to their ratepayers and to the people who would be permanent or seasonal residents in these municipalities in coming years.

Subdivision control meant that all future proposals to subdivide land would require approval of The Planning Act. The procedures for securing this approval would permit the view of the proposal by municipal councils, health authorities, conservation agencies, school boards, and other agencies whose responsibilities are involved in community development. These procedures also provide an opportunity for municipalities to enter into agreements with subdividers to ensure that roads will be constructed, other essential services provided, and the financial position of the municipalities protected.

Experience may not always be the best teacher, but it is often a good one. Most of the townships in which the Whiterock interests undertook to subdivide land, if not all of them, had had little previous experience with land-development promotions on the scale of Whiterock. Municipal councils, like individuals, sometimes seem to learn more from the results of their own mistakes than from those of others. Perhaps it is somewhat like buying fire insurance; some people are not convinced of the need until they are burned out at least once.

No amount of advice or exhortation seems to be effective if an individual, or a council, is not convinced that any real threat exists. In the field of planning and municipal councils, there has been a great deal of advice and exhortation from this government, and from many other sources over the past two decades, about the need for establishing sound development policies and instituting appropriate regulations over land subdivision and land use. It is probably no accident that most of the problems associated with the Whiterock promotion have arisen in municipalities that had not established subdivision control, had not prepared official plans, did not have comprehensive zoning bylaws in force, and had not even yet begun carrying out planning programmes.

To assist the municipal councils concerned in appreciating the problems that they were facing and in deciding on the courses of action that would be necessary to protect the interests of the municipalities and their residents, I arranged for a series of meetings to be held, attended by professional planning staff of the department. The first of this series was a general meeting in Peterborough on December 4, 1969. This meeting elicited a considerable amount of information about the scale of impending development in the area and I am sure that it impressed upon the councillors and staff of the municipalities the serious lack of municipal policies and measures to guide and control future development.

Further meetings have been held with individual municipal councils to discuss specific development problems of their respective municipalities, and to emphasize the pressing need for official plans to guide development and zoning bylaws to ensure that changes in land use are in accord with the official plans and observe reasonable development standards.

While I sympathize with the municipal councils in the understandable difficulties they are facing in trying to cope with a complicated and unfamiliar situation, I also recognize the need for faster action in dealing with the problems that have been thrown up by the scale of the Whiterock promotion and by the failure of the municipalities to plan properly. I am urging the councils to assume their traditional responsibilities for determining future development patterns in their respective municipalities and for protecting the interests of their present and future inhabitants.

Appreciating the complexity of the problems confronting these councils, I am considering what further steps we might take to support them and to reinforce their activities

in contending with the potential volume of development that threatens to overwhelm them. Certainly they need professional assistance and we can find ways of helping them to obtain this assistance.

As long as the municipal councils strive conscientiously to meet the situation, we have no desire to step in and take away their discretionary authority. If any of the councils do not show evidence of a genuine intention of taking appropriate measures to protect the interests of their municipalities and necessitates such measures sooner than the municipalities are able to act, I would have to consider what further action I should take to help safeguard the interests of the municipalities and their present and future residents.

Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet, I have another short statement.

There has been a great deal of discussion about the problem of financing the dynamic growth of many of our cities. I am optimistic that we in this province can, in co-operation with our cities, meet and resolve the challenges with which we are faced today and which we will face in the future.

In this connection, I wish to announce a recent agreement concluded between Ontario and the city of Toronto to undertake a joint study to determine the feasibility of developing a municipal simulator designed to increase the effectiveness of financial planning for municipalities by projecting the probable results of proposed courses of action. The objectives of the present project are:

1. A report on methods of applying simulation to the municipal field;

2. A report on policies, practices and decisions currently in effect in the city of Toronto which will be supported by the simulation technique;

3. A report on available information and sources;

4. A structural representation of a model in logical form of the city of Toronto, its relevant factors and their relationships;

5. A detailed plan for the continuing development and application of the simulator indicating: (a) time schedule, (b) costs, (c) results to be achieved.

I understand that the city of Vancouver is developing a model of a similar nature although the scope of that study is not as wide as that envisaged by us. The simulation technique has been used very successfully in the industrial field and I am hopeful that similar results can be achieved in the municipal sector.

Obviously the undertaking of a project of this nature will present many challenges to both levels of government. The result should promote not only a greater understanding of the dynamics of a municipality, but an appreciation by both parties of the increasing complexity of the provincial-municipal environment. In particular, the techniques and knowledge gained as a result of this pilot study will be adapted for use in other municipalities in Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, further to his statement involving Whiterock: Is he intending to use the experience that he has gained in dealing with this matter to change the legislation which would, in fact, bring such highly speculative undertakings under more direct control of his department?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, this probably relates to the question asked yesterday about consideration of prospectuses with regard to land development. My reply would be the same, that we have it under very active consideration in the department and are cognizant of other jurisdictions having recently moved into this field.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary: May I ask the minister if he is concerned about the misleading aspect of the advertising campaign associated with the sale of these lots? Does he feel that this aspect falls within the responsibility and control of his department?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, it shades out of the responsibilities of my department into those of the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) and into the field of The Department of Municipal Affairs.

I hate to speculate, but I can see where if we do move into a requirement as to a prospectus with regard to land development, we would presumably have to tie this to some kind of sanction, and at that point, of course, we would have a working system of control, not only over the advertising but over the whole presentation of the package.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member for Peterborough a supplementary question?

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Yes. Mr. Speaker, will the purchasers who feel that they are not receiving a lot which is equal in value to the one they originally bought, be able to have their option on whether they

wish to have another lot, or have their money back? Will Whiterock give them their money back if they do not feel that they are getting the kind of lot that they originally received?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not so much a question of feeling, I think it is question of judgement as to whether or not Whiterock has met the five requirements that I have placed upon them. If Whiterock can substantially and reasonably meet these requirements, such as the fact that they have a lot worth $3,000 instead of $4,000, I doubt if we—

Mr. Pitman: It may be under water next spring.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If it is under water next spring I would think this would breach the requirement in order that building permits were capable of being received.

Mr. Pitman: Can they get their money back?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, they can get their money back—their money back or another lot, if there is a failure—

Mr. Pitman: Do the customers get the right to make that choice, whether they get their money back, or must they accept another lot?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They have a choice; they either get their money back or they get the choice of another lot.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary, how can the minister, when he has told us he has no authority in law to impose sanctions, do anything other than exercise his apparent muscle without any statutory basis? How can he force them to do anything without any law?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It was just the other day that I recall the member opposite asking why I did not act with regard to, I think it was phosphates.

Mr. Singer: Well, how does that relate to this one?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The point here is that our consumers' department does a lot of work by persuasion. This is to me a natural function of a consumers' department dealing as an intermediary between purchasers and sellers. I do not think there is anything wrong in this function being performed in my department.

Mr. Singer: If it works. By way of a further supplementary, if Whiterock were to thumb their noses at the minister, which they can, there is nothing else he can do, is there?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: From a practical point of view there are a number of things I could do.

Mr. Singer: Such as?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That, I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, is speculative.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, if I may have one further question?

Mr. Speaker: I think there have been sufficient supplementary questions. If the member has a germane question that he would like to ask, perhaps he can ask it later.

The Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Premier, following his reported statement that the province is going to undertake a crash programme to combat the use of drugs, particularly the illegal use of drugs among the young people of the community. Is he prepared to give any details of this programme, in view of the fact that it hits communities right across the province, including London, as I pointed out in a speech in this House a few days ago?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of what is going on in the city of London, both through first hand information and also through the reporting that was done by the London *Free Press*.

I was responding to a question at the meeting last night and I am not in a position to lay before the House at this time full particulars of what we are planning. But in a general way I would like to pull together, for instance, the work that is being done in The Department of Education, The Department of Health, the addiction research foundation, The Department of Correctional Services, The Department of Social and Family Services, and so on.

Then I feel that part of the answer to this problem lies in the area of public education. In an examination of the problem, and possible solutions to it, I would like to involve the municipalities, school boards and so on who are bound to be deeply affected by it. Out of this I would hope that we would be able to establish methods and procedures of attacking the problem, so that we could lay down methods by which we could get at the root of the problem.

First of all, I feel that we have to define the problem, find out where it is and what it is, and then get at some of the cures. There is a great deal being written about this, at the present moment—social attitudes and so on. Why are these young people doing it? It is actually a form of self-destruction that motivates them to do it in the first place. These are some of the things we have to get at. Then we have to find a means of changing those attitudes. This could be the basic approach.

What I have in mind—the leadership I think this government can give—is to bring together all areas of the government that are dealing with the problem. Then we can see if we cannot find some guidelines and some basis for action that can be followed by the local authorities that are going to have to deal with the problem. I am thinking of the municipalities and the school boards.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: In view of the fact the addiction research foundation is undertaking extensive research into the use of marijuana and a federal royal commission is examining at least some aspects of this as well, would the Prime Minister not feel his statement that the legal status of marijuana should forever remain unchanged, is premature?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I did not say that it would forever remain unchanged. I was asked if the government was prepared to—I believe the term was—"legalize" marijuana, and I said no. And I think that is the position of the government. I do not think this is in any way premature.

As I say, part of my own feeling and the motives behind what we are proposing to do, rest on the fact that I think the whole problem needs a great deal of public discussion. We can wait forever for changes in the criminal code and for some report, but I also stated in my remarks, as reported in the paper, that we would act within our own jurisdiction.

I do not think we have any time to waste. I think the more publicity it gets, the better. I think the public bodies—and there is a great deal of work being done presently by voluntary agencies in this area—should be supported and encouraged. They should have made available to them any expertise that we have through the addiction research foundation, various educational programmes, and so on.

So I do not think we need wait for anybody in this regard. We have to start somewhere and it seems to me that this is a good way to make a start.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary: Does the Prime Minister feel that his government could legalize marijuana—even if it became the policy of the government so to do? Surely this is beyond his jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Frankly, I do not know. The real problem about legalizing marijuana is that it may be argued that it is not necessarily a destructive thing, but it is now getting into our elementary schools.

Mr. Singer: How is this government going to control it?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not know how we are going to control it. I think there are some real problems here, but we do not legalize the use of alcohol among our children in elementary schools.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): But they are drinking it!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I think for anyone to suggest we are going to legalize the use of marijuana among school children—

Mr. Nixon: But this government cannot; it does not have the power.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Probably we have not, but if the member asks me what the policy of this government is or—

Mr. Singer: The government might have the policy, but it does not have the power.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Stop niggling; we are trying to deal with a very serious problem!

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If the member wants to start splitting hairs and words and so on, carry on.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough has a supplementary?

Mr. Pitman: If I might ask a question of the Prime Minister: in view of the fact the drug problem seems to be very different and unique in each area and in each municipality, would the Prime Minister consider the possibility of making specific grants to these individual municipalities, perhaps to the psychiatric wing of a hospital or to the educational system? I suggest to him it is different in every community and perhaps ought to be dealt with on a community level, and grants might be the only way.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The point the member makes is well taken; I think he is driving right at the root of the problem we are trying to get at. We want to find out what courses of action we can take and what is being done in different municipalities. Although the action being taken by various municipalities may differ, I do not think the problem itself varies a great deal.

I notice the comparison, for instance, in some statistics. London is being used as an example because there has been some research done there, but strangely enough the percentage figures in a survey carried out in London and one in Toronto were within one tenth of one per cent of one another, indicating the problem really has the same incidence in Toronto as it has in London.

Mr. Pitman: The reasons for it can be different.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Maybe they are. I would just say this to the member, the truest statement he makes is that it is a new problem and we really do not completely understand it; this is what we have to get at.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, by way of further supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville was on his feet. Has he a supplementary?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary of the Prime Minister. Is the Prime Minister prepared at this time to make financial assistance available to municipalities which have already undertaken such studies and are interested in furthering their studies in this drug crisis?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not think so, Mr. Speaker. We are going to try to arrive at a means whereby we can assist. I have no doubt there will be some financial aspect to this eventually, and we will meet that when the time comes, but I think really, we have to decide the course of action we are going to follow before we can make any decisions as to what grants may be given to whoever may be attempting to deal with the problem now.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: A further supplementary question on this topic, Mr. Speaker: Has the Prime Minister had access to any of the research or to the tentative conclusions of the LeDain commission, or to comparable studies that have been carried out by our addiction foundation, before coming to the conclusion that there will be no legalization of marijuana? Or is that in effect just a stand-pat reaffirmation of the government policy in the past.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I was asked a question, as of a certain moment of time last night, on what the government's approach was. I answered it and that is my reply at this moment. We have access, of course, to everything that is being done by the addiction research foundation. In the best interests of all concerned there has to be some alteration in the method of dealing with people who are using marijuana. But as of this moment it would be the opinion of this government that it should not be legalized, which is the question that I was asked.

Mr. Speaker: Will the leader proceed with his questions? I think we have had sufficient supplementaries on this.

Mr. MacDonald: I am sorry?

Mr. Speaker: I think we have had sufficient discussion of this; it is becoming a debate. I think we should move on now to the next question.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to clarify the point as to whether or not that answer last night was on the basis of the information from the addiction foundation, or elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker: My recollection is that the Prime Minister did tell us that in his answer. The Leader of the Opposition has the floor.

Mr. Nixon: To the Minister of Municipal Affairs on a specific matter that I believe he would be aware of: Did the minister personally authorize the payment of retirement allowance for Mr. L. D. Irwin, the former chairman of the board of the improvement district of Marathon and presently the reeve?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: No.

Mr. Nixon: Would the minister be prepared to table in this House the documents, or the exchange of information, between the improvement district and/or the township and his department, on this matter?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take that under advisement. I cannot think of any reason why we could not be prepared to. I think several of the letters —perhaps not to the township; perhaps I am confusing this with letters to ratepayers—but both kinds of letters have indicated they should seek legal advice. We have not given

a legal opinion on this. Offhand, I cannot think of any reason why those letters should not be tabled and I will have a look at them and be glad to do so if we can.

Mr. Nixon: Might I further ask the minister—then perhaps you will direct me to ask another question—if he will undertake to table, not only the papers available in his department, but the other communications with other government departments on this specific matter which comes under his jurisdiction? I refer specifically to communications that might have taken place with the Attorney General's department.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I would think not, Mr. Speaker. We are now talking about two different things. I think our—

Mr. Nixon: We are talking about the possibility of fraud.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: We are talking about two different things, Mr. Speaker. I believe I am prepared to table my communications between the department—they are not my communications—but between the department and the particular municipality. I do not think I am necessarily under any obligation to provide the House with copies of opinions which may have been supplied to me or my staff by the Attorney General, acting as our underpaid solicitor.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, if I might ask the underpaid solicitor if he would undertake to examine his correspondence that is under his direct responsibility and make it available as public documents so that this matter, which is, I believe, a matter of some concern, since it involves public funds—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked his question and I would hope that all underpaid solicitors in the government side would leap up to answer. Is this directed to the Minister of Justice?

Mr. H. Edighoffer (Perth): There are not any over there.

Mr. Speaker: Any further questions from the Leader of the Opposition?

Mr. Nixon: I wonder if the Attorney General might answer since he is not—

Mr. Speaker: If it is directed to the Minister of Justice. I did not hear any question directed to him.

Mr. Nixon: Yes, well, I direct the question to the Minister of Justice.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have a third title today, apparently.

I would have to examine the correspondence, certainly, before I could volunteer to make it available to this House. It may be a matter of departmental investigation which should not be made public, for good and sufficient reason. I will undertake to examine it, and if it is of a nature which should be made public, I shall be glad to do so. I cannot answer at this moment to say that it is.

Mr. Singer: By way of a supplementary to the Minister of Justice: Could the minister advise whether, in his opinion, the payment of this pension was a legally authorized payment under the present provisions of the statutes?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I do not know at this moment. The matter is something that may have come to my personal attention previously. I think I will go back to the answer I made to the Leader of the Opposition. I will examine the matter. If I can make any information available—properly so—to this House, I will be glad to do so. But I cannot answer that question at the moment.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. Leader of the Opposition completed his questions?

Mr. Nixon: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: My first question is of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Inasmuch as the government is contemplating the grant of $150,000 to the proposed new regional government in Muskoka for planning, would the government not consider the provision of such grants to municipalities generally across the province, so that they can get the planning done to avoid precisely the kind of problem that emerged in Whiterock?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, if I may just correct a couple of things. We are talking about a district municipality, not a regional government. We are talking about something which has not been there before in any way, shape of form—a second tier of government which we feel it is important to get launched on the right footing.

Part of that footing is planning staff, which they need and which we are prepared to assist them with. Part of that footing is what is called an environmental development grant of which $100,000 is to be used to try and

assist—with matching funds and much more from the district—in some of the rather vexing pollution problems which are coming to the surface, particularly for more inspection of existing septic tanks, tile beds and so on.

Certainly, I would love to give every municipality of the province—every county and municipality—a planning grant of $50,000. We would be delighted to do that. The simple fact of the matter is that (a) we do not have the money, and (b) we think this is a prime responsibility of municipal government to do this kind of planning.

Through legislative action we are going to superimpose something in Muskoka wherein they need some help to get this going. I am told that when the counties were established some 100 years ago, this Legislature voted them something like $10,000 a year to get them going; $10,000 then has grown to a considerably larger amount today.

Mr. Pitman: If I might ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: Would the minister consider the possibility of placing a time limit upon every municipality, whereby, within a certain period of time, it must have an official plan and it must have subdivision control by-laws? And would planning grants then not be appropriate in that case, if that kind of imposition was placed upon each municipality?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: We have been urging an official plan on municipalities—

Mr. Pitman: But they have not any money to do it.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: We have been urging an official plan on the municipality in which this Legislature is situated, namely Metropolitan Toronto; we have been doing so for 10 years. They have not seen fit to adopt an official plan for their own good reasons. Does the member think we should cough up some money? Does he think Metropolitan Toronto cannot afford this? You cannot impose time limits on municipalities.

Mr. Pitman: They do in other countries.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: If the municipality does not have the will and does not recognize the need to prepare an official plan, this government cannot say "thou shalt do it," because they must be involved in it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Who is suggesting that they would not be involved?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: If we are going to pay for it and we are going to impose it and put it on, then they will not be involved in it. You have got to have local participation, and it must come from that level.

I am amazed, Mr. Speaker, that I have to say this. Since this House began sitting on February 24, every day that party over there has attacked, one way or another, municipal government in this province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, if I might have one further supplementary: Would the minister not agree that the main reason local authorities are not involved is because they do not have the expertise to be effectively involved? So that is the very reason why these grants might provide them with the very experts they need, before they—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked the question.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I would not agree. I think there is a wealth of expertise in our Ontario municipalities.

Mr. Pitman: Nonsense. They need more planning services made available too.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: What our job is—and the member has been involved in this, I give him full credit—what we try to do, is to get the municipalities to try to come to the conclusion that they should use some of that expertise, some of that knowledge—

Mr. Pitman: They do not have the people.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: —and through urging and through encouragement we try to get them to do that. We do our best, but we are not about to impose plans all over this province, which is just straight socialism.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Like uniform assessment?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Singer: No, sir, you fooled the people on that one.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! It is the members' own question time that is being wasted. The Leader of the Opposition has a supplementary?

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Would he agree with Dr. Fyfe that one of the reasons why many municipalities do not have official plans is because it slows down the development of their community, and yet they cannot get answers from the minister and his advisers for sometimes three years?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I can only say I am delighted the Leader of the Opposition is reading the Fyfe report. I am going to look forward to his comments.

Mr. Nixon: What kind of an answer is that? Does the minister agree with them or not?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of a final supplementary question on this—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a further supplementary question on this: If the government is interested in getting planning done at the local level, does the minister not believe that statutory requirements, coupled with grants, are going to be more effective than bombastic exhortations such as are given here?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, the very simple answer is no, I do not believe so.

Mr. Speaker: We have had sufficient supplementaries. The member for York South has the floor.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Minister of Social and Family Services. On what basis has the minister come to the conclusion that no further moneys will be required for Indian development programmes next year?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Social and Family Services came to no such conclusion.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, may I just clarify that? The press quotes the minister as stating that the $1 million allocated for this year has been expended and that no more than $1 million will be needed next year. My question was: "On what basis has the minister come to the conclusion that no more than $1 million will be required for the Indian development programme next fiscal year?"

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I repeat, the minister did not come to that conclusion.

Mr. Pitman: He was misquoted.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): The *Globe and Mail* has done it to the minister again.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: No, it has not.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: A first-rate story; I wish there were more like them.

Mr. MacDonald: If the minister was not misquoted, what did he say?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the $1 million appropriated by this Legislature has been approved and the moneys will have been expended by the end of the fiscal year. We have in process, applications for projects for approval for next year. It would appear, based on this year's experience, that the $1 million may prove to be adequate.

Mr. MacDonald: In other words, the minister did come to that conclusion?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Based on that experience and in the light of the fact that one of the grants was for $200,000 to cover the whole of the province with respect to a certain corporation of Indian crafts of Ontario. I may say, Mr. Speaker, that in my opinion—

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): That is the EIO programme for the Indians.

Mr. Lewis: The minister is going overboard.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, it will be a long time before any substantial sum of money in terms of millions of dollars will be adequate. Mr. Chretien, in his proposals, has on paper a figure of $50 million. I am waiting to see when any part of that will have been expended. Mr. Speaker, when I say that $1 million met the projects proposed to us this year, I would have been even more beaming had I been able to announce that there were 100 projects with $2 million, including $1 million of federal money.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister got up, to begin with—if I may draw it to your attention—and said he had come to no such conclusion. And now he has said that he has come to that conclusion.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. minister is quite entitled to make the answer that he wishes and the hon. member to draw his conclusions, but not necessarily to draw them to Mr. Speaker's attention.

I would like to point out to the members that this is your question time and the more time that is taken up by noise, which prevents questions being asked and answers given, is a loss to the members at large. I would suggest that we might give that a little more heed.

The member for York South still has the floor.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary?

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary to the minister. Were there any projects turned down by his branch and, if so, what sum of money was involved?

Mr. Speaker: In my opinion, that is not supplementary to the original question, which was whether the minister had made up his mind and stated that $1 million was sufficient for next year.

The member for York South has the floor for a further question.

Mr. J. Renwick: It sounded pretty good to me. I thought it was all right.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Oh come on, come on!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I am quite willing to consider some rearrangement of the times and I have made proposals to the Leader of the Opposition. I would suggest that, rather than having interjections by the hon. member for Sudbury, if he wants to have some more orderly and rational approach, he discuss it with his leader.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): That is not a point of order.

Mr. MacDonald: My question, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Nixon: Did I take up too much time in the question period?

Mr. MacDonald: My question is of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. In view of the recommendation of the federal royal commission on—

Mr. Speaker: It was not a point of order, but the Speaker cannot ascertain whether it is or not until the member has ceased speaking.

Mr. Nixon: He was just abusing the rules of the House again.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member for York South has the floor. He is asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Mr. MacDonald: In view of the recommendation of the federal royal commission on farm machinery that centrally located showroom centres to take orders and direct delivery from the manufacturers to the farms could cut farm costs, is the minister considering this as an alternative, in the province of Ontario, to the network of dealers which was deplored in his own farm income committee report?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): No, Mr. Speaker, not at the moment.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a final question, Mr. Speaker, of the Minister of Health. In view of one bill that I have from a doctor in Ottawa, in which he collected $4.95 from OHSIP and billed his patient extra for five cents, would the minister consider moving rather quickly to make the 90 per cent full payment on the basis of the OMA schedule of fees, to get rid of this kind of inefficiency?

Mr. Pitman: This is the "buzz-saw?"

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, if the member will send it over, I will be glad to look into that. Certainly there is no justification for that kind of a thing. But after all, as we say, the doctors are an independent group and, if a doctor wishes to do that, there is not much we can do to stop him.

Mr. MacDonald: I will be glad to have a photostat made.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury has the floor.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I have a four-part question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. It may be that he will require to take it as notice. I ask it because many people in Sudbury would like—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will ask his question without—

Mr. Sopha: First, what was the measure of value employed—market value or construction costs—in arriving at the assessments of the

installations of International Nickel Company and Falconbridge Nickel Mines?

What proportion of Inco's assessment is real property valuation, including buildings, and what proportion of the $124.8 million is business assessment?

After the equalization factors are used, what are the total assessments of International Nickel Company and Falconbridge?

Can the minister at one and the same time keep a straight fact and justify the niggardly figures?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, the member is correct. I think I would like to take this question as notice. I think we can give him the answers to some of the questions, but I am afraid some of them are not quite available yet. I would suggest if the member is in town on Monday, that he and I sit down with the assessors and we will go through these questions and see if we can satisfy both of ourselves that the correct figures have been arrived at and what is involved.

Mr. Sopha: The minister will never satisfy me. It is pointless for me to sit down with him—

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Let us try.

Mr. Sopha: —because the figures for Inco are ridiculously low.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The Minister of Justice has an answer to a question asked by the member for Riverdale the other day.

Mr. Martel: Could I have a supplementary question?

Mr. Speaker: There will be no supplementary question to a question taken as notice.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Be here on Monday.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Try a supplementary notice.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Justice has the floor to give his answer.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, on March 2, the member for Riverdale asked, by way of supplementary, if the Attorney General would clarify whether he felt there should be any steps taken to define the question as to when a police officer is or is not in the course of his duty, in order to provide the protection which the code intended to provide for police officers in such circumstances.

My reply, Mr. Speaker, is that the question as to when a police officer is in the course of his duty, to use the expression in the code, is a matter for judicial interpretation depending on the circumstances in each case. I would not think it would be desirable or necessary to define it in a statute. I think this would be difficult, perhaps too rigid, and perhaps would not fit the circumstances. I think it is clearly a matter for judicial interpretation having regard to the facts.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Justice has an answer to the question asked by the member for Downsview, which I think he might give.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: On the same day, Mr. Speaker, the member for Downsview asked, in connection with the Fazzari trial and the report which I gave to the House, as to whether the comments relating to the two instances in which Constable Goldsworthy was apparently not on duty on the night of his death, were as a result of the examination of the transcript of evidence, or as a result of an examination of the police report of investigation. My answer is, as I indicated at the time and undertook to confirm, those comments were based on the evidence of the preliminary hearing and on the police investigation generally, and not on the preliminary inquiry evidence alone.

The member for Downsview, Mr. Speaker, also asked if it would be possible to make available—he said to the Justice critics of his party, and of the New Democratic Party—a copy of the transcript and a copy of what he called "the observations"—I presume he was referring to the police report. I replied at that time I thought the transcript was a public document and I would now answer that I would not feel it proper to disclose the reports of the police investigation, which are certainly of a confidential nature, and necessarily so.

The transcript is public; it may be obtained by anyone. I have a copy which I have used in making my report. It is quite a bulky document and quite expensive to obtain, but I would be glad to make my copy available, by way of loan, to the member for Downsview, or to any other member who might wish to have it.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Health has the reply to a question asked the other day by the member for Windsor-Walkerville?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The member for Windsor-Walkerville asked a

question about the use of detergents in our hospitals. The answer, Mr. Speaker, is that no directive has been issued on the use of detergents in the laundry operations in the provincial hospitals, or hospital schools. However, I would like to note that 95 per cent of the wash compounds utilized in these facilities are nonphosphate compounds containing various types of animal soap and nonphosphate alkalis. The remaining five per cent are of the synthetic detergents type and the phosphate count of those ranges from about 20 to 35 per cent.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has the floor.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Sir, I have a three-part question of the Minister of Health.

Is the *Medical Post* correct in its current editorial about the government drug index plan,

1. In which it states that all price savings in the plan will be offset by the cost of keeping the plan in operation?

2. Is it correct in its statement that although only $80,000 was budgeted in 1969 for the index, the minister's department has estimated that $250,000 has already been spent on it to date?

3. Would the minister comment on the editorial statement that the drug index plan is useless to the public, the druggists and the doctors, and is of value only to the politicians who have spawned it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, in answer to that question, I cannot answer specifically some of the questions about dollar amounts, but of course our drug pricing index has not come into being yet. We feel that when all the kinks are worked out of it, it will be of benefit to the people of this province.

I read the editorial that the hon. member has quoted from. I think there are some incorrect assumptions in that editorial. We think that, through the co-operation of the various groups mentioned there, we will be able to bring in a drug pricing plan on a voluntary basis that will, over the long haul, have some impact on the price of drugs to the people of this province.

This is something new; it has not been tried before in Canada. We are hoping that we will be able to try it in the tradition of being the leader in these things—which we are in this province, in all areas—and we will give the details to the hon. member when we have them.

Mr. Shulman: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: In view of the statement by the drug manufacturers, who are quoted by the doctors who have been contacted, that the plan is useless and should be abandoned, will the minister give a second thought to the whole plan?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Education in four parts:

1. Are there hundreds of thousands of dollars in educational television production studios and equipment at Hammarskjold High School in Thunder Bay?

2. Are there hundreds of thousands of dollars in educational television equipment at the Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology in Thunder Bay?

3. Are there hundreds of thousands of dollars in educational television equipment in Lakehead University in Thunder Bay?

4. Do all these expensive educational television production facilities receive grants, either directly or indirectly, from the minister's department?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I thought the hon. member for Scarborough East had answered his own question as I read the press release of a speech that he gave here. He indicated some of the—

Mr. Nixon: It was a good speech.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Oh, tremendous. I read the press report of it before he delivered it; it was tremendous. If memory serves me correctly, Mr. Speaker, the member for Scarborough East outlined certain figures in that speech, so why he needs to ask them again today I am not sure.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. minister would either answer the question or not.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I am getting around to that.

Mr. Nixon: Comes in here one day in two weeks and goes around the mulberry bush.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Davis: I will answer the last part of the question first. Did the hon. member include Lakehead University? Any grants available there, of course, do not come from The Department of Education, they

come under the formula announced through The Department of University Affairs.

Mr. T. Reid: No public money goes to Lakehead University? How?

Hon. Mr. Davis: I think, Mr. Speaker, if memory serves me correctly, he asked if there were any funds from the Minister of Education. All I am pointing out to him is that the funds that go to Lakehead University go through The Department of University Affairs.

Mr. Nixon: How do you like that hair-splitting?

Hon. Mr. Davis: I would think, Mr. Speaker, with respect to Hammarskjold High School, the amount there is in the neighbourhood perhaps of $100,000 or $125,000, not several hundred thousand dollars, and that these funds—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Davis: —some of these funds are eligible for grants, I believe, under the technical vocational training agreement with the federal government.

Mr. T. Reid: Which was terminated in 1966!

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, the agreement was terminated as of March, 1966, subject to the provision that any school that had applied, or any board that had applied, would be dealt with on the same basis if approvals had been given prior to the cutoff date, and I think the high school comes under that particular policy.

With respect to Confederation College, Mr. Speaker, I am in the process of determining the precise amount, because I know the member for Scarborough East would like the exact amount. I sort of anticipated this question; I shall have the answer for him very shortly.

Mr. T. Reid: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does this mean that all three institutions are receiving funds for educational television facilities and, if so, what steps is the minister taking to co-ordinate these facilities in one small urban centre?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I think one must recognize that the functions served are somewhat different. There are different programmes at each institution. They are not ETV production facilities *per se.* They are training facilities to prepare students, in their relative position in the educational system, to become acquainted with, in one way or another, television or radio technology. This relates to the three types of programmes that are offered in the three institutions.

I might go further, Mr. Speaker, just to further inform the hon. member for Scarborough East, because I notice in his press release he had heard rumours—I think the word was rumours—about a $3 million establishment plan by the empire builders in the ETV branch. I would like to tell the hon. member, Mr. Speaker, that this rumour is not founded on fact.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Health. Does the hon. minister agree with the federal health minister, Mr. John Munro, when he told the Family Planning Federation in Canada that Ottawa now feels that family planning falls within the provincial jurisdiction, not federal?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I do not know. I suppose family planning falls within the family jurisdiction, if you want to carry it right down. Certainly we feel that family planning is a function of the district health units, and indeed many of the family planning clinics and things connected with this are part of the public health programme in their jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Health has a reply to a question asked by the member for Wentworth (Mr. Deans).

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, the member for Wentworth asked me a question about the Hamilton OHSIP office. Last December, as I announced, an inquiry service function was added to the field service function of the HIRB office in Hamilton. Telephoning and staffing were effectively doubled by the addition of two new lines and additional staff at that time. The capabilities of this office in terms of both staff and telephoning will be further increased as the need arises, and if the need is shown to be arising now, this will be done. I can assure the hon. members from Hamilton that OHSIP will continue its public inquiry operation in Hamilton to meet the full needs of the public in that area.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Welland South.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question of the Premier.

Is he now in a position to comment on the alleged irregularities in connection with the strike at International Nickel Company during the later half of 1969, particularly the December 20 remarks in the local Welland-Port Colborne paper?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, that was the subject of some very intensive police investigation. That investigation revealed no basis for further action.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests regarding the recent killing of a wolf by two snowmobiles: Has the minister reached a conclusion regarding the legality and morality of those who killed the wolf?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): The local OPP are investigating the case and I have not as yet received a report.

Mr. Burr: Has any bounty been paid yet?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No bounty to my knowledge has yet been paid.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member would await his turn. The member for Parkdale has the Speaker's eye.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. What attempts has the Minister of Labour made to solve the strike of the dairy deliverymen that is now taking place in the city of Toronto?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, there have been negotiations taking place in Ottawa, London and Toronto. The agreements were settled in both Ottawa and London; the Toronto negotiations have been continuing now for some two weeks. They broke off last week for two days and resumed. The strike has now taken place and I know that further meetings are planned. They are waiting for some indications from the parties they wish to meet again.

Mr. Trotter: A supplementary question: Could the minister give us any indications whether the delivery of milk will be stopped in the city of Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, not all the dairies are involved in this strike in Toronto.

Mr. Trotter: There are five.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Not all of them are involved. There are certain shops where milk can be purchased that are not on strike.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor West.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Health: Will the minister ask the drug addiction and research foundation and the officers of the mental health division of his department for a report on the adequacy or otherwise of the psychiatric treatment unit of general hospitals in the province in the care of persons suffering from drug abuse?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to take that under consideration. This, of course, is part of the overall type of information that the hon. Prime Minister was talking about that we are pulling together at the present time.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has stated policy on marijuana even though he has no power.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member was to ask a question.

Mr. Sargent: Would the Prime Minister, then, Mr. Speaker, relate to Ottawa the completely unfair and severe nature of the penalties for the use of marijuana? They follow a child for the rest of his life. Would he communicate to Ottawa the completely unfair and severe penalties for using marijuana?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am quite sure that Mr. Turner is aware of what the hon. member is speaking about. It is a matter of public discussion; I do not think I need to tell him.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question of the Minister of Lands and Forests. Is the minister aware that 21 jackrabbits have been killed by snowmobiles in Vaughan township?

Some hon. members: He reads the same newspaper.

Mr. Speaker: I would just like to point out to the hon. member that this is supposed to be a period for urgent public matters to be discussed. But it is the members' own time, and if they wish to ask those questions, we need a bit of lightness and I am glad to allow them.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I rephrase the question?

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed the question but I am merely pointing out these things sometimes do not appear to be of urgent public interest. The minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, I would say, as the member has mentioned, I am aware of this and we are just as concerned about the jackrabbits as we are with other forms of wildlife, and we are investigating the case.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask, Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary, what action the minister is going to take to ban this sort of thing? We have had wolves and rabbits. Does he not have any legislation now on the books to prohibit this kind of action? If not is he prepared to bring legislation before this House shortly to prohibit this sort of action?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the member will be pleased with the type of legislation that will be presented in the near future.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Brantford.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Attorney General, Minister of Justice. Can the Attorney General indicate if the police in Ontario attempt to find out who manufactures the various speed drugs, by this I mean the amphetamines and the methedrines which the police confiscate in the course of carrying out their duties?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I cannot be certain, Mr. Speaker, but I would point out to the hon. member that drug prosecution for possession and for having and for selling drugs is carried out under federal law. The prosecutions are conducted by the RCMP with federal counsel appointed, and it is not really a matter which comes primarily within the provincial area of police investigation. If the hon. member will allow me to have time, I may be able to find out what evidence we have on the manufacture of these drugs.

Mr. Makarchuk: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In view of reports emanating from the United States indicating that so-called ethical drug manufacturers produce most of the speed drugs, would not the minister consider it in order to look into who is producing these drugs in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I answered, Mr. Speaker, that I would seek to obtain information in answer to the question.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Waterloo North.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Attorney General; I am not quite sure if it should be to him or to The Department of Municipal Affairs, but I will ask it of the Attorney General.

An hon. member: It will be the other one.

Mr. Speaker: Try it first of the Attorney General.

Mr. Good: How can the town of Copper Cliff, when advertising in the *Globe and Mail* for police constables, offer in its contract a non-contributing pension plan when The OMERS Act says that all municipal employees hired after July 1, 1965, must belong to OMERS, which is a contributing pension plan?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I would direct that question to the order paper and I will see if an answer can be obtained.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests. Is the Minister of Lands and Forests aware that certain publications in northwestern Ontario are advising the public to boycott the product of a certain company because it has been allowed cutting limits in Quetico Park? What action is the minister prepared to take to assure the public that the interests of all users of parks will be adequately served so that discriminatory practices will not be taken against a manufacturer of diverse kinds of products in northwestern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, there was an article that I read recently which appeared in the Lakehead University publication *Argus*, on March 5 I believe. It was reported that this government was permitting the rape of

our natural resources and was favouring large industries. I would like to say, and this is with reference to Quetico Provincial Park, that at the present time we are very concerned about preserving Quetico Provincial Park in its natural form.

It is a natural environment park. We have a plan. We are getting information. We are preparing a master plan and less than one third of one per cent—and I repeat this Mr. Speaker—less than one third of one per cent is presently being cut. There are industries that are operating in parts of the park, I believe about less than half of the park, and those industries are supplying raw material to the forest industries in that area. Two thirds of employment in northwestern Ontario is due to the forest industries.

At the same time I say, Mr. Speaker, that we are preserving the natural environment of that park. The roads that are being cut are being regenerated along with those areas that are cut over. There are some very stringent regulations. I would say, Mr. Speaker, that I am replying to the editor of that newspaper, and I will be pleased to send a copy which gives the factual information on what is happening. It is unfortunate that these press articles give untrue statements.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Transport. Does The Department of Transport have any legal right to release to an insurance company the driving record of any particular individual?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I understand that driver records in The Department of Transport are available to anyone, any member of the public, on payment of a prescribed fee. That has been the practice for years.

Mr. Gaunt: My question, Mr. Speaker, is: Is there any legal right under the Act to do this kind of thing?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, it must be prescribed in the Act with the regulation setting forth the fee for such service.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Premier, the Minister of Labour, the Minister of—

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member has a question, he should direct it to the minister.

Mr. Lewis: I am putting it this way to seek your approval to ask a question of the House leader, whoever that may be, the minister or the Provincial Secretary. Was the cabinet informed in advance, and if so, how far in advance, and to what conclusions has the cabinet come in the sudden shutdown of Murray-Selby Shoe Company, which I believe occurred within the last 24 hours, indeed today, in the city of London, Ontario?

Mr. Speaker: Of course, I would point out that the hon. member is now asking, again, a question with respect to cabinet knowledge and information, and I believe that the Prime Minister has said to other members previously what we all know, that these matters are confidential and are not allowed to be dealt with. I think that is quite proper.

Mr. Lewis: If I may—

Mr. Speaker: If the House leader, the hon. Provincial Secretary, has anything he wishes to say in response to that question, it is quite satisfactory to me.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): No, I would certainly support what you said, sir; that is exactly the position I am in.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, now that the minister has been upheld by the Speaker, I will rephrase my question, if I may. What action does the government intend to take, in the light of the unexpected shutdown of Murray-Selby Shoe Company in London today, for the re-employment, retraining and reallocation of the work force?

Hon. Mr. Welch: I think that is a well-worded question and should go on the order paper. The Minister of Labour will no doubt be able to handle that.

Mr. Lewis: After Dunlop?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kitchener.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Welch: The member prefaced his remarks by acknowledging the fact that—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. leader will resume his seat. Does the hon. member for Kitchener have a question?

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): I had one, Mr. Speaker, but the minister has since left.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Health. In view of the fact that a survey in the city of Detroit indicated that 12 per cent of the instant-cooking microwave ovens showed they were leaking potentially damaging amounts of radiation, and in view of the fact that a lot of these microwave ovens eventually find their way into Canada, what is The Department of Health doing to protect the individuals who may be responsible for the operation of these microwave ovens in various restaurants?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, this question, of course, has come up from time to time in the last few months. Our environmental health branch is studying this. I will be glad to get the regulations and the directions that our branch would recommend in this matter.

Mr. B. Newman: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, if I might ask a further question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs in relation to the Whiterock situation. I wonder if he could assure the House that there will be no further pollution of watercourses in this area and the Ganaraska Nature Trail will not be destroyed by this particular development in these townships? Was that a part of his decision with regard to allowing Whiterock to continue as an operation in those counties?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The subject of pollution was not discussed between my department and the Whiterock people; no.

Mr. Speaker: The oral question period has now expired.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. Winkler from the standing private bills committee, presented the committee's second report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bill without amendment:

Bill Pr11, An Act respecting the St. Catharines General Hospital.

Your committee begs to report the following bills with certain amendments:

Bill Pr2, An Act respecting the City of Peterborough (No. 1).

Bill Pr14, An Act respecting the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson from the standing orders and procedures committee presented the committee's third report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee has carefully examined the following petitions and finds the notices, as published in each case, sufficient:

Of Dragica Sukunda and others praying that an Act may pass reviving Detroit Hotel Limited.

Of Sidney Goldstone, Samuel Redhill and Miriam Redhill praying that an Act may pass reviving the charter of Sidney Goldstone Limited.

Of Frank George Morina, Irma Jean Morina and Alexander Roy McIntyre praying that an Act may pass declaring Morina Electronics Manufacturing Company Limited a subsisting corporation.

Of Cecil James Ferby, Donalda Ferby and Alexander Roy McIntyre praying that an Act may pass declaring Fermack Bowling Limited a subsisting corporation.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

MORINA ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED

Mr. Henderson, in the absence of Mr. Price, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Morina Electronics Manufacturing Company Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

SIDNEY GOLDSTONE LIMITED

Mr. De Monte moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Sidney Goldstone Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

DETROIT HOTEL LIMITED

Mr. B. Newman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Detroit Hotel Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

FERMACK BOWLING LIMITED

Mr. Henderson, in the absence of Mr. Price, moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Fermack Bowling Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

OPERATION OF RAINMAKING EQUIPMENT

Mr. Ferrier moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to govern, license and regulate the operation of rainmaking equipment.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Mr. Speaker, the bill provides for the licensing of rainmaking equipment and imposing penalties for owning, installing, operating or possessing such equipment without being the holder of the appropriate licence from the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr).

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The third order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to have the opportunity to participate in the throne debate. I would like to congratulate all of the people who have been elevated to new posts and those who retained their former posts; and to those who were not elevated, better luck next time.

Having got over all the niceties I would like to get to the more pertinent points in my remarks. First of all I would like to say that it is rather discouraging to see only 10 Tory members in the House, and I would hope that this is not synonymous with their total concern for people in this province.

Mr. Speaker, I sense that the Conservative Party in the province of Ontario is having more and more problems; it is becoming more and more defensive in every jurisdiction that it has control of. We find the government changing ministers around, transferring portions of one portfolio to another, demoting others because of their inability to carry out their responsibilities that are so necessary to the smooth functioning of any department—such as the former Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett) to The Department of Public Works.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) of this province reminds me of a coach of a hockey team. He is trying to find a combination of ministers that will score a few goals, thus placing his party once again in the win column. But no matter how he switches the team it becomes more incompetent than the former lineup. The Conservatives in Ontario are in total disarray; and the people of Ontario are the victims of the government's lack of understanding and lack of meeting the needs of the people on a short or long term basis.

The Conservatives now have a new president of their association here in Ontario and this fellow has just got to be the world's greatest optimist. Speaking to the Progressive Conservative Council in Metro Toronto he stated:

> Union members, apartment dwellers, the newly unemployed, and the newly affluent are ripe to vote for the Conservatives in the 1970 Ontario election.

The Progressive Conservative president went on to say that visits to the union halls in industrial centres such as Hamilton, Oshawa, Windsor and Niagara Falls, have shown him that earlier supporters of the New Democratic Party feel the NDP have deserted them on the issues of federal finance.

Does he really think that the Conservatives could lull the people of this province to sleep while we are faced with rising unemployment, pollution, housing shortages, inequitable tax structure, a totally inadequate OHSIP plan, neglect of the cities, poverty and disparity in farm income? And the list continues to grow!

The most sensible proposition the president of the Conservatives called for was an Ontario election. Then we would have a change in government, and I do not have to tell this government that the member for York South and the New Democratic Party would bring forward adequate legislation to bring back stability out of Conservative chaos.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Will the member for York South still be leader? The member had better play it safe.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The Minister's colleagues have run out already.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pilkey: This government has become preoccupied with the federal white paper and the store is being left unattended.

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): The member said all that back in 1967 and what happened?

Mr. Pilkey: The Economic Council of Canada, in its sixth annual report published in September of last year stated—

An hon. member: There is nobody listening.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: They may not be here, but they will hear the member anyway.

Mr. Evans: That is the same speech the member for York South gave last year.

Mr. MacDonald: It was pretty good the first time and it is even better the second.

Mr. Pilkey: To continue:

> Canada possesses an astonishingly large potential for economic growth and development from now to the mid-1970s, exceeding that of most other industrialized countries. If this potential can be achieved the average Canadian's well-being should be remarkably enhanced.
>
> For example, the substantially increased income will allow him to buy more and more goods and services. He will be better housed, he will have easier access to improved health care services. Moreover, this country as a whole will have greatly increased resources to meet pressing national needs in many fields.

The report went on to say:

> Achievement of potential economic growth to 1975 could bring very large social and economic benefits to Canadians. For example, it would increase average living standards by about 35 per cent in eight years and provide for one of the greatest surges in consumer spending that Canada has ever seen.

I want to qualify my next point by saying the Conservative government here in Ontario cannot be held totally responsible for the disenchantment that exists in this province. The federal government has to be equally accountable for our poor, impaired start into the 1970s. We see tremendous hardships for the elderly, the retired and those on fixed income; yet this government stands idly by while they continue to suffer unnecessarily in the so-called province of affluence.

In addition we have with us the poor and the working poor; many living in poverty and being denied proper nutrition, proper housing, proper medical care and the other basic amenities of life. This government lacks the foresight and the courage to come to grips with this basic problem of poverty. It continues to perpetuate antiquated programmes.

Sitting on this side of the House one gets the impression that the government hopes the problem will just go away. This government had the opportunity to assist those living below or on the poverty line, as enunciated by the Economic Council of Canada. What did it do? Absolutely nothing!

A family earning $4,000 a year pays a total of $309 per year for hospital and medical insurance, which is nearly eight per cent of its gross income, or 22 per cent of its taxable income. When one considers that one in every five in the province of Ontario are living in poverty or on substandard wages, one comes to realize the significance of the abnormal premiums charged to thousands. This is only one of the injustices and unbearable hardships served on the poor of this province.

We have witnessed more and more dissent in our society, and a greater number of demonstrations here at Queen's Park and at Ottawa in protest of government inability to meet people's needs. The callous and irresponsible actions of this government against the more defenceless members of society, such as pensioners and those on fixed and below average incomes, is inexcusable. We are living in an age when communications have made public opinion more sophisticated and articulate, which in turn, will bring further protest and demonstrations to Queen's Park—enough, ultimately, to turn this government out of office.

This Conservative government has failed to understand through its many years in office that economic development or changes in social services are not the complete answer. You must provide adequate income, which is basic to the whole concept of attacking poverty.

The 1960s was a period of economic expansion. In the early stages of an expanding economy, income from shares tends to swing upward as a result of higher profits and this is reflected in a substantial rise in profits per unit of output. This is exactly what happened in the expansionary period of the 1960s. In the early stages, profits rose rapidly; significantly, it is only in the last couple of years that wages have increased at a respectable rate. Even so, when one examines the share of national income going to the wage earner in the recent expansion period, it has not increased significantly.

The former federal labour minister, John Nicholson, speaking in Ottawa a few years ago, made the following observation in regard to workers receiving their equitable share of a company's increased profitability. He went on to say:

> In 1966 the escalating economy of Canada reached a new crescendo, and thus all the signs of prosperity and reasons for confidence were present. Is it in any way peculiar or irresponsible, therefore, that the labour force which, as they thought, had during the very early 1960s fallen two or three years behind, should demand what they felt was a more equitable share of the new prosperity. Surely there is no mystery here. Like most Canadians, I firmly believe that the worker should share proportionately in the profits of the venture into which he has invested his energy and skill.

I just want to list the profits of the big three here in Canda and the United States to show their profit position, and the reason workers are going to make the kind of demands that they will make during 1970 and 1971.

General Motors Corporation made, in 1967, $1.627 billion after taxes. In 1968 they made $1.732 billion after taxes; and in 1969, which is a preliminary figure, they made $1.711 billion in profit after taxes.

As to the Ford Motor Company, well in 1967 they had kind of a bad year, because they had some industrial problems; they only made $84 million. That was in 1967. But in 1968 it skyrocketed to $627 million; and in 1969, the preliminary figure is $546.5 million.

The Chrysler Corporation have averaged, over the past three years, $193 million in profits.

If one looks at their return on the investment, we find that General Motors Corporation, after taxes, have made 18 per cent, or close to 19 per cent, on their investment; the Ford Motor Company around 13 or 14 per cent; and Chrysler 16 per cent. This when the national average has been around eight per cent.

So is there any wonder the workers of this province will be making demands on these corporations that have the ability to pay wage increases? They have the ability to reduce prices; and they have the ability to give their investors or shareholders an equitable return on their capital without increasing the price of the automobile. That is the kind of programme that I would hope that the autoworkers initiate in this year 1970.

Having said that, let us examine this whole question of wage restraint and inflation. The Trudeau government, having set up a prices and income commission to provide voluntary price guidelines, met recently in Ottawa with the business community. The result of the conference was an agreement with business firms to hold prices except where they are needed to cover cost increases in 1970.

The agreement of voluntary restraint is a contemptuous whitewash job. Voluntary restraints will not work! Big business has not priced its manufactured commodities on the basis of competition and supply and demand. Rather it has been on the basis of what the traffic will bear. Surely no one in this House sincerely believes that this time-honoured concept of pricing will change dramatically. The fact that business firms were able to achieve an agreement that would maintain their profit levels as related to the year 1969 is, in my opinion, a significant gain on their behalf.

If the government is really serious about price restraint, why not support the NDP programme of prices review boards? The only effective control of prices is to justify the proposed increase publicly. The agreement by the business community was only a sham to provide an avenue to wage restraint.

Mr. Young, chairman of the prices and incomes commission, has picked up the torch from the employers in this country and injected a fear psychology by stating that Canada may face rising industrial strikes and higher unemployment unless labour restrains its wage demands.

After the meeting in Ottawa of the prices and incomes commission it has become abundantly clear that big business and the corporation executive favours programmes of sacrifice in order to check inflation. But they always want the wage earner, the worker, to do the sacrificing. Not one of the corporation executives who attended the meeting in Ottawa will be laid off. Not one of the executives will have to support his family on inadequate unemployment insurance benefits. Not one of these executives will have to face the humiliation of going to the welfare office in order to feed his kids.

And I say to this government, and to Pierre Elliott Trudeau, if we are going to fight inflation in Canada let the sacrificing be done by the people who can afford to sacrifice. You know it is the same old upside-down, cock-eyed economics that we have heard about since the beginning of time. If you are making $4,000 a year as a wage earner and

you are working your heart out and your wife is trying to stretch the $4,000 to cover the family budget and your union goes to the bargaining table to get another $1,000, the hue and cry goes up in Canada that the worker and his union must be stopped because that is highly inflationary and it will undermine the stability of the economy. But one of the executives in a corporation is receiving $40,000 a year and he says, "I think I am worth $50,000." That suddenly is not inflationary and is really the expression of the highest kind of motivation in our free enterprise system.

This party believes that kind of archaic economics has no place in the 20th century. Labour is continually combatting the economic falsehood that workers' wage and fringe-benefit gains are responsible for inflation. Time and time again the myth of the wage-price spiral has been countered with economic facts showing that the inflationary process involves prices pulling up wages, rather than wages pulling up prices.

Unfortunately, however, the Canadian public seems to have been brainwashed by a barrage of false propaganda into believing that wage increases precede rising prices and are the reason for inflation in the international economy. Finance Minister Benson's recent remark that wage increases outran profits in 1969 only gives emphasis to the criticism that makes wages the prime culprit in the current inflationary trend.

If the Prime Minister and the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) here in the province of Ontario were not so closely tied to big business they could help dispel the misunderstanding which the public has on the issue of inflation. They would thereby do a service, not only to the workers whose welfare has been jeopordized by the distortion of economic facts, but to the province and the nation as a whole.

This government has a responsibility to tell it as it is. A significant share of the rise in manufacturing costs has not been due to wage costs, but to the large increase of salary costs of the rapidly growing white-collar work force, which is largely nonunionized. An added long term burden is produced by the habit of most corporations to cut down the blue-collar work force during a recession while the entire salaried personnel is retained.

I want to just take a moment to quote from an article that appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*. I do not really have to tell anyone in this House that the *Wall Street* Journal has never been known to be a friend of organized labour. Let us find out what the *Wall Street Journal* said on August 5, 1968, in relationship to inflation and the causes of inflation:

> Any attempt to fix the blame for today's inflation, however, should not be limited simply to a consideration of labour costs. The blame, it can be argued, belongs in many places.
>
> A major culprit may be corporate profits. A glance at the economic history of the post World War II era certainly suggests that inflation often has been just as much "profit-push" inflation as "wage-push."
>
> Consider a few facts of the postwar era—

And these facts relate to America but are equally applicable to Canada.

> In the past 20 years there have been three distinct periods in which factory prices climbed substantially over a prolonged interval. In each instance, labour costs per unit of factory output were declining when the price climb began—

Now get that. They were declining. "The labour costs were declining when the price climb began."

> —and these costs continued to decline for considerable periods after the price rise was under way. In each case corporate profits began to increase sharply well befor the price climb started.

So that you have profit, prices and then wages.

> Such facts, at least to some economists, bear an obvious message. "The pattern is clear enough," says Peter L. Bernstein, president of Bernstein-Macaulay Incorporated, a New York investment counselling service. "Instead of labour costs pushing prices up, what we see instead is a sort of profit-push. Profits are already on their way up before prices begin to rise and prices are well on their way up before wages begin to rise faster than output."
>
> Indeed, some analysts say that the postwar economic record suggests a chain of events that went something like this: Profits begin to climb, first through the impact of better machinery and work methods on unit labour costs, and then through higher prices; the rising profits finally prompt labour to attempt to catch up by seeking sharply higher pay; ultimately, unit labour costs begin to rise, too, giving inflation a further push.

But as is pointed out here, the worker is continually trying to catch up.

"There is no question that accepted labour costs add to inflation," claims James Tobin, a professor of economics at Yale University and a member of the President Kennedy's Council of Economic Advisers. "But if you want to put first things first, have a look at the role of profits."

In the postwar era the first sharp, sustained rise in factory prices occurred in the early part of the Korean war. The government's wholesale price index for manufacturing goods was actually lower in the early months of 1950 than a year earlier. But in July, 1950, the index climbed almost two points to 83.2 (1957-1959 equal 100) and by the end of the year it stood at 90.7. By the following March, it was 93.8, almost 14 points higher than in March, 1950.

Corporate profits also climbed sharply in most of these months, but the rise began in the second half of 1949, rather than in mid-1950. Unit labour costs, moreover, declined through most of 1950, and did not begin to move clearly upward until the year's final three months. Between March and August of 1950, when the factory price index rose from 80 to 85.1, unit labour costs fell from 77.6 to 75.9.

The second big rise in factory prices in the postwar period took place in 1955-1957. In July, 1955, the government's price index for factory goods, at 92.3, was actually slightly lower than in July, 1951. But by July, 1956, the index stood at 95.7 and by July, 1957, it hit 99.3.

Corporate profits began climbing sharply much earlier; records show that the rise began in the first quarter of 1954. By the time the price index turned up in late 1955, profits had risen more than 70 per cent. The statistics further show that unit labour costs were dropping in mid-1955. They did not begin to rise until late in 1955.

The third substantial upturn in factory prices began in 1965 and is still going on. Again, the record shows profits began rising long before prices. And unit labour costs actually were declining slightly at the time the price rise got underway.

One question that the postwar record raises is: If rising profits bring on an initial inflationary push, must profits also stop rising before relatively stable prices can be achieved? The record book suggests so. Profits have been approximately flat or have declined during the postwar periods of prolonged stability in factory prices. In this regard, it is interesting to note that occasionally there have been substantial increases in unit labour cost—with no corresponding rise in factory prices.

Do such facts mean that the country must always face a Hobson's choice of flat profits or painful inflation? Some analysts believe that the choice is something of that sort, though not so drastic. "A rise in profits that relates to basic growth in the economy—for example, through a larger, more efficient labor force—would not seem to condemn us to any inflationary spiral," says Geoffrey H. Moore, director of research for the National Bureau of Economic Research, New York. "The trouble is, the big profit increases usually reflect a good deal more than just basic economic growth."

Theoretically, of course, competition for customers is supposed to deter willy-nilly price increases that feed sharp inflation. Some economists, however, contend that competitive considerations often are insufficient to deter excessive price boosts. "There is very little price competition in some industries," claims Nat Goldfinger, an AFL-CIO economist.

"Recently," the economist adds, "nearly everybody has been raising prices so that customers have almost nowhere to turn" if they want to take their business elsewhere, unless they wish to turn to foreign suppliers.

Mr. Speaker, we do not really have to go into American statistics to find out what is going on. In the Toronto *Daily Star* of February 25, 1970, the headline was "Executive income zoomed in 1969". What did the article say?

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): That is not inflationary though.

Mr. Pilkey: That is right, that is not inflationary.

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): How much did the hon. member's income go up?

Mr. Pilkey: The article said:

The average Canadian union member last year raised his wage by about seven per cent. But the boss did better.

In the continuing argument over wage and salary increases which may be inflationary a new survey suggests that executives raised their total income by from 10 to 11 per cent.

> Consulting firm H. V. Chapman and Associates says its report covers the first 150 companies replying to its latest survey. About 1,000 executive jobs were involved.
>
> Chapman says earlier partial surveys have been accurate within two to 10 per cent and it adds that there is no doubt the boss did well in 1969.
>
> "There are indications the final figure may be close to 11 per cent."
>
> In fact, executives have done well for some years.
>
> The average total remuneration for those surveyed rose over 10 per cent last year after gains in the previous four years of eight per cent, 7.9 per cent, 8.8 per cent and 8.2 per cent. This indicates that executives have consistently outdistanced labour.
>
> Increases in salary generally were slightly lower—total remuneration includes bonuses, for instance—but still substantial.
>
> In its preliminary report for 1969, Chap- says 40 per cent of the executives got incomes over $20,000 compared with 31 per cent a year earlier.

Is it really any wonder that the workers in this province fight for their equity? You know, the executives do not even have to negotiate their wages. They are controlling the corporation and they make their own determination.

Mr. Martel: Ever hear of them going on strike?

Mr. Snow: They are more rational than that.

Mr. Pilkey: Many economists and governments today call upon workers, who clearly are not responsible for the present inflation, to bear the sacrifices of arresting it. Workers are asked to accept unemployment to stop the price rise and they are asked to forego the wage increases they require to correct the distortions in the income distributions from which they have suffered as a result of industry's price increases.

Why does the Prime Minister not dare to accept the invitation of the Oshawa autoworkers to address them tomorrow on unemployment? I raise this question because today, in the province of Ontario, there are thousands and thousands of workers who are laid off and otherwise unemployed. These workers are, for the most part, young and they are not going to accept a do-nothing reaction from this government. They are not going to accept a do-nothing attitude, because they are not prepared to see their families, their children, suffer through a pie-in-the-sky war on inflation. And who can blame them?

These young workers are fed up with the attitude of the government. Prime Minister Trudeau, that fine Liberal gentleman, asserts that the government will not become unduly worried by a six per cent unemployment rate because as he put it, inflation must be stopped in order to prevent the "destruction of the Canadian middle class." Our own Prime Minister in Ontario has also expressed concern for this middle class whom he describes as being in the $10,000 to $15,000 bracket. Well, this may be the middle income group in the Premier's circle of friends, but where I come from the people in those wage brackets are near the top.

I agree with the Premier, that these people, as he so eloquently put it, find it difficult to buy a home, raise children, and put them through school and university. But how much harder, then, must it be for the autoworker in Oshawa, very few of whom are in the $10,000 bracket, let alone the $15,000 bracket to do these very same things. Let me assure the Prime Minister and his cabinet colleagues that industrial workers in this province are also anxious to own their own homes and to see their children go to university.

Unless the Premier and/or Mr. Trudeau do not believe that the children of industrial workers have a right to higher education, surely it is doubly cruel to subject this group to the prospect and reality of unemployment in order to win a war on inflation, which is being fought, as we are told, to let middle class children go to university.

If the Prime Minister, either Prime Minister, wishes to dispute this, then let him come to Oshawa this Friday and explain to the workers there just exactly what his government is prepared to do to stop this unemployment. In other words, let us hear what the government is prepared to do for the industrial worker in Ontario.

If the Prime Minister thinks that people in the income bracket of $10,000 to $15,000 are getting a raw deal, what are his comments on those who are living on unemployment benefits of $53 a week? And what is his comment about the workers who were in front of this Legislature yesterday?

You know, the Friedman report and the Woods report made some specific recommendations. They said that employers should

provide those concerned with as much advance notice as possible of all the technological and related changes likely to lead to significant labour displacement. Despite the administrative difficulties involved, we think that employers should be obliged by law to give a minimum of six months' notice of such change. This was Friedman's recommendation, this was the Woods committee recommendation, but this government sees fit to do nothing or very little about it.

The employment of these workers was terminated. I suppose it was terminated as a management right or as a residual right. They have that right to do it. I recall that in the Canadian National inquiry, or the run-throughs, they used a term "inherent rights." Mr. Speaker, when you are talking about managerial rights, inherent rights and residual rights, they may be different terminology, but I think that in substance they all mean the same thing. As entrepreneurs and owners, they make these decisions and they say: "These are our rights and if we want to lay off 600 workers, as we did in the Dunlop plant, that is our prerogative."

What about the workers' rights? What about the workers who have spent 25 and 30 years in that plant—the best years of their lives—what about their rights? What is the government doing to give them some rights? Surely they have got some equity in these giant corporations. I think it is incumbent upon the government to give them some consideration, to provide some legislation, if necessary, to guarantee their rights. But, really, this government takes a position of no concern, while we have plant after plant closing out and management using their prerogatives to put these people on the street.

What is happening to the laid-off workers in this province? Many management people have said: "They are all right. In a lot of the industries they negotiated SUB plans and they are getting 95 per cent of their wages, so what is the problem? There is no problem if they are laid off." Let me say to you, Mr. Speaker, that in many of these plants, because of the high unemployment rate, these funds are now depleted. Here is an article in an Oshawa paper: "SUB funds starting to run out, says Nimigon," who is the chairman of the big General Motors plant in Oshawa. Then Steve Melinchuk, who is chairman of the Duplate plant in the same centre says: "Next week's layoff will finish the SUB fund." At the Housaille plant in Oshawa, Bill Rutherford, the chairman, said its SUB fund is also in bad shape.

So that there is not that kind of protection. The funds are being depleted as a result of the high unemployment levels.

It is all right for the Minister of Labour—or was it the Prime Minister—who said the unemployment figures in Ontario were fairly low. I do not know if the short term layoffs—and the corporations are initiating many of them—are counted in the total statistics. I question whether they are part of the total unemployment picture here in the province of Ontario. I want to suggest that the unemployment situation in Ontario is worse than the statistics indicate.

One only has to look at the headlines that appeared in the press very recently: "Half a million Canadians are now unemployed." In Metro, another headline: "Two new claims offices to cope with unemployed in Metro," and "Queues at unemployment office reflect increase in jobless." Big headlines in the paper. And it is not only the industrial workers, they are going to lay off municipal workers: "Scarborough faces staff layoffs."

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Trudeau's "queuetopia!"

Mr. Pilkey: One does not have to go out of one's living room to know that there is an unemployment crisis here in the province of Ontario, but the government sits idly by and does nothing about it. However, it is obvious that Trudeau is now preoccupied with inflation, even at the expense of thousands of workers being unemployed.

Prime Minister Trudeau, who was swept to victory on a slogan of a "just society", has now abandoned the slogan. The reason for disowning the slogan must be rather obvious to the people of Ontario and Canada, as the unemployment figures continue to unfold month after month.

When the House opened on the first day of the question period, my leader put a question to the Prime Minister of this province on the question of unemployment, because of his concern. What was the Prime Minister's response to that question?

The Prime Minister said:

> Yes, Mr. Speaker, we have a whole range of programmes. Retraining for one; our policies of trade crusades for another; the encouragement of economic development. As a matter of fact I would suggest to you all our educational policies are directed in the same way.
>
> Most of the thrust of this government really, is to make it a meaningful, proper place for people to live, with industries burgeoning, and we have spoken many times about the number of jobs we need each year to keep even with the increase in our labour

force. You can look in almost any department and you will see there are programmes designed to create meaningful employment for our people.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I want also to quote a statement of the Prime Minister's colleague, the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall). What did he say? He said that inflationary controls can go too far. Besides the enormous suffering of unemployed individuals, the loss to our national economy is obvious. We lose the production of that number of people. The Minister of Trade and Development said overly stringent inflationary controls build up a depression psychology. He went on to say: "We need to consume more of what we produce in Ontario".

Well, that is fine, but I want to suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the government, that the economy of this province is its greatest asset. At full production our economy should produce enough wealth to wipe out poverty, put an end to insecurity, wipe out unemployment and raise living standards to undreamed levels. We have failed to achieve those goals chiefly because most of our people do not have enough buying power to keep our economy operating at full capacity.

The Minister of Trade and Development suggested that we need to consume more of what we produce here in Ontario. How does he expect the people to buy the produce if they have not got the resources or the purchasing power? Just for a moment let us reflect on the idle capacity we have had in the last year; whole shifts permanently laid off in some industries, and others on a short workweek. We have solved the problem of production, but we seem to be unable to gear the economy to full employment.

Obviously we have not yet solved the age old problem of distributing the wealth that we produce. Surely government, unions and management can work out the rationale for sharing the abundance that is created through a full employment economy. Labour in 1970 cannot support wage restraints because they are too far behind prices. Taxes have continued to increase and interest rates are at their highest level.

It was noted recently in the press that some welfare recipients receive more financial support than a great number of people who are working. Yet Mr. Trudeau and his cohorts on the prices and income commission are calling for wage restraints. Labour should make it abundantly clear that they will be calling for wage increases to offset higher prices and the decrease of purchasing power.

A rollback in interest rates and making serviced land available at reasonable cost will start a massive housing programme here in Ontario. A substantial increase in the minimum wage would assist those on the lower rungs of the economic ladder. And for an interim period, during the critical unemployment crisis, this government should initiate action to waive the hospital-medical premiums for those out of work and a moratorium should be placed on all rents, mortgages and debts until they are gainfully re-employed.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I want to just quote for a moment an article that appeared in the *Globe and Mail* on March 5, 1970. Unfortunately I had an automobile accident and I could not hear the full text of the Premier's speech, but he made some comments that were quoted in the *Globe and Mail*, and he said, first of all, that this is the third year of a government that is doing a terrific job for the people. I think the things that I have alluded to in the last 45 minutes are not a very good example of what this government has done for people—mass unemployment, poverty, housing shortage; yet the Prime Minister thinks that is a terrific job.

I would like to know what he would say if he were just doing an average job, if that is a terrific job. The report went on to say:

> "I wondered," the Premier mused, "if the long knives were out behind him (Mr. MacDonald) and I really wondered if that was the last ditch before the leadership goes on the block; the last desperate fling to try and retain power and control of that rather badly split organization. The government will not, however, come to Mr. MacDonald's aid by calling an election".

First of all let me say about the badly split party, I want the government to understand that this is probably the most cohesive party, not only in the province of Ontario but the Dominion of Canada and the United States as well. And if he is relying on this party to give him an advantage, as far as the people of the province are concerned, and he thinks that this party is badly split, then he is under a sad misapprehension.

Mr. MacDonald: That is a weak reed you are leaning on.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Methinks the hon. member is protesting too much.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): The previous Minister of Public Works said you were to be the next Prime Minister.

Mr. Pilkey: What the Prime Minister wants to do is kind of look around in his own camp to see what is really going on.

Let me just quote another little article, and it is from February 25, and it says, "Lawrence calls himself the ombudsman of the north". Well, does the government really think that the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) is really working for the people of the north? He has designs on that chair and the Prime Minister ought to understand that. That is what he is really looking for, and he is not the only one on that side of the House who is looking for the Prime Minister's chair.

The newest minister is going around the province making a number of speeches—the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence), you know—and he is looking that way. Every time he gets up in the House to make a speech he looks over there to see if the chair is vacant. And so does the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough). It seems to me that every time a minister gets up to make a ministerial statement or something else he looks over to see if the Prime Minister's chair is still there because he has designs on it.

The Minister of Municipal Affairs does, and even the Provincial Secretary—he is right close to it but he kind of gives a side glance to see if that chair is still there. And the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) does too. The Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) would like to be sitting there, but he is so preoccupied with an inadequate OHSIP plan that he cannot get his head up. That is his problem, or he would have some designs as well, as far as that post is concerned.

What the Tories ought to realize, and the Prime Minister ought to realize too, is that these people have designs on the premiership. He thinks that other parties are having some difficulties but let us find out—this is also quoted in the *Globe and Mail* on February 21, this year:

> A federal insider lapsed into a rare obscenity when asked about co-operating with the provincial Tory organization. He suggested the Ontario organization is disintegrating.

And he is talking about the provincial Tory organization.

> "They are on the way down". He maintained the Ontario party is weakest in the same area as the federal party—in the province's cities.

Well, this is one of your people who said this, not ours. It is one of your people who said that.

Mr. MacDonald: Too bad the Prime Minister was not here to hear that now.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): That is what the Minister of Mines says.

Mr. Pilkey: Oh, yes, I know.

Mr. MacDonald: And you heard what the Liberal delegates from Sudbury said in Ottawa too, that the Liberals will come third in the provincial election—

Mr. Sopha: No, no, they said that Mr. Trudeau was a great man.

Mr. Pilkey: But anything that has been said—I want to say to the member for Sudbury through you, Mr. Speaker—anything that has been said by the Tory organization at every one of its conferences, is that the Tory party in Ontario is considerably weakened and it is on the way down.

It is not the opposition that is making these comments; it is their own people. Their own people are making these observations, and if they can see this, then it seems to me that the Tory party ought to give it some recognition; but they continue to drift on the old, same course without giving it any recognition at all. Well, I hope they stay on that same course until 1971—except that the people of this province are going to suffer in the interim.

I want to suggets to you, Mr. Speaker, that only the New Democratic Party has the will and the courage to end the economic stagnation and drift which have characterized the tragic failure of this government. We are witnessing the waste of millions of dollars' of potential wealth through idle capacity while thousands of families suffer poverty and deprivation. There are thousands of families with unmet needs, but they lack the purchasing power to translate their needs into active demand in the market place.

The New Democratic Party in Ontario is pledged to a genuine full production and full employment economy, and we will settle for nothing less.

Mr. Martel: Another whack at the President's Paper.

Mr. R. D. Kennedy (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, in Mississauga a week ago tonight, on Thursday, March 5, a meeting was held. The reason was because a large number of people have had excessive increases in taxes.

The people came because they were very concerned and they came in large numbers. They jammed the auditorium. They came, Mr. Speaker, to obtain relief from their high tax bill.

This meeting was not billed as partisan, but regardless of that, there were people of all political stripes. So the first group I noticed were the socialists, the NDP. What were they doing? They were around the doorway and in the corridors distributing literature. They were handing out one of the most shoddy pieces – mimeographed, full of the "Robin Hood" approach, pie-in-the-sky—this sort of nonsense. They used the occasion for a propaganda forum. They took political advantage of the situation. They showed no sincere interest in solving the problems.

The Liberals were there too—

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Oh, now there is a—

Mr. Kennedy: They were indeed.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Kennedy: Some of them used the occasion to try to convince the audience that the provincial government had created the problem. They had not.

You know that this little session of yours in Ottawa has mesmerized you a little. It has addled your thinking. That halo you dance around up there is slipping a bit.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Like the Tory party, it is slipping.

Mr. Kennedy: Mr. Speaker, the problem is caused by reassessment in Mississauga which was carried out by the county of Peel. It was not carried out by the province. The work, Mr. Speaker, was part of a programme which—

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): What are you talking about?

Mr. Kennedy: —was begun in 1966 as arranged by the 10 municipalities of the county of Peel in 1965.

The people knew the problem – most emphatically they knew it. They have it in black and white on their assessment notices and their interim tax bill. We have six installments; three come out in February, three later in the year. These interim ones are before the mill rate is struck. The people did not want to hear any excuses or buck-passing. They did not care who did the reassessment nor why. Their homes are threatened by high taxes and they wanted help, not a lot of oratory.

Mr. Speaker, unless relief is given in Mississauga today, hundreds of people will have their homes virtually confiscated as a result of this reassessment. I would like, Mr. Speaker, to give some examples. A residence near Burnhamthorpe, on the Base Line, on three acres, the assessment went from $2,700 to $27,260. The taxes were $363. They will climb to an estimated $1,143—about a 325 per cent increase, by my mathematics. A Veterans' Land Act property in the same area will have a tax increase from $415.10 to $885—more than double.

A gentleman named Steve Harkusha has a five-acre smallholding near Eringate on Winston Churchill Boulevard. He has lived there since 1952. He keeps a cow and has a garden to help out the family budget. Taxes in 1969 were $422.30; estimated for 1970, $1,760.42. This is at the projected mill rate of 17. Mr. Speaker, this man has a modest job, but this added tax burden is ridiculous.

Another case in the same area concerns a Mr. and Mrs. Jack Creighton. They have a couple of acres with a 125 foot frontage and 709 feet deep. The assessment went from $1,840 to $50,440; the taxes from $229 to an estimated $857 and change.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): Look how interested the NDP is.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): We are listening. We are listening.

Mr. Kennedy: It just shows their disinterest in the real problem. They displayed their position a week ago tonight and we in Mississauga know it.

Mr. and Mrs. Grosvenor are a retired Clarkson couple; he is on a small post office pension as well as the old age pension.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): We have been in the vanguard of this reform that he is talking about for four years. What are you going to do about it?

Mr. Kennedy: They went through the court of revisions and they got a substantial reduction. They still face an increase from $280.52 to $488 and change—an increase of some $208 under these circumstances. And they have been there for years and years.

I would like for a moment to quote a letter from a long-time Lakeview resident, Mrs. Alice Beaton, an excerpt:

> My resources are very limited, having a small amount of bond interest, plus my

old age pension, which amounts to $88 a month.

There is a letter here I would like to mention; it refers to a substantial tax increase for Mr. and Mrs. Henry White. Their letter includes the following and it sets out some of the circumstances of this situation:

> This is on a 100 by 175 foot lot which cannot be subdivided, not only because the buildings are centred on the lot, but also because the area is unsuitable for smaller lots.
>
> For example, the owner of the property next to us moved the small house that was on it to one side, petitioned for permission to split the lot and was refused. And so you see, this property, the smallest permissible at the time of purchase because of septic tank and well requirements, is not for speculation, but for a family home.
>
> The homes on our street are all family homes built, with few exceptions, by the original owners. Many were constructed in stages, as finances and time allowed.

This excerpt, Mr. Speaker, describes concisely one of the major areas of concern with this problem. It is estimated that some 5,000 to 6,000 will have tax increases, perhaps more. These vary in amounts from a modest sum to extreme ones, such as I have indicated, and there are others, many others that are similar, or exceed those described.

Mr. Stokes: Sock it to them!

Mr. Kennedy: The new assessment has also had the effect of shifting the tax burden and, as a result, there is a major deduction in taxes for industry.

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): Would it not be a good time for you to accept our foundation tax plan?

Mr. Kennedy: If we accepted what you offered last week, we would not get anything but grief, just the Robin Hood approach again. Your kind of philosophy is socialism —disastrous.

An example of this industrial shift, Mr. Speaker, is an oil refinery which will receive a reduction of some $140,000. These problems, Mr. Speaker, cannot go on at all. The town of Mississauga has limited jurisdiction to adjust unfair taxes. While errors in county assessment will be corrected in the future, there are many homeowners who need relief from the current tax load. Action by the province is now essential. I have already discussed solutions with the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) and there are a number of alternatives that are being considered. The end result must be relief to those homeowners and families who have been so seriously affected.

Mr. Speaker, I know everyone in this House is anxious to correct inequities in taxation and the people in Mississauga are looking for answers. I have promised the homeowners in Mississauga consideration. I will continue to press for remedial action on their behalf. I ask the government to move on this matter now.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Thanks for coming today, boys, but, Mr. Speaker, I want to express the usual regards to your honour for your dedication to try to get fair treatment to the House here.

I am reminded of the story about the cub scout leader who was talking to his cubs. He said: "You know, when you are in the woods, if you are bitten by a rattlesnake, you take out your trusty penknife and you dig out the poison and you suck it out." And one of the fellows in the front row said: "Well, what happens if you get bitten in the behind?" The leader said: "That is when you find out who your friends are."

Well, we find out sometimes who our friends are here, but most times you do a fair job in the question period session.

Mr. Speaker: Very good.

Mr. Sargent: We heard the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), in his reply to the Speech from the Throne; he spoke for three hours. He never had a drink of water the whole time; he was not the least bit thirsty. Now that is remarkably good. Everyone here agreed it was the driest speech of the session.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): We have not heard yours yet.

Mr. Sargent: I will need more than water this morning.

The throne speech is usually a political document, and this one truly reflected the sad state the government is in today. It tells of what the Prime Minister thinks will be chief issues in the next 12 months before the election, and which on analysis shows how critical the affairs of 7,500,000 people are, because the throne speech said nothing. I suggest that he is completely unaware of what is going on in this province, he has lost touch with the people. As I said before, Mr. Speaker—

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): Did the member look at the *Telegram* today?

Mr. Sargent: Things like that never happen to the opposition!

This government, I think Mr. Speaker, is like a baby: No matter how much you change it, it is always in a mess.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): That is the best line I have heard.

Mr. Sargent: The minister likes that? He can use it!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Whatever the Liberals do they are like babies, always in a mess.

Mr. Sargent: The Prime Minister, as usual, blames the feds for his problems, disregarding the spending spree he has been on for the last eight to 10 years. We heard about the financial nightmare, and the feds freezing our money supply to fight inflation, taking us into recession. I think it is a sad commentary that the Prime Minister of Ontario and Mr. Trudeau, in consortium, will go as far as having mass unemployment to stop inflation.

I think it should be paramount in the Prime Minister's thinking that people must have continued employment. The Prime Minister completely ignored the most serious threat to free enterprise we have had in the nation's history in the growth of our friends on the left, the socialists down here. It is a serious situation. Free enterprise is facing some very dark moments. Those members in business today know what we are facing.

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): People are facing the same dark moments because of it.

Mr. Sargent: That threat is the takeover by the U.S., control of capitalism by the great interests to the south there, which indirectly are being taken over by European interests. Forty per cent of the U.S. economy now is owned by Japanese, German and English capital. So indirectly now, we are getting the fallout, we are being taken over by the U.S. concerns. The biggest thing facing—

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): Where did the member get those figures?

Mr. Sargent: Well I do not know, I used *Fortune* magazine as a source of this. They are the bible, pretty well, of the corporation world in the States, and that is what they claim as fact. Now whether the member for Brantford has more knowledge than they have, that is a matter of opinion.

But the serious concern that we have, Mr. Speaker, and that this government is doing nothing about through The Department of Trade and Development, is the sad plight of the small businessman. Things are going to be stalled with the small businessman, going into business in this province in the next few months, because of the lack of concern of government.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): Because of Mr. Benson and Mr. Trudeau and the member's other friend in Ottawa.

Mr. Sargent: I must say, to the Minister of Revenue, that there are a lot of things wrong. I said there were a lot of things wrong; I told members there are a lot of things wrong. We have to work together. We are all Canadians and we have a situation which we all know.

We all know that we are lending millions of dollars in forgiveness loans to large U.S. corporations which show great profits. It is our money, it belongs to the small businesses. It is our taxes that provide the money. We are lending our money, forgiveness loans, to large U.S. corporations and we cannot get a nickel of credit at the bank.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): The member is right!

Mr. Sargent: A young chap came into my office from Owen Sound about 10 days ago. His credit was A1, he is a good businessman, he employs about 30 people and he has $200,000 in orders he cannot process because he cannot get any working capital, any advance from the bank to do this. So he has to throw them away, because he cannot get any working capital for these orders.

I phoned the head of a large chartered bank in Toronto, had a 40-minute discussion with him and he did not know, he thought that the banks today would lend money on accounts receivable. The banks will not lend money today on accounts receivable, and this president of the bank did not even know that.

The serious thing that is facing us today is that there is no interest in the plight of the small businessman, the backbone of our economy. If the small businessman goes down the pipe then free enterprise is in real trouble. It behooves this government, Mr. Speaker, to take a new look at the people who pay their freight here.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to talk in the time allotted to me today about the have-not area of the province of Ontario, the counties of Grey and Bruce. No one, I do not think, can

speak with more authority on the plight of the have-not area than I can. What is happening to us, Mr. Speaker, can happen to all the outlying parts of the province, because a chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

Mr. Sopha: That is a good one-liner.

Mr. Sargent: I am not talking of the closing of the Chesley Hospital; I am not talking about the closing of our rail lines. I am going to talk about the educational inequities, I am going to talk about the fact we cannot get any industrial loans for industry up there and the assessment mess in our area—the 600 per cent increases about which the member for Peel South (Mr. Kennedy) spoke a few minutes ago, about the mess he has. We have 600 per cent increase right across the board in some areas. We have justice being doled out by incompetent judges, we have impassable roads, we have 100-year-old jails, we have unemployment all over the whole area. We are in terrible shape, gentlemen!

Mr. Makarchuk: They cannot even get a drink!

Mr. Sargent: We cannot even get a drink!

And on top of all this we have misery and we have rural poverty, so I want to tell you that things are bad.

Before I start, I want to say that one of the main concerns of those of us here in the opposition—I think the socialists will go along with this too—is that the future of the citizens of Ontario lies to a large degree in the hands of the fourth estate in their interpretation of what goes on in this House and its influence on how the people of Ontario may vote; and from what I have seen and read in the papers the deck is loaded.

For example, 10 days ago the member from Guelph brought up what I thought was very important news. Now what I thought was news is not what they think is news. I started in the newspaper business. When I was 12 years of age I had a carrier route and I organized the carrier boys to go on strike to get a new rate at the newspaper. Well, we went on strike and we got our increase, but I got fired.

So I told the newspaper publisher that one day I would start my own newspaper and I did. I was 18 when I started a paper.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Has the member got a union shop?

Mr. Sargent: No, I do not have a union shop. I do not have a newspaper now.

I started this newspaper and I wore every hat. I was the circulation manager, I wrote all the stuff, I sold all the ads; I wore every hat in the business. I think I know what news is, I should know what news is because I have spent a lifetime doing it.

Members are all pretty cognizant of the fact of government central purchasing, and in our debates over the last few years we have evolved the fact that the province of Alberta has saved $5 million through central purchasing, and other provinces like amounts. It was estimated in the debates by the Treasurer that we could save maybe $10 million or $20 million a year in Ontario by central purchasing, and so somewhere along the line the government brought in an idea to set up a central purchasing agency. They have a budget of $100,000 and so the member from Guelph asked the Prime Minister how much purchasing had they done; the Prime Minister did not know.

He was asked by the member if he was aware that he had a staff with $100,000 worth of payroll; he said, yes, and the member asked, "What is going on?" but the Prime Minister knew nothing about it.

The shocking thing was that here was the business head of this large corporation, who had a payroll of $100,000, and he did not know a damn thing about it. Now that is news. But when the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) did not get a letter from somebody, that is all we read in the paper for two days—the fact that Mr. Shulman did not get a letter; that was a news heading for three whole days. But here was the biggest news story, I thought, yet it did not get one inch of space.

Now that to me—

Mr. Makarchuk: It is a good thing you got into politics and did not stay in the newspaper business.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): It is not what you know, it is who you know.

Mr. Sargent: That to me is news. The thing that I am concerned about is that we do not have objective reporting. In other words there are many, many stories that come across this House during the day that never see the light of day in the press. I do not suggest that the press do not file those stories, but I think there is somebody sitting downstairs, downtown, who makes the decisions.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): They are just underplayed in your case, that is all.

Mr. Sargent: I am not stupid. What I am trying to say is that I think the stories may go out of here but someone downtown is making decisions about what goes in the paper. I think we have slanted news and slanted editorials, because what appears in the papers becomes the editorial policy sometimes, or usually, of a newspaper; they are trying to get their opinions across.

I would like to suggest this: In every aspect of covering the news here, how often in the history of Ontario has a member of the fourth estate dug into the $4 billion spending programme here and found any scandal? Across the nation in the States—in every state—you have newspapermen winning awards for doing a public service by seeking out hanky-panky in government; but never once in Ontario has there been a story dug out by the reporters in the press gallery.

Hon. Mr. White: There is no hanky-panky, and you know it.

Mr. Sargent: I say alleged—there could be hanky-panky; but how do we know, we cannot have a public audit.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Well, the thing is, Mr. Minister of Revenue, we would be glad to pull in our horns and not say things like this if you would give us a public audit; but you refuse to open the books to the people, you refuse. What is the Minister afraid of?

I was mayor of the city of Owen Sound for 12 years and the public could walk in off the street and see any account they wanted. They could look at the assessment roles; they could see anything they wanted to. It is public information.

Hon. Mr. White: We publish everything in the public accounts.

Mr. Sargent: If I want to go into The Department of Highways about a contract, can I see it? The hell I can.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Why not? It is public property; why can you not?

Mr. Sargent: Try it some time. When a story breaks, or something happens in the House, what does the press gallery do? They run to the minister and get a story. But do the newsmen ever go to the backbenchers around here and ask their opinion of what the public issues are? Do they ever do that? They certainly do not.

I am not afraid of saying what I think about the press. You fellows are defending them, but I do not care what I say about them. The fact is that every member of this Legislature is a success story unto himself, he was elected by 50,000 or 60,000 people and he is a man who has some opinions on something. But not the press gallery; they go to four or five pet people and get their views on it.

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): That is right.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: They are not elected, they are selected.

Mr. Sargent: Ask anybody in the Legislature who is the most effective debater in the House; it is the leader of the official opposition (Mr. Nixon), but does the press carry this? Not a bit. Who gives them the right to say, from time to time, that the NDP is the strongest opposition; who gives them the right to say that?

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): It was obvious, anyone can see it.

Mr. Sargent: There may be, Mr. Speaker, not too much in what I say, but there are areas of concern in the fact that some people downtown in these newspapers are making decisions that are not, in my opinion, fair to all the people of Ontario.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton): Last week they said there was no opposition.

Mr. Sargent: Do not start heckling me, because you worry me.

Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of the House a great piece of injustice that happened in Tobermory, that is in the tip of Bruce county, on February 23. Before I read this letter, this area is a summer area and in the winter months the people there do not have too much money because the income is very low in that area. This is a letter from Mr. A. G. Smith, of Tobermory, who got into trouble with the law. He was driving a snowmobile on the highway; that was the charge, and he said:

Dear Mr. Sargent:

> One reads a considerable amount in the newspapers these days, news items, editorials and so on, about increasing disrespect for law and order, particularly the police, and more particularly the provincial police, whether Quebec or Ontario, about the snowmobile nuisance and so on, and the fact that the poor cannot expect the same

respect and treatment from law enforcement officers and the courts as the rich or more affluent.

These are the truths of our times. As you will recall, I had occasion recently to ask your assistance in obtaining free legal aid offered the poor by the provincial government. Upon application for this service I was advised that the crime I had committed was of such minor nature that free legal assistance was not available to me. I agree with the minor contravention of a rather new and not well known law.

The corrective measures were simply and quickly taken. The out-of-court settlement of $53 was a matter of major concern. In view of my desperate financial situation, I could not possibly have paid this fine by the date set out on the summons, nor could I afford the 100-mile trip to the hearing I was entitled to—at least the document said I was entitled to a hearing.

Therefore, I made my appeal in writing and mailed it to the justice of the peace whose signature appeared on the face of the document and erroneously assumed that I would be advised of the validity of such an appeal or, at least, of the court's decision. Not so. At 10 p.m. Saturday, February 14, 1970, while playing checkers with my two little girls, two Ontario Provincial Police fairly burst into my home. My two little girls were terrified.

The police advised me that I was under arrest and that I should attire myself properly and that they would escort me to the county jail some 100 miles away. What followed was most unbelievable, and would have been hilarious except for the psychological effect it had upon me and my family. I received treatment one might accord a full-fledged criminal. It was not until my wife was able to borrow the money, prevail upon her friend to drive the 100 miles and pay the $53, that I was released. Man cannot know the meaning of the word ridiculous until he has had such an experience, and yet these men were doing their job.

First, let us look at the time of the arrest. Suppose in my case, I suffered from a rather nervous condition which resulted in stomach ulcers and migraine headaches. Had I been permitted to contact either a doctor or a lawyer it is doubtful that their service could have been attended before Monday. Secondly, I am responsible for certain church duties Sunday morning. I was afforded no opportunity to make other arrangements although the jail was kind enough to call my pastor on Sunday morning—at my expense, of course. Further, I was not permitted to post bail. "Simply pay the fine and you can go," they told me.

If he had not paid the $53, he would still be there. He said:

> I do not believe that the answer to the snowmobile problem lies in the severe treatment of people who own them, by police and the courts, but rather a spirit of knowledge and co-operation. This spirit, employed by police in all aspects of law enforcement, I believe, could and would do a great deal to improve their public image.
>
> It is becoming increasingly difficult to bring young children up through youth believing that the policeman is their friend and protector, when they see them lunge like dogs upon those that innocently or through ignorance contravene the law. If it is the intention of lawmakers, and I doubt that it is, that this most awesome power is given to police officers to employ when dealing with those who earnestly try to live within the law, then this power cannot be policy doled out to idiots but only to just and intelligent men. If the law is to give men this power, then they themselves must project the power of reason.
>
> I further learned that one must be very careful when expressing an opinion, especially when dealing with law enforcement officers. I know that if this letter were to come to the attention of the police, it would not be well for me. I know this to be true.

He signed it: "Yours truly, A. G. Smith."

I assured him that I would make this public. I had permission to read the letter and tell exactly what happened. The situation is this: I want the Attorney General to publicly apologize to this man for what happened to him, because, as I said before, the only thing in this country that you cannot buy on the installment plan, is justice. The amount of money that you have in your pocket decides whether you go to jail or not in many, many cases, and I think that this is an awful thing to have happen in this day and age in this country. I am going to see to it that the Attorney General gives this man a public apology for what happened to him, driving him from Tobermory to Walkerton, 100 miles on a Saturday night to lock him up. It is criminal.

What should be done in this case? To summarize this part, I want to say that the Prime Minister of this province should appoint a small group whose sole function would be to

make semi-annual surveys of the workings of the civil law and the courts on the public. A small staff might consist of one of the new breed of sociology lawyers and an experienced newspaperman investigator. Get people who are not all legal; get some of the lay people of this country into the act. Every six months this group could issue a cogent Rideau report of the particular abuse that they have found in some specific area—probate courts, incompetency hearings, the workings of the sheriff's sales for debt, garnishee abuses, inadequacies of the bar discipline, and so on.

The possibilities are many, but properly publicized in each of the counties of this province, this could highlight the evils of some malfunctioning part of the law or the courts. It could easily become the basis of recommendations to the Legislature, and once a situation has been effectively publicized, there will be considerable pressure on both the lawyer and the non-lawyer to pay heed. This is something that is greatly lacking on a board like this.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of the House the situation in the town of Chesley, which is a beautiful town in the middle of Bruce county. To those members who do not know this, Bruce county is the largest beef producing county in the Dominion of Canada. This town of Chesley sits right in the middle of the farming area. We have Mennonites; we have all kinds of different groups of people there. The roads are impassable many times in the snow. It is the snow belt there. So we have a lot of problems that suggest that the town of Chesley should keep its hospitals. The OHSC is the villain in this piece.

Mr. D. H. Morrow (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member a question?

Mr. Speaker: Question?

Mr. Sargent: Yes sir.

Mr. Morrow: I wonder if the hon. member has checked out his sources of information in this matter carefully because I am afraid that he has not.

Mr. Sargent: Well, I do not know what the member means by "checked out carefully".

Mr. Morrow: Mr. Speaker, I might just inform the hon. member that I have heard him make certain statements that I know not to be exactly correct. I happen to be conversant with this matter and I would suggest that he enquire further.

Mr. Sargent: I have not said anything yet. How could I say anything?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Who is the villain?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): It is a good thing that the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) is not here. He would have demanded that you resign for misleading the House.

Mr. Sargent: You are being presumptive. Is that the word—presumptuous?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: The fact of the whole thing is we have an arrogant group of doctors who could not make a go of it in their own practice, I guess. They are heading up this OHSC. They are drifters so they are running this commission, and I happen to think I know what I am talking about in that case. If you want to get talking about that one, I will talk about that one.

Mr. Deans: Now you have said something.

Mr. Sargent: And they have the right to come in and tell this great area where I live that people should not have a hospital.

An hon. member: What are the areas where you had them before?

Mr. Sargent: The whole sore spot here, Mr. Speaker, is that the town of Chesley has had this hospital for about 30 years. It is a 20-bed hospital and it has 107 per cent occupancy—that is pretty good, 107 per cent, that is better than 100. And 80 per cent of the people who go there can be treated there. Those who want radiology or surgery can go to Walkerton, Durham, Owen Sound or Hanover. But 80 per cent of the cases they can handle.

So what happens? They are going to build a $4.5 million hospital in Hanover, in the riding of the member for Grey South (Mr. Winkler).

There are some fine people in Hanover, I do not mind Hanover getting a $4.5 million hospital. All I want them to do is leave us alone and let us have our hospital, but they are going to close it. They are going to close Walkerton, they are going to close Durham, they are going to close Chesley.

So we had a big meeting last year, they were hanging from the rafters. And the member for Grey South was there and he was

sweating blood. He pounded the table. I felt sorry for him, he was under the gun.

He told them that never would they close the Durham hospital. Well I do not know whether he can make the decision or the minister or the Prime Minister, but he told them. Now I think if he has that much power he can tell them not to close the Chesley hospital.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Why does the member not pound the table—

Mr. Sargent: I was on their side. He was there under the gun and he was in real trouble. And believe me, I want to tell you, that is one seat that the government is not going to win this time because of this situation. They are going to lose Grey South and do not forget it. And they will never win Grey-Bruce.

So we have this great arrogant board down here, which government members probably think they know something about. They have the arrogance to tell us, the people in Chesley—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: They have the arrogance to tell us, the people in the Chesley area who pay the same taxes as the people in Toronto do, that they must drive 15 and 20 miles to a hospital.

Mr. Haggerty: Dead on arrival!

Mr. Sargent: Yet the people in Toronto have transportation systems and a hospital on every doorstep. Up there we pay the same taxes but we cannot have a hospital because they are going to put it in Hanover. The situation today is that we are fed up to the teeth with the arrogance of this board.

Lincoln once said that statesmanship is the art of exploiting individual meanness for the general good. Now I ask the government to keep in view the general good of the people. I know it does not become a member of the opposition to plead with the government to leave our hospital alone, but these people in OHSC made a decision in 1966 and they say come hell or high water the decision stands.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am not proud; I would polish the Premier's boots in the front of this Legislature if he would stop this damned, all-powerful OHSC from telling us what we are going to have and what we are not going to have and stop this witch hunt.

People have to have hospital facilities. The roads up there, in the winter, many times, are blocked. They cannot get out and the Mennonite group there do not have cars. How are they going to get 15 or 20 miles to a hospital?

And the last argument that the member for Grey South and I had in Durham, the argument of the OHSC, was: "Well, if the roads are blocked they can use snowmobiles to go to the hospital." Can you imagine taking a pregnant woman to the hospital in a snowmobile? That would be a bumpy ride.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Give everybody a snowmobile and that will not happen.

Mr. Sargent: Well, I think if these members had the say we would have a super hospital, but we have these bureaucrats and civil servants down there who do not give a damn about people. They make decisions and they do not want to change them. I wish that government had a bit of warmth and regard for the rights of people.

An hon. member: No heart.

Mr. Sargent: No heart, is right.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): They need transplants there.

Mr. Sargent: I have all kinds of letters here. One time the member for Grey South came into a meeting and he had a pile of letters that high—we could not get them on the table—about the concern over closing Durham hospital. I guess that his is going to be all right, but they are going to close mine. I should not take the time of the House to read all these letters but—

Mr. Deans: Pick a few at random.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Well, I might be political, but I am not like the member for Grey South.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): That will sound better than "Dear Dr. Shulman," anyway. I would rather hear the member's.

Mr. Sargent: From Mr. G. Benarth. He says:

> I want to protest against the closing of the Chesley and district hospital. I think this is the most stupid act that could be committed. I wish they could make up their minds about the population explosion that we hear so much about.
>
> With the prices they charge for OHSIP, and etc., etc., they should be able to

improve all the hospitals instead of closing them.

As for a 100-bed hospital in Hanover, it is ridiculous. They need more than this to handle what they have now alone; so how is it going to help us if they close down Chesley hospital?

He goes on to say what a good guy I am.

An hon. member: Read that part!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: If the member had the mellow tones of the Minister of Correctional Services he could do it justice. The minister is a great one to read such letters.

Mr. Sargent: A letter from Mrs. Hazel Stuart in Chesley.

In regard to the Chesley hospital, I for one do not want to see it closed as I have lived here for 48 years. For all I have never had to need it myself most of all my family of five has and what a blessing it has been to all of us when there is no transportation to go to other places. If you take away our hospital, our doctors will leave. We have two doctors there and they all say they will leave Chesley if the hospital is closed.

An hon. member: Naturally!

Mr. Sargent: It continues:

If you take our hospital away our doctors will leave and we only have one good one at present that will come to a house on a call. What is one to do? Lay and die when you take sick?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The other two doctors are not going to like that.

Mr. Sargent: Continuing again:

Also the ladies have worked so hard in getting it so nicely furnished. Does our work mean nothing to us as it has all been in vain.

It is pretty straight.

You know what happened here. These people raised their money locally to buy this hospital. This was not government money. This was locally raised money. And now what happened is that the Crook family have donated thousands of dollars for medical equipment which is to be sent now.

And Mr. Lomsden of OHSC said: "Oh, well, we will take that equipment and put it in the Hanover hospital". And the people of Chesley said: "The hell you will". It is at a stalemate right now, so I can read all these letters and tell the House just the ridiculous situation that is going on.

People in this government must realize that the outlying parts of the province do have rights too. We are talking in this House about a $1 billion programme that is in the hopper for the Spadina expressway. It is going to cost the taxpayers of Ontario $500 million—$20 million a mile.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Where do they get those figures from? They are not accurate.

Mr. Sargent: Well I do not know. Our critic read this into the record the other day and—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: They are taken out of context.

Mr. Sargent: The expressway is not going to cost $500 million?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: There are a lot of other things involved.

Mr. Sargent: I see. The minister is an authority on this, is he?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well it is in my area.

Mr. Sargent: So that is wrong, eh? Well it is a lot of money anyway. How much money is it?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I do not know.

Mr. Sargent: The minister does not know? Well what is he talking about then?

Mr. Sopha: The Gardiner cost $14 million a mile.

Mr. Sargent: Fourteen million dollars!

Mr. Sopha: Fourteen million dollars a mile for the Gardiner 10 years ago.

Mr. Sargent: So today we would have a better figure than that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: This will capsule the Chesley hospital situation. The latest is from the Chesley *Enterprise,* one of the finest weeklies in the country:

The latest chapter in the continuing horror story of the affairs of the Chesley hospital has been unfolded.

This is as of last week.

Maybe it is our own fault as citizens that we have been too complacent and felt that all was well. Impression has been given that

Chesley will have the emergency care unit which would provide essential health services and at least 20 beds for the care of patients whose ailments would not require treatment at more elaborate medical centres.

Within the last fortnight we have had another rude awakening with news that the high and mighty of Ontario Hospital Services Commission—

I am not the only guy who hates this group.

—had no thought of allowing the town even these limited amenities. Their version of an emergency care unit differs drastically from what we had been led to expect. In fact it makes no allowance for anything other than a glorified receiving-despatch station leaving us two beds that they are going to give us.

It is typical of OHSC economic statement that this setup would require fulltime staff around the clock in numbers which would be great enough to form the nucleus of staff to provide basic bed care.

With the OHSC version, it must be obvious that the main occupation of the staff would be nonproductive. Patients will not be flowing through the unit fast enough to keep them occupied. The cases of waste and expense involved in the OHSC plans—

I could go on and on, but you have heard it all before.

In September, 1968, the commission's plans were revealed in a report which had immediately seen the end of Chesley hospital in view and would ultimately result in terminating hospital service at Rockford and Durham.

They were going to close Rockford and Durham too, but they have changed that.

A public outcry arose and the commission backed off, but it would appear that they now think the natives have become restless again and the campaign can now proceed after this brief interlude.

Well, we are going to keep it hot. We are going to keep wide awake.

Similarly, much could be said about the arrogant attitude of the OHSC, an appointed body which is responsible to no-one. At a recent meeting, when plans for a modest 20-bed hospital were submitted for approval, the commission's hospital doctor, Dr. Twist, came out with what he felt was a real squelcher. He said: "The money is on our side of the table."

Now that statement may have been true, but that is arrogance. The statement may have been true but surely things have not come to the point when any public servant can be allowed to forget where the money came from originally.

Even the table he was talking about was provided from public funds as was his salary. But at this point it would be more profitable to consider what can be done to modify the plans of the commission before we create another havoc in hospital services, first in Chesley and later in Rockford and Durham.

The Chesley *Enterprise* is the voice of the people there and that is their feeling on it. We have hundreds of others to back us up.

Mr. Speaker, this is a commission responsible to no-one, I understand. The former Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) was sympathetic to my case last year and he said that he could not overrule the Ontario Hospital Services Commission.

I do not know who is in charge, running the store over there—

Mr. Sopha: The member for Ottawa West.

Mr. Sargent: —but I want to say that here we have a list of the official boards, commissions and agencies. There are 122 different boards and commissions on this list—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Appointed by this government?

Mr. Sargent: —appointed by this government, and who are not responsible to the people of Ontario.

In the area of business, I bet if there were an efficiency survey taken on the operation of these boards and commissions, that you would pick up easily some $50 to $100 million a year in savings. It is a shocking thing that the ones I come into contact with are not responsible to this Legislature.

When the Minister of Health, the former Minister, tells me that he cannot overrule the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, then it is a sad day for democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I think that as a kid I was in with my dad, he was a CCFer—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: —and he was a union man and I remember sitting at the kitchen table; he was spouting about unions in Owen Sound.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): How did you come around?

Mr. Sargent: I saw the light after I got married and got some responsibilities. I thought if we come in with damn socialism now, we are in trouble; we are in real trouble—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: These guys remind me of the Belfast Catholic who said the most pleasant work he had ever done was pulling down a Protestant church and getting paid for it. These fellows down here are pulling down free enterprise and getting paid for it. As the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) said, they are getting paid pretty good salaries for the jobs they do.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I was elected to council by a labour council and all the time I was mayor, labour supported me. But I feel that there are just as many Liberals and Conservatives in unions today as there are socialists, or NDP.

When these groups come to Queen's Park to speak out here, who takes over but the boys on the left here. They walk out with all these big smiles, brother and sister to everybody in the place, and it gets pretty corny.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: I think that you and I—that group over there and us collectively—have to be damn sure that these guys do not make it next time. Because if we do not, this country is going to be in bad trouble. They will do so much harm in four years, it will take us 100 years to put it back in shape again.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Why do you not quit now? It was a terriffic speech.

Mr. Sargent: I never did like the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I always say nice things about him.

Mr. Sargent: I'm only kidding!

Unionization—there were bloody riots and our side lost many times.

In the interim I have dealt with many large companies and have dealt with government at all levels. Everything I have observed has told me that industry on its own will never, never have begun to meet its obligations to its employees or to its communities. You can give me an argument on that, but that is the way I see it.

Today, too many giant industries do not seem to give a damn about the individual, but they pay—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: —they pay good wages and they grant good benefits, mostly because they have been compelled to. Unions were condemned and vilified by industry. They had to battle every step of the way, but they were sorely needed and soon were representing and are representing millions and millions of people across this free-enterprise economy of ours. In turns, they are getting complacent, they are getting fat. The unions are the wealthy people in the state now and in turn, they now need the regulation.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Tell that to the hon. member's steel workers up in Owen Sound.

Mr. Sargent: I can talk to them any time I want to. Do not worry about them.

Mr. Deans: Do they listen?

Mr. Sargent: Today, there are good unions and there are bad unions. Many fought automation and some indulge in featherbedding. But many more have learned to adapt to the needs of a progressive society, and certainly if we had no unions the society would be as unfair and unstable as that of any Central American banana republic. They are a great stabilizing force, unions are.

The third great force in our life is the federal government. Finally it began to meet its social responsibilities back around 1933. Administration stepped in to fill the void caused by business indifference—and I am talking about business indifference, and decades of do-nothing.

Thus began a parade of social and welfare legislation that has gone on too long. Most of it is vitally needed. Who can argue about old age pensions and baby bonuses, and all these things that we have to have for our people? But who can deny that the federal government has become too powerful and too paternalistic?

These days a person can live, and live damn well, without working one day of his life. All he needs is a lazy disposition and a conniving mind. This is as wrong as sin, and, if allowed to continue, could destroy our Canada.

But let us not blame government. Most of these social welfare programmes came about simply because business and professional

groups abdicated their responsibility. We have the medical association and we have all these insurance industries to thank for all these things, but we have business indifference to thank for the proposal that a guaranteed annual income be paid for doing nothing at all.

As recently as 1947, despite all that the unions had done to that point, the minimum wage was 40 cents an hour and if business had had its way, the minimum wage would not have more than tripled, to more than $1 an hour. If business had its way it would still be about $1 an hour, but the unions brought this along and the gross national product would not have moved upward if the unions had not existed because it gave them the purchasing power.

I would like to suggest one thing, Mr. Speaker, that we must twist the arm of government to make this thing work—that the area of business mend its ways. What we need here is nothing less than a complete change of heart. At this late date the captains of industry and the lieutenants and sergeants and even the privates, must step in.

It is not enough just to join the Rotary club, or the chamber of commerce, or criticize the federal government or contribute to the party you think is leading the fight against creeping socialism. It is not nearly enough.

Separately and collectively the business and professional groups of this country must work along with the government and the unions to tear down slums, to train the unemployable, to build new communities, to clean up the lakes and rivers and our air, remove the cause of crime in our streets, and restore the dignity of the farmers.

You can make up your own list, but we have the vehicles—our associations, organizations and foundations. What we need now is some horsepower and we would have a lot of it if the Canadian businessman starting tomorrow would stop taking two-hour martini lunches and start spending an hour of that time each day working on social and civic matters, large and small. As a matter of fact, each man's employer would probably get an extra half hour of his time every day too, but this cannot be just an individual effort.

Let me say this very clearly, that every company has a right and responsibility, more than just to its stockholders. It is wrong to profit from people, as all of us do ultimately, and to give nothing in return. Every company across this nation has its advertising and public relations department, its legal advisers, and accountants and consultants. They have all kinds. Every company should have also, an active and flourishing civic and social affairs department, if this country is going to exist.

Every company should allocate from 10 to 20 per cent of its profits before taxes to be used to build a new Canada if we are going to continue to exist in the free enterprise system. It is a drastic proposal, but we must do something because we are going down the old pipe. We must use drastic methods to meet the needs of the day.

Some leaders of the business community are already recognizing these needs and trying to do something about them. In the States they have consortiums of big business putting as much as $500 million into the pot to clear up the slums. I have brought this up in the House a number of times—to the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall)—and he looked at me and smiled back: "That could not happen in Canada." Why could it not happen in Canada?

We have to do something here to keep our own economy strong. Let us show by example that it is possible to be of some service to one's fellow man, while fighting and fighting hard for material gain. In other words, you can make a buck and still be a pretty good guy and you can have a lot of fun in the process of doing that.

As I mentioned before, Mr. Speaker, we are talking about the needs of my area; we are closing down the rail line. The Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) has reneged on a $1,000 bet that I made with him, that Highway 10 was the worst highway in the province of Ontario. I say that kindly, he really did not; but he would not take the ride up there to see how bad it was. We have the worst access roads in the country through our way, and all we want is the bumps and the holes taken out of the roads, to give us access to our area.

Now the next villain, it seems, is going to take take away our rail service. They are going to take away our CNR and CPR rail service to Owen Sound, and to the area of Chesley, Walkerton, Tara, Allanford, Wiarton, Southampton, Paisley, and Port Elgin; all these areas will be without rail service now.

Mr. Young: Does the member ever use it?

Mr. Sargent: Well I have got a pass, but even the pass will not be any good now.

Mr. Young: He flies; he does not use the train.

Mr. Sargent: So, I would like to suggest that if we cannot have our rail service, then

we should have our highways fixed up anyway.

Mr. Speaker, it is amazing to me the problems that we have in the housing situation. Last weekend a lady came into my office with two little girls and they had been bitten by cockroaches and a big type of insect. They are living in a real slum area in our city, and they cannot get a house for love nor money. There are not enough houses to go around.

Mr. Speaker, The British North America Act states very clearly that while housing expenditures have been an active tool of fiscal policy at the federal level, the control of this area belongs to the province; and in all of God's green acres this is the fairest province and the richest province.

There is over 50 per cent of our gross national product here and yet we cannot provide a home for the average Canadian, let alone the low income groups. They tell us that the average income across Canada is—let us say $4,700 is the average income—is that about right—from coast to coast? Let $4,700 be the average income across this country. But to be able to get a house today, you have to have an income of $7,000; so apparently you are not supposed to have a home in Canada.

In the last issue of the Chicago *Sun Times* we have an ad:

> Why pay rent? For $105 a month you can own a brand new four-bedroom home in Kingston Green with only $200 down.

It goes on to tell about the beautiful layouts of these; but for $200 down, you can have a home in Chicago—a four-bedroom home.

Yet with all the technology that we have here—we can win awards for almost anything, Canadians can—we cannot look after the needs of our people.

Mr. Young: Private enterprise!

Mr. Sargent: Sure we make a lot of mistakes. We have got to be jacking up all the time, but you are not going to get any place by regimenting people and telling them they can only work so many hours a week and all that nonsense. Canada was not built on that kind of business and if it is going to go down the pipe, then you guys have not any more to say. But I think that we must do something in the area of housing.

One third of all the new homes in the States last year were mobile homes. A person can get into a mobile home for around $7,000 to $9,000, and the federal government in the States now has approved loans on mobile homes. I have repeatedly talked to the Minister of Trade and Development about this, but nothing happens. So in the one area that is very important to all of our people, we cannot get through.

In other words, I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, if a man owns a home, he has a stake in the community and it is the best safeguard against communism. Over 60 per cent of the people in the United States own their own homes, so at least they have a stake in their country and they are capitalists. And as long as you have people who have a stake in the community, then they will believe in our free enterprise system. But the moment that people cannot get housing accommodation, you have great breeding grounds for communism and socialism.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to close off here. I would like to say that there is a great area of concern in my area regarding the possibility of leakage from the Douglas Point nuclear plant. I would say that the approach of this government to heavy water production in their nuclear programme is utter nonsense. They have gone mad in this regard in adapting the Girdler-Skiback process for the production of heavy water. Now there are over 100 different ways of making heavy water, according to the Ontario Hydro *News* of January, 1969, page 11; and the Girdler-Skiback process is the most dangerous of the lot. The Deuterium isotope is more sluggish than that of ordinary hydrogen combining with the oxygen in the water. The electrolytic source of Trail, B.C., for many years North American's only heavy water plant, was inherently safe. The flash-distillation method where light water escapes in a liquid surface faster than heavy water is the one used by General Electric at Port Hawkesbury, and this is both safe and even pleasant—if such a word can be used about this industrial process.

The fantastic fact is this: that we have heavy water plants in Nova Scotia which they cannot get off the ground. My immediate concern is the fact that we are talking about layoffs in this plant because of the shortage of heavy water, and I am also concerned about the safety factor.

So in view of the alarming developments in the heavy water field, I think it is time that we had a royal commission to discuss the fact that there was a $1 million error in the Douglas Point nuclear project. We are proceeding on the plan which was to spend $1 billion on a plant which to date has not produced one ounce of heavy water.

As I said before, there are only two heavy water plants in Canada, both in Nova Scotia, both beset with problems and neither of them in production—neither Port Hawkesbury nor Glace Bay. Neither one will work and in the fall the government of Nova Scotia is going to go under because of this mistake.

Most shocking of all is the danger for the people in the area of my constituency. Top scientists are very alarmed at the danger of the machine. Authorities are not sure whether we are not sitting on a time bomb in this project.

The background of this Atomic Energy Commission plan is that the AEC wanted a test and the scientists sold the former minister Robert Macaulay on this idea, and the government is now married to it. So we are using the same process in Douglas Point, the Girdler-Skiback process, which they are using in Nova Scotia and they cannot make work. It is two years behind time and the federal government will not give them the $1 million they need to finish it.

We are using this same process in Douglas Point and we are launched on a $1 billion programme in this field—$1 billion. I asked Mr. Gathercole, when Hydro was before our committee, I said supposing it does not work in this $1 billion programme. He said that if it does not work we will try something else. This came from the chairman of Hydro.

They are trying to defend the fact that they were sold a bill of goods by the AEC in Ottawa. They are in consortium with the programme; they are going down the road together and they do not know where they are going.

And the inconceivable position, Mr. Speaker, of this government of the Premier in the whole piece is this lackadaisical attitude in going down the road and not knowing where we are going. It is further inconceivable, Mr. Speaker, that a $1 billion project, the largest of its kind in our nation, could be undertaken, with untold billions of dollars still being squandered today, and we wake up and find that we made a mistake.

They even made a mistake in choosing the site. They had to scrap it and spend $1 million for a mistake.

And this is not enough area to have a royal commission! Just how much money do you have to lose to have a royal commission?

But the Premier would not move on the whole deal.

Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate that I have taken too much time here. I would say in closing, in regard to this matter of nuclear power, a *Globe and Mail* editorial says:

> The heavy water plant at Douglas Point will release a poisonous gas, hydrogen sulphide. The release will be accidental, but it will be inevitable, according to the man who should know, Dr. George C. Lorenz, president of the Atomic Energy Control Board.
>
> How often, how much, no one knows. Who or what it will affect? Who knows?
>
> All we know is that a concentration of 500 parts per million is fatal. When the gas will be released, it will be pure.
>
> Now there are communities near the Bruce peninsula construction site. Will they be affected? What have we done to the wildlife and the vegetation? Are there no extra precautions that can be taken? Should the plant be redesigned? Should we build in this location at all?
>
> Dr. Lorenz was asked why safety was not studied before the construction was started. The reason he said was that it took time to look into the question carefully. The result of this look is that Ontario Hydro must move the nuclear generating station it is building beside the plant even though the land clearing for the station started first.
>
> What else needs to be looked into while construction of this plant is continuing? What other dangers are there? Perhaps a firm of independent consultants should examine the plans and report publicly.
>
> What inspections have the provincial government made? Air pollution control is a provincial responsibility. We need explanations. We need assurances that this plant can be built to operate safely before the construction continues.

Mr. Speaker, I have taken too long. I want to say that we are a "have not" area. Unemployment, rail service, almost has been cut off, closing all our hospitals, roads bad! We need help.

At least we have an assurance from the government, Mr. Speaker, that the Chesley Hospital would not be closed. Thank you very much.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Thank you Mr. Speaker.

I want, before discussing anything in regard to my feelings about the budget, to pass a message on that I have been asked to pass on to the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts). The people of my riding have asked me if I would

relay to the Prime Minister this message. It is a very simple message.

"We do not like OHSIP. We do not like it a bit. We believe it to be too costly for the services that it provides. We believe that the over-billing feature of the programme creates a hardship, and we would ask," and I ask on behalf of the constituents who have written to me, "that the Prime Minister pay particular attention during this session to changing this totally inadequate programme."

I want to say to you sir, as others have, that while we do not always agree, I recognize the very difficult job that you have. Controlling a House such as this is perhaps more difficult than any other job any other individual might undertake. And as I said while we do not necessarily always agree, I think that the judgements that you make are made in good faith; and I recognize that while, as I said before, we are likely from time to time, to have cross words, I am prepared to abide by them, mostly.

To the chairman of the House, I can think of no other person on the Conservative side who would be better able to handle that very difficult job. He has done it in a manner that is commendable, fair and I rarely ever found him to deal harshly or to deal hastily, for that matter, with any matter that is put before him. I think that the chairman of the House and his assistant have done an excellent job, particularly during the estimates, and the estimates are perhaps the most difficult thing here.

I want to speak for a few moments about some of the problems that confront some of the residents who live in the riding of Wentworth. There is, in the programme of The Department of Highways, a future project, and that project is the widening of Highway 8 in the area known as Winona.

It is very unfortunate that the department has even considered doing this, because in that particular area there is far too great a heritage. It is far too densely populated and the natural beauty of the area, in terms of the joy that those who are able to go into it on a weekend or on a vacation period will enjoy, will be destroyed, if the minister proceeds with the proposed widening of this area.

In the Niagara peninsula, there are adequate accesses. The Queen Elizabeth Way has recently been, or is in the process at the moment of being improved; Highway 20 on the mountain, Saltfleet Mountain, running all the length of the peninsula is adequate, and I suggest that even to consider ravaging this area of natural beauty in order to add another two lanes, or even to add soft shoulders, I understand, would be unacceptable to us.

The people of the area—both the men's club of Winona and people of the United Church in Winona—have written to the minister requesting that he not proceed with this. They have done so because having populated that area in the most part, for many generations, they recognize that the future of the peninsula perhaps does not lie in having it divided by six-lane highways at intervals of a half mile, and I think that the minister would do well if he would reconsider the entire project and scrap it, and announce it publicly.

Over the last two and a half years, I attempted to find from the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) what is going to happen to the much-heralded but little-proceeded-with Saltfleet satellite city. I have asked the minister about the terms of the financing of this, and in terms of the planning. I have asked him whether or not they have been able to secure some means of providing services for the area and all I can get are very obscure incomplete answers to questions which have to be answered if people of the area are going to be able to plan their future.

One the eve of the 1967 general election, the Minister of Trade and Development decided that in an effort to save the skin of the declining Tory member, he had better make an announcement for the area, and he did. The announcement at that time was that they were going to proceed immediately with development of this much-needed housing project; and as my colleague said, I suspect that it will be announced again on the eve of the 1970 or 1971 election—that they are about to proceed with the much-needed housing project on Saltfleet Mountain.

I suggest to the minister that little has been done by his department; relatively no progress has been made in providing the services that will be required to make that a viable area and if the Minister is not going to proceed with it now, he should say so. If he is going to proceed with it now, he should at least indicate this to the people who already live there, and there are many hundreds living in a development adjoining the area now owned by Ontario Housing Corporation.

He should at least say which area is going to be developed first and whether or not they will be able to make use of the services that are going into the area—services they are now providing for themselves. Let me say to you sir, it is much needed in that area. I

can only hope that the minister will see fit to proceed.

In proceeding with that development he should pay particular attention to the fact that all of the sewer and water facilities that will be provided must be provided by the city of Hamilton. The city of Hamilton has, for some time, had within its boundaries citizens who were annexed 10 or 12 years ago and who have been unable to acquire the services they need from the city of Hamilton.

The minister should direct that, if the servicing for the Saltfleet development goes through, the servicing for Hamilton Mountain should be proceeded with in conjunction with that service. Then people who have lived there and put up with having to have water trucked in on a daily basis will, at least, have this made available to them. Their taxes are high enough; Lord knows, they get little in return for them.

In terms of the sale of land on Hamilton Mountain, which I have raised with the minister. I say Hamilton Mountain, not referring to the electoral district, but referring to the entire area. I take great umbrage at the minister's attitude toward the sale of the land on Garth and West 5th street.

The minister knows full well, as I do, that that land was purchased a great number of years ago. Most of it has been owned by government at one level or another since 1952. That land was purchased at a price in the neighbourhood of $100 to $200 per acre.

At a time when housing costs were soaring in Hamilton, the government, instead of using this land in the appropriate way to lever down the price of the grossly inflated land surrounding it, checked to see how much the land in the general area was being sold for and then set their price at the prevailing rate in the private sector.

It seems to me, if we look at the price of accommodation and we find it rising at such a rapid rate, that the government, if it has the opportunity to put on the market land at a price that will take $6,000 or $7,000 off the price of a home, then they are obliged—if indeed they are the government—to do this.

I suggest that they are in the speculation field as much as the developers. Their concern is not for the individual in society, but rather their concern is to uphold the inflated prices of the developers. It has been proved in development after development across this province. I resent it and the people of Hamilton resent it.

During the estimates of The Department of Agriculture and Food, I discussed with the minister (Mr. Stewart) the problem of the fruit growers in the Niagara peninsula. I suggested to him that some immediate action would have to be taken if we were going to be able to maintain this industry.

It is a vital industry to the area. It is a vital industry to Ontario, in fact. If we are to maintain the industry in the peninsula, some immediate action will have to be taken.

I made a number of suggestions during that discussion. I do not intend to make them again. But the minister indicated at that time that he had at one time thought the same sort of thoughts and that he had quickly discarded them as of little value. I suggested to him that it was time, then, to rethink them, because some of the older thoughts we have had have proved to be pretty accurate.

I think that the minister could do well to give some consideration to the future of the Niagara peninsula, and whether or not he is going to be a party to the continued erosion of what is perhaps the best area—in the "golden horseshoe" at least, and in southern Ontario—for the growth of the fruit industry. I think that the minister could well devote a little more time to concerning himself about those things and a little less time to worry about things like the GFO vote.

One of the other difficulties that we have, of course, is the problem of the townships. I suspect that this may be overcome in the near future, but townships are just not able to finance the services that have to be put in if they are going to develop in any way at all.

I have discovered, in my meetings with township officials, that it is almost impossible for them to carry out an adequate road maintenance programme, for example, on the money that is made available from the province of Ontario. And it is impossible for them to assess the homeowners in the area because of an inability to meet the obligation, and therefore they are unable to proceed with any redevelopment or any maintenance programme of any consequence.

I suggest to the government that perhaps the time has come to take a very serious look at financing in general and the financing of the maintenance programmes in some of the smaller townships in terms of road maintenance. Because at this particular place in time it is virtually impossible to tax the homeowner $1 more. The deterioration—in particular in the townships that I represent, two of them—the deterioration in those areas in terms of road deterioration is ridiculous.

I think that this is a responsibility of the provincial government to assure that townships are able to perform their function, the function that has been assigned to them as the custodians of the road network that carries us back and forth across the province.

The Hamilton civic square has been a sore spot with me for a long time. The minister and I, of course, have a very basic disagreement. The Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) contends that it is not his responsibility. I contend that when the provincial government enters into an agreement as a partner in a development programme in any municipality, and when they are party to the signing of the documents, then it is the responsibility of the provincial government to safeguard the finances that they put into the programme.

It is their responsibility to ensure that the documents that are signed are proper and that the companies that are employed are financially capable of carrying out their obligations. I suggest that the minister is entirely wrong if he feels he can leave these things in the hands of the local politician at this time, because the local politician has not, at this time, the opportunity nor the research available that is available to The Department of Municipal Affairs. And all you have to do to recognize that is to walk across to Bay Street and look at what is there.

I think that the provincial government was remiss in its duty. It permitted the city of Hamilton to get into a situation while fully knowledgeable of the difficulties that Hamilton was facing. They cannot claim not to have known, I raised it with them a number of times. Yet they refused, continuously, to even initiate a discussion with Hamilton as to how they might be of assistance. Even to this date there has been little consultation between the top officials of The Department of Municipal Affairs and the city of Hamilton and the developer, who has since gone by the wayside.

When I suggested last year in this House that the urban renewal programme in the city of Hamilton, in the downtown civic square, was doomed to failure, the minister refused to even pay any notice. Unfortunately, and I say that, unfortunately I was right.

I think that the minister has an obligation that he does not fulfil. He is quick with the quip, he is very quick to leap onto his feet and to pin the responsibility on some "ism" or some anti-social feeling of an individual on the other side of the House. But the minister's obligation as the Minister of Municipal Affairs is to ensure that the municipalities can and do function properly. When he is partner in a redevelopment programme he has obligations far in excess of those that he has normally, and he has refused consistently—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Such a young man to be such a canting minister.

Mr. Deans: I suggest, too, and I want to say this, that when Hamilton was having such difficulty—and I say Hamilton, even though they perhaps ought not to have been involved in the actual negotiation for the money—when Hamilton was having such difficulty and when the developer was having such difficulty raising the money, the provincial government should have been there to assist. They should have been offering their assistance in the financial marketplace, at least putting up the backing of the province of Ontario.

One of the difficulties, I suspect, and I am not familiar with the entire procedure, but one of the difficulties I suspect was perhaps the problem of the backing that was involved. The company did not have sufficient financial backing. And the fact that it did not, of course, should have been within the knowledge of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Let me say to you that when I asked him last year whether or not he had viewed the document that the city of Hamilton was about to sign on behalf of the partners he said: "No; oh no, he does not have to see it. He will not see it until after it is signed." Now what good is there in the minister seeing the document committing the province of Ontario to spend moneys if he does not see it until after it is signed?

Mr. Deans moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.

No. 15

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, March 12, 1970

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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5

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CONTENTS

Thursday, March 12, 1970

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Deans, Mr. Gilbertson, Mr. Spence, Mr. Martel 553

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Martel, agreed to 579

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Grossman, agreed to 579

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1970

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, it is nice to know that when I speak I attract such a large audience.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): He turned one of his own members away—to our side!

Mr. Deans: Well I asked him to sit there so I would have a friendly face to talk to when I was talking.

The point I was trying to make before the adjournment at supper was that the province, when it becomes financially involved in civic undertaking and when it is expressly named as a party in an agreement, that it should pay a great deal more attention to the goings on, it should be much more involved physically in what takes place.

I say to the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) that he shares, or at least must share, some of the blame for the problems that have arisen in Hamilton. I feel had he paid more heed to the situation that was so obvious to those of us who live there, then we might have been able to avoid the problem that has arisen and we might now have something other than an open space in the downtown core.

And it is upon his head, I suppose, that this will rest.

When the time comes for the electorate of Hamilton to make their decision I am sure that the member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. J. R. Smith) and the member for Hamilton West (Mrs. Pritchard) and indeed perhaps even the member for Wentworth North (Mr. Connell), will have to explain the minister's position. And I hope they will be well prepared—and I say that not unkindly.

I just want to mention, in passing, one thing that I have mentioned in almost every speech I have made in this House. And that is that I am not yet satisfied that the action being taken by the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) in regard to the pollution problems in the city of Hamilton is adequate.

In fact I am a little disappointed. I thought when this minister took over the portfolio that he was going to be a man of action. He has been a man of words, the action is yet to come—I hope.

I hope that what was seen today is not an indication of the kind of action that is going to take place. In fact the minister did indicate to me some two weeks ago now that he would make available to me and to the House the schedule that the Steel Company of Canada and Dofasco were supposed to abide by in clearing up the pollution in Hamilton. It is a five-year programme as I understand it, and I wait for this to be delivered.

I think the minister would do well, since it has been reported in the press that he is intending to make it public, if he were to make it public immediately. I think the people of Hamilton can hardly judge the success or failure of the minister's efforts unless they know what it is he is aiming at and the stages he intends to follow in order to achieve it.

In another area of pollution—and I could refer this I suppose, more to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence), the new minister, there is another pollution in the province; and it is something that has aggravated me for some time. I think perhaps it is time we took a look at it. It may well be a federal matter and it may be easy to say, "Well it is in federal jurisdiction." But I think we have all grown up to the point where we recognize that, regardless of who may have the absolute power, the province has the obligation to protect the people and if they operate effectively they will be able to influence the federal government.

This is what I choose to call "advertising pollution." It is the kind of thing that shows that very famous hockey player, Red Kelly, selling someone on the idea that a particular loan company is a desirable and useful place for them to go.

It is the kind of ridiculous pollution that comes across the television stations showing men fighting their way through a forest to reach a giant razor blade.

It is the kind of garbage that we have to put up with on a daily basis from the advertisers of this province and this nation in order to try to sell their poorly constructed, inadequate products, and I object very strongly to the—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): With built-in obsolescence!

Mr. Deans: And I object very strenuously to—I am terribly sorry—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Maybe it is union made stuff.

Mr. Dean: I could not care less if it was union made at this particular point.

Mr. Sargent: Who makes that stuff?

Mr. Deans: That is hardly the issue.

If I might say to the Speaker, and through the Speaker to the member for Grey-Bruce, that he has not yet had a chance to tell what the issue is. He will not stay quiet long enough for me to tell him.

The situation is this, that we are forced to put up with the most degrading, humiliating garbage, by companies attempting to sell inferior products. People who are unable to make judgments because they are in a position of having to purchase something are being influenced unduly and unfairly by personalities in this province and in this country and in the United States.

The one I make reference to is the hockey player-coach Red Kelly, and his attempt to sell a loan company as being the friendly happy place where you can trust them because good old Red tells you. The use of this type of advertising should be denied in this province, it should be eliminated.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): The hon. member does not doubt that, does he?

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Benevolence in the extreme!

Mr. Deans: And as far as I am concerned, mark you, there is nothing wrong with Red Kelly at all. He is making dollars at it, that is why he is doing it.

The unfortunate part about it is that he is using an excellent reputation to sell a product which ought not to be on the market, in actual fact. He is creating a great deal of the problem that is confronting the average family. That problem is one of going into debt continuously. He is playing a part in continuing this downward trend of a great number of families that cannot afford to borrow money and who take Red Kelly's advice—

Mr. Sargent: Where else can they get the money? They cannot get it in the banks.

Mr. Deans: —and I object to it.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Does the member agree we should pay as we go?

Mr. Deans: I think that the minister of consumer affairs in his new portfolio and his eagerness to do the job well, ought to take a serious look at that particular kind of pollution. We ought to do what we can to insure that we no longer have it afflicted upon us.

Mr. Pilkey: What is Kelly's politicial affiliation, Bob?

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): He is a Grit through and through.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): That question was just set up.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): He had a hard time fitting it in between hockey practices, then.

Mr. Dean: I want to return for a moment to the more normal pollution that we talk about—the pollution of water and air and the pollution of our soil.

I express now a very personal opinion. I am becoming more and more convinced that the province is, perhaps, not the place to handle this problem. I am convinced, as I look at the situation, that the problem of pollution is much larger than a provincial jurisdiction can successfully manage.

I think that the economic pressures that are exerted on provinces by corporations are far too great for the province to withstand. Not the province of Ontario, but the smaller provinces. And I think that it is time that the federal government took the responsibility that is rightfully theirs—the responsibility of assuring that the water, and air and soil pollution in this country is cleared up. It should be handled at the federal level and it should be subject to the Criminal Code of Canada.

I say that is a personal view. I do not think it can be handled on a local basis.

I want to make reference to something that was said yesterday and I do so in passing. I want to say to the member for Hamilton Mountain, through you sir, that he has said many things in this House that I have agreed with and things that I have disagreed with. We have laughed together at some of the things we said that might have been funny.

Yesterday he outdid himself, I must say. He made two recommendations during a very short speech. In one recommendation he said that the time had come—and these are not his words, but this was the import—the time had come when we had to stop spending these millions of dollars on highways that were creating billions of dollars of pollution problems. And I agree, I think he is absolutely right.

But in the same speech—not two weeks later, or even two hours later—in the same half-hour period he suggested we should build another highway to Georgian Bay.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Strictly inter-urban rapid transit is urgently needed.

Mr. Deans: It is pretty difficult to understand. You are either for or against; you cannot be both.

I think it would be better to provide a better means of transportation, rather than another highway. I think we need better transportation and I think the member for Grey-Bruce would agree that we need some better form of rail transportation up to the Grey-Bruce area.

Mr. Sargent: How do we get it?

Mr. Deans: That is right!

Mr. Sopha: Quite interesting!

Mr. Deans: Anyway, be that as it may.

I want to turn my attention for a few moments to the head of the area of urban affairs, because it happens to be the area that I am likely to have more responsibility for than any other. It is probably the largest single problem that is going to confront any government in the province of Ontario in the next decade.

I suspect that, unless we take some very positive action starting immediately, the problem of the urban dweller and the problem of the urban community is going to grow to such an extent that we are going to be unable to cope with it in five years' time. I suggest that the Minister of Municipal Affairs is not performing the function for which he has the responsibility.

There is a financial crisis in the province of Ontario, in the municipality, and this financial crisis has been brought to the government's attention from many sources. It has been brought out in this House; it has been brought to their attention by the municipalities themselves; and it will, in the near future, be brought again to their attention by the association of mayors and reeves.

Municipalities are financially incapable of handling the many burdens that are now placed upon them. It is impossible for them to raise the kind of money with the tax structure we presently have—

Mr. Sargent: Right!

Mr. Deans: —to finance the operations that have to be financed. This government, instead of taking it in its proper course, has taken, in my view, a wrong approach.

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): In the member's view.

Mr. Deans: Well, I am the only one who is speaking.

Mr. Young: He is right, there.

Mr. Deans: A wrong approach to this whole problem. What they have done in their haste to reassess the province is that they have failed to take the necessary steps to insure that an unfair and uncalled-for burden will not be placed on certain segments of the community.

Recently we heard of the problems that confront those who live in the Mississauga area. There people had imposed upon them taxes which they are just incapable of paying. When anyone raises with the minister this particular problem he says: "Do not worry about it. We are studying it. Someday we will come up with an answer—someday we will know how to fit it." But in the meantime these people are suffering.

I suggest to the Minister of Municipal Affairs that the responsible action ought to have been to first of all find out what the problem was going to be, to take the necessary steps then to correct it, and then to move in and make the change. Instead of making the change first.

In the town of Stoney Creek we had a transferral of rate of taxation which was very onerous and created great hardship for a great many people living in the area. The minister,

when he is informed of these things, says: "Well now, we have a committee studying this; one of these days they will tell me what to do and maybe then I will do it." In the meantime these people are being forced out of their homes.

You raise with the minister the situation of those companies who base their tax to the province of Ontario and to the municipalities on the mill rate. When you say to him that, with the change in the mill rate, they are now paying about a third or a quarter of the tax that they previously paid, he says: "Do not worry, we are looking at it." But in the meantime they are still only paying a third or a quarter of the tax, and, while they are doing that, this additional money has to be raised from another source. That source is invariably the householder, and the householder cannot afford it any more.

The situation as far as the Association of Ontario Mayors and Reeves is concerned is that they have studied the matter. They have come up with a reasonable proposal—a proposal which I think, at this time, would be worthy of the minister's consideration, and I am sure that as I have a copy he will have one also.

I want to read part of this to you, because I think it has value. They start off by saying that the problems of municipal finance, which have been of serious proportion for years, are now moving into the crisis stage.

> Three factors have combined to create this situation: 1. a shortage of capital and high interest rates; 2. a trend toward more government services generally, whereby more than one-third of our gross national product now goes into taxation; 3. the shift of government expenditures from the federal to the provincial and the municipal level.
>
> In 1958 municipal governments and school boards in Canada spent 23 per cent of the total governmental expenditure. One decade later the figure was 27 per cent. In Ontario total municipal expenditure, including the municipalities' share of education costs, has risen from $658,582,258 in 1958 to $1,625,000,000 in 1968. The exploding expenditures on education and social services account for much of the increase.

I want to underline that, because later I want to refer to that again.

> Taxation at its existing magnitude demands that it be levied on an equitable basis. Property tax, according to the Smith committee report and all other studies, was a regressive, unjust tax that should be used in moderation.

And the next statement is very important because it goes on to say:

> Yet municipal taxation raises more than twice the revenue of any other tax in the province. Reform in the municipal tax system is therefore urgent.

They go on to explain a number of things and then suggest some principles and I want to read the principles to you:

> 1. The province should provide sufficient funds to the boards of education through an equalized grant system to assure that not more than 20 per cent of total expenditures would have to be raised by the local property tax in any municipality.

And I am sure that anyone in this House would agree that we have been advocating that for some time from this side of the House; that we have been suggesting for a considerable length of time at least 80 per cent of the cost of education has to be borne out of general tax, that we can no longer impose the onerous burden of this tax on a homeowner basis.

> 2. Transfer payments from the province should on the average equal 40 per cent of total municipal expenditures apart from education.

And I think that this is a very valid point, a point that this government should recognize immediately.

> 3. Part of the transfer payment should be made in the form of equalization grants so as to bring the tax raising ability of every municipality up to the provincial average.
>
> 4. The main transfer of funds should be made by an unconditional or block grant method and they say that this system takes into account the degree of need based on such factors as population, miles and classifications of roads, numbers of school-age children, types of services provided, number of welfare recipients. Grants are not given, however, as a percentage of municipal expenditures on any specific service but are based on factual criteria to assure fairness.

They go on to say that conditional grants should be provided under certain conditions and that the province should adopt a policy whereby grants to new municipalities are enhanced when desirable municipal reorganization takes place, instead of a reduction which has so often been the case in the past. And

this is a point worth noting, because it is a situation that did arise during the changeover in the education field.

They also go on to explain that capital financing of municipal projects be provided through a provincially operated municipal finance corporation for medium-sized and small municipalities, and they talk in terms of less than 50,00 population. Larger municipalities should be permitted to obtain capital funds on the world market.

They say that the goals of their proposals are: (1) to provide financial viability to local government; (2) to provide a reasonable degree of equity on tax levies for comparable services in various municipalities—and I say that this is exactly what we were talking about in the municipal foundation programme;

(3) increased municipal autonomy.

And, of course, it would increase municipal autonomy, because if they had the wherewithal to do the things that have to be done then, of course, they would have a greater degree of autonomy. Autonomy is directly related to your ability to pay for the things that you have to do. If you have to rely on someone else to make the judgment as to whether or not you should carry out the programmes that you have in mind, then you do not have autonomy.

Goal (4) develop a fair method of raising funds for municipal functions—and they go on to explain more. I am sure the minister will read that particular statement and perhaps do with it as he does with most things.

Mr. Sargent: The member should stick to playing hockey.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): He should be a fireman.

Mr. Deans: I appreciate that. Thank you very much. I am glad to know I could fit into something. You are very kind.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: I appreciate that too.

Mr. Deans: I would also say to you that in this party we did make recommendations on municipal finance—recommendations which, if they had been carried out, would have eased the burden of taxation on municipalities —recommendations which, by the minister's own admission, were very valuable and are still being studied within his department.

And there is that word again, because everything that happens in this province is under study. Everything they want to do is under study. Everything they propose is under study. Every day you speak to them they are studying, studying, studying, but you never see the results. And we are sick and tired of it.

An hon. member: Walk out the front door and look around.

Mr. Deans: The people of Ontario believe it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I would love the minister to come up and look at the north. Then they would not have a single Tory there.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: The member will not be back the next time.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Is the minister kidding?

Mr. Deans: I have heard they have been able to cut down the cost of heating in the department since the minister took over. He keeps enough hot air there to keep the place warm.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, through you sir to the minister, that had he had the foresight to accept the foundation programme that we offered—the foundation programme that was well researched. The foundation programme which would have put on a more equitable basis the cost of providing the services that would have assured that every citizen in the province of Ontario had access to the kind of services they need, then we would not be in the kind of chaos that we are in in the province today.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Why does the government continue to resist that intelligent scheme?

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): It met with something much less than acclaim from the member's colleagues.

Mr. Deans: They are unable to see it.

I do not require acclaim.

Mr. Lewis: There is mutual admiration over here, we do not have to bang our desks.

Mr. Singer: Might not have it for you in the next leadership convention.

Mr. Deans: I am always interested in the member for Downsview's statements.

Mr. Lawlor: He is a great positive negation.

Mr. Deans: Always very intelligent—not very often to the point but—

Mr. Lawlor: He is a past master of irrelevancy.

Mr. Lewis: He is hooked on Arctic char.

Mr. Deans: The ability to absorb is something that the member for Grey-Bruce obviously does not have.

The problem that faces each municipality is one that the Minister cannot ignore much longer. He has to recognize that, if we are going to have a reassessment, this reassessment must be completed before it is implemented. But all the ramifications must be taken care of before you impose on people of this province an additional impost which they cannot afford.

And this is where the minister has fallen—this is where the minister has erred all the way through. Because, in his haste to appear as if he were a person of vigor and action and aggressiveness, he has dashed into programmes that have had absolutely no proper research to determine the weight of the cost. I feel sorry that this particular minister is not here because I am sure I would like to hear what he has to say about it.

But even if we were to assume what the mayors and reeves have said and if we were to go ahead and implement a municipal foundation programme of the type that we recommended, we would only then have begun to face the problem of the urban difficulties of this province. Because, having done that, we would then have to determine what would be done in the way of a land-use policy.

There is no purpose in permitting the kind of Topsy growth that has taken place right across this province. There is no percentage in permitting the province's growth to be dictated in the corporate board room. The province's growth in terms of the development of the urban centres must be made here.

It cannot be made by some corporation deciding they will locate there, because they happen to buy a chunk of land. It cannot be done by some corporation deciding they will move from where they presently are to somewhere else, regardless of the ability of that particular municipality or area to provide the necessary services.

The decision as to whether or not we are going to grow in a rational or sensible way is dependent upon the province coming out with a land-use policy that can, at least, give guidance to the municipalities, so that they can make use of the autonomy that they are going to get. What you are actually saying is that we are recognizing the need to assure an adequate supply of land at a cost within our ability to pay; and we are talking about making sure that land is used for the purpose for which it is best suited. We are talking about eliminating the difficulties that we presently face on Lake Erie, with the Steel Company of Canada and Dofasco having purchased tracts of land on the lakefront, and thereby eliminating the use of that lake to the people of this province.

Mr. Singer: Where is that determined—Queen's Park or the municipality?

Mr. Deans: We are talking about it with a broad brush establishing certain social criteria that will assure that certain areas will be developed for recreational purposes, and that certain areas will be developed for industrial purposes and that certain areas will be developed for residential purposes. We are saying to each, it will become a region. We are saying to each region that within your region you must have certain areas that will provide you with the kind of tax base that will make you autonomous.

But we are also saying that northern Ontario cannot be denied. We are also saying that southern Ontario cannot have everything at the expense of the north, nor west at the expense of the east. This is what is wrong with this government. They are afraid to take any action that will direct the growth of this province. They are prepared to sit back and follow the growth rather than to direct it. One of the reasons is gross incompetence.

Mr. Lawlor: No plans over whole areas of the province. Ineptitude!

Mr. Deans: One of the most obvious things that could be decided and decided now would be the future of the Niagara peninsula, the future of the Bruce Trail. It would be feasible and practical to say that the Niagara peninsula ought to be developed in a recreational way. Further, I have two reasons. One of the main reasons is because of the natural climate. Another reason is because of the natural geographic structure.

It makes little sense to permit the kind of industrial development to take place throughout the Niagara peninsula that is going to deprive the people of southern Ontario of access to the very things that it is striving so desperately to get. Unless some action is taken immediately to ensure that the Bruce Trail as such is protected for—well, we could

say forever, but forever is a long time—but at least for as far as we can see, if we do not take action to ensure that the recreational aspects of the life of the people of this province are taken care of by direct action, whether it be purchase or whether it be by determining the use to which land can be put, then we are denying the right of the people of this province to have any form of recreational activity.

It seems that when we look at land use, we always get around to the situation that we have so much of it, why should we worry about it, we have enough land to last us forever. But, you know, we are not unlike Britain in many ways, because while Britain is much smaller and therefore has a problem with land use, Ontario is so densely populated in certain areas that the very same problems that confront the British people confront the Ontarians.

Of the land that we have, most of it cannot be used because it is inaccessible in terms of providing services. And the land that is accessible, we cannot use because we cannot afford it. The reason we cannot afford it is because no action has been taken to ensure that speculators and developers are unable to go in and inflate the prices.

This is what I was talking about before. In Britain they solved this problem. I am not sure whether the manner in which they did it would fit in the province of Ontario, but I think it is worth taking a look at. I am sure that from it we could at least draw some of the basic principles and perhaps move into the area of ensuring the future of the people of this province.

They started out in Britain with what is called a land commission Act. I am not recommending that, I am just telling you what they did. The objectives of the land commission in Britain were to secure that the right land was available at the right time for the implementation of national, regional and local plans, and to secure that a substantial part of the development value created by the community returns to the community and that the burden of the cost of land for essential purposes is reduced.

Before going into any of the details of The British Land Commission Act, I would like to make this comment: The British Land Commission was as non-partisan as it is possible to be. It drew on the resources of people of all political faiths; it drew on the resources of people from all walks of life. They sat down to try to come up with the answer to what was there a very difficult problem, and a problem which I suggest to you we share in this province.

Mr. Singer: Is the member in favour of the land commission—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Those who do not like it come to Ontario.

Mr. Singer: Does the member want it in Ontario?

Mr. Deans: What I am suggesting is that this is worthy of consideration in this province.

Mr. Singer: Oh, worthy of consideration in this province.

Mr. Deans: I am suggesting that under the manner in which they handled it in Britain, you can hardly take one particular statute or method and transfer it from one country to another. I think the objectives were the same; I think some of the things they did are worthy of our consideration and investigation.

Mr. Singer: I see, but the member has no answer to it.

Mr. Deans: We will find out whether I have or not.

Mr. Lawlor: Keep them dangling.

Mr. Singer: I will be hanging on every word.

Mr. Lewis: Well good, sit on the edge of the chair.

Mr. Singer: I do not think I shall hang myself!

Mr. Snow: I hope we did not disturb the member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: Not a bit. I happen to need the rest.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): He is a real cool one.

Mr. Deans: The British Land Commission then, in effect, decided that it was desirable to ensure that there would be land. And they took the following steps to do so. They said that the bill which they had introduced would be limited in certain ways and the commission's powers would be limited in certain ways. The commission's powers would be limited in that land which, in the opinion of

the commission, ought to be acquired by the commission in order to secure its early development or redevelopment, would be permitted to be purchased. The land which, in the opinion of the commission, ought to be acquired by the commission in order to secure its development or redevelopment as a whole was within the jurisdiction of the commission.

Land required by a public authority possessing compulsory purchase powers for the purpose of its functions was land which could be acquired by the commission. And that land which was to be disposed of to housing associations, which we do not have, or through local authorities or directly on concessionary terms for private housing, was land which the commission could be involved in and could purchase.

The way they purchased the land is very interesting. I think this is what we have to look at. They decided they would go into what was called the levy system. In this system—and I am not going to read it, but I am going to explain briefly what happened—they established what was a fair land value for present use. If it was a farm, for example, they determined that the farm was worth x number of dollars as farm land. And that was the price that could be paid. But after having sold the land, the land then became more valuable because of development, and the person who sold the land would share in the benefits of the increased value. I think in this way they protected the farmer, because they at least said to the farmer that, "If someone comes along and does not tell you that he is about to develop it, and purchases it from you at what is an agricultural price, then you will still be able to share in any increased value to which you yourself have contributed," as part of society.

I think it is valuable to do this sort of thing. And I think we could establish in the province of Ontario, if we desired to do so, a basic land value. This basic land value would vary in accordance with the area in which the land was being sold or purchased.

Mr. Sopha: Henry George is not dead.

Mr. Deans: No, he is not; the member is right. The benefit of this, of course, is that we would no longer be faced with the kind of increased costs, because there would be money returning to the province of Ontario which could be used in the purchase of land, money which now is going into the pockets of developers, which is in no way returned into the public sector.

Mr. Sopha: Unjust enrichment!

Mr. Deans: I agree with the member, that is a very nice phrase.

Mr. Singer: He just coined a new phrase.

Mr. Deans: One can always count on the member for Sudbury to come up with a phrase that fits.

Mr. Singer: He is a very brilliant fellow. We know that.

Mr. Deans: The situation is that this type of move by the province of Ontario would be beneficial to the rural community, because the farmer then would not be faced with the kind of taxation that he is going to be faced with if we proceed with the reassessment of the province on the basis that this minister is doing it.

Mr. Sargent: What does the member mean, "if we proceed"?

Mr. Deans: If we proceed, if he ever gets it done.

Mr. Sargent: It is a *fait accompli* right now.

Mr. Deans: It would have a beneficial effect on the urban community because land would then be made available at a cost that the urban community could afford to pay. It would be beneficial to those people seeking homes, because it would reduce the cost of the land by, I suspect, about half. And, finally, it would be beneficial to the aged because at least those people, the older people in this province, would not be taxed off their land, that they have lived on for so many years. They would be able, if they decided to sell—as many have been gulled into doing; guiled perhaps—and they would be sure to get a fair return for whatever purpose the land was finally put to.

I suggest that while it may not fit throughout the entire province. I think it would serve a useful purpose, to take a look at this and see how it might work in the more urban areas. I think the only people who could suffer from the imposition of such a system in this province would be the land speculators, and quite frankly I do not give a damn about them.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: They are not worrying about the member, either.

Mr. Deans: Oh, I think they are.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Deans: It is interesting to note that when they talk of Britain and the acquisition of land in Britain, this has been going on all across the world for years, and some of the more enlightened countries have taken up the position that it is desirable for municipalities to own land—land for multi purposes, land which can be used for development in the housing field, land which can be used as a buffer against the congestion that is taking place in the urban communities.

We have in many countries in the world seen favourable results come from this kind of policy, and what worries me is that the minister in charge of purchasing land in the province of Ontario appears to do so strictly for the purpose of shoring up the private developers' interests.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: That is wrong, and the member knows it.

Mr. Deans: That is not wrong. Take a run out to Bramalea.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: The member never bought 10 acres in his life! I have.

Mr. Lewis: To what do we owe this new depth in the cabinet—this sudden surge of "speaking ability."

Mr. Deans: I just want to read a small piece out of an article that I cut out of the *Canadian Dimension.*

Mr. Lawlor: Is the minister saying we should not have land banks? At least the member for Wentworth is saying that the prices of property in this province are grossly inflated, and that is a cause of inflation being bred here? Is that not what he is saying?

Mr. Speaker: It is not normal for someone who does not have the floor to be addressed with a question, and therefore the member for Wentworth will carry on and the member for Lakeshore will please let him do so.

Mr. Singer: Shame on the member for Lakeshore for interrupting his own colleague.

Mr. Deans: I do not mind, it is very useful.

I want to read a small article from a magazine that I clipped an article out of. They are talking about the opposite to what happens in Canada and the United States:

> In many European cities, on the other hand, it has been standard practice for generations for the municipality to own and manage a large landed estate. This has been the basis, for example, of the carefully organized post-war expansion of Amsterdam. A classic example is Stockholm where the city owns an area much larger than its administrative area. Stockholm thus has the power, unavailable to any metropolitan area on this continent, to say "here we have a green belt or a forest reserve and there we will have a satellite town."

I want to say, too, Mr. Speaker, that one of the advantages of being able to read is that you can find out what happens in other communities and therefore try to improve the community that you live in.

They go on to point out that the whole Stockholm set-up in terms of physical development is so far ahead of any North American city that one scarcely knows whether to laugh or cry at the comparison. The key is public ownership of land allied with intelligently conceived planning legislation.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: And your land is the first to go.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Members opposite will never live to see that day.

Mr. Deans: The minister hopes.

Mr. Lewis: It is probably swamp land but we will take it anyway.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: It is not swamp land, it is granite rock.

Mr. Deans: The article continues:

> The city of Coventry owns something like a third of its total area not including considerable tracts outside city limits used for such purposes as a regional park or water works.

And they go on then through the entire thing explaining how countries and cities in Europe and in other parts of the world and Britain have been able to keep land prices down by exercising some reasonable control over the use to which land is put and by taking it into public ownership at times.

This is a vital thing. How can cities plan and how can they have autonomy if first of all they are forced, by the kind of government that we have, to come on bended knee to the government for grants, and secondly—

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Make up your mind.

Mr. Deans: I am sorry?

Mr. T. P. Reid: The member is contradicting himself.

Mr. Deans: No I am not, I think the government is wrong. How can they? They are unable to do any reasonable planning because they do not own any land. Municipal autonomy—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Thomas Jefferson said: "Land belongs in usufruct to the living."

Mr. Deans: Municipal autonomy can be be very usefully accomplished, but municipal autonomy will be of no use unless there is a redistribution of power between the municipal, federal and provincial governments.

Mr. Lewis: And Proudhon said: "Private ownership of land is theft."

Mr. Singer: Ah, is that the NDP's party line —private ownership of land is theft?

Mr. Lewis: No, but I am just trying to match quotes.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Deans: We have to take a very serious look at whether the municipalities are capable, within the ability of the system, to finance the kinds of programmes that they presently have to finance, and I made reference to that before.

We have to realign the responsibilities which municipalities can reasonably be expected to undertake. As was stated earlier in the part I read from the recommendations of the mayors and reeves association, the entire matter can be determined, or will be determined, by a redistribution of the responsibilities that are presently held by the municipalities. Pollution control, health and welfare, education, could well be taken out of the realm of taxation on a municipal basis and thereby we would relieve the home owner of the tremendous cost that he presently has to carry.

It is only after we have done these things; it is only after we have changed the tax system so that we have more equity; after we have determined a land-use policy that will permit us to have orderly growth; after we have decided on what functions municipalities—and I am talking in the general context of all of the municipalities, the provincial government and the federal government—after they have decided what things they can reasonably be expected to pay for and have jurisdiction over, only then can we expect to move into something reasonably called regional government.

We have gone into regional government in this province without considering how the regions are going to pay for it; we have gone into regional government without determining whether the regions are in actual fact viable. I suggest that the regions are determined politically; they are not determined in accordance with the criteria that were established when the commissions sat in the initial stages.

Mr. Singer: Which commissions?

Mr. Deans: The commissions which studied the various regions.

Mr. Singer: What is the member's charge? That the commission has been directly politically, is that your charge?

Mr. Deans: No, of course it is not. What I am saying is that the final decision as to what will constitute a region is based on political expediency rather than the recommendations of the commission.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Made by the people.

Mr. Lewis: Right. The minister would not know a "people" if he saw one.

Mr. Deans: I am suggesting that is what has happened. I see it happening in Hamilton; I see the kind of political pressures being exerted by the ministers; I see the kind of wishy-washy backtracking that the Minister of Municipal Affairs is doing at the moment trying to extricate himself from the difficult situations that he is being placed in by his own colleagues in the cabinet; I see recommendations that have been made by a very sensible, reasoned commission who studied all of the facts and made recommendations to the minister, and the minister is now hedging on whether or not he is prepared to buy it.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: He is not hedging.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Deans: I think that when the commissions were established and given the job of determining what the boundaries ought to be in regional government, the minister should have decided at that point that he would accept the reasonable submissions made at the time that the commission finalized its documents. I do not think the decision then has to be made on the basis of some political

motive as to whether or not it is good for the member in the area.

I think what has to be determined is whether or not all of the factors that the commission studied were proper and whether the conclusions the commission reached were sensible. What is happening at the moment is that the commissions have sat, the government has imposed upon municipalities considerable expense in the preparation of briefs; they have imposed upon individual citizens considerable expense in the preparation of reports; they have forced organizations to spend money which they have a difficult time coming by, to make recommendations or to make submissions to the commissions, and then the minister turns around and ignores the commissions' recommendations, and I object to it.

It is the same as any committee studying something. After they have looked at all the facts, I do not think that some politician then can say: well I do not care what you say, I have superior knowledge; and that is exactly what is being said.

Mr. Sargent: In what area?

Mr. Deans: In this whole area; in this whole area. I suggest, for example, that it is not practical to determine whether or not there should be a Peel-Halton region or a Hamilton-Wentworth region until such time as the government determines which of the goals planned by the MTARTS study is going to be the accepted plan that this government is going to abide by. You cannot establish a commission to set up boundary lines, if you are then going to turn around and say we are going to encourage development to take place in an entirely different way.

What the government should have said is: this is the goals plan that we intend to follow in the province of Ontario and we present this as a submission to you as a commission and that should serve as part of the foundation for the decision that you finally arrive at, and should not be imposed after all other things have been decided.

Mr. Singer: I hate to defend the government, but I just do not recall any occasion in which the minister substituted his views of boundaries for—

Mr. Lawlor: Order!

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Hear, hear.

Mr. Deans: I am suggesting it is happening now.

Mr. Singer: I have asked you—

Mr. Lawlor: If I am going to be sat on—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

The hon. member for Lakeshore is endeavouring to engage in dialogue with a member of the government who is not participating in the debate. The member for Downsview is doing what he has done to a certain degree here—engaging in a crossfire with the member who is speaking from the floor of the House. There is a quite a difference.

The hon. member for Wentworth has the floor.

Mr. Lewis: Well there we are. Rank discrimination.

Mr. Deans: I think in the terms of the present commission, on the decision that has to be made in the Hamilton area, I think that a decision cannot reasonably be reached until such time as the goals plan has been established.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: The member can quit any time, if he is ahead.

Mr. Deans: I think that after the goals plan has been established, it then becomes an additional factor which was not taken into consideration by the commission and therefore can disrupt the entire development of the region. I think that this is—

Mr. Singer: But to be fair the member is criticizing the commission.

Mr. Deans: I am criticizing the minister for proceeding to the commission stage before determining—

Mr. Singer: That is not what the member said five minutes ago.

Mr. Deans: That is what I said. Read it!

Mr. Singer: I heard it.

Mr. Deans: Well, of course, the member has been wrong in the past. I seem to recall an occasion.

Mr. Sargent: The hon. member is floundering.

Mr. Lewis: We are going to have to turn to violence in this House.

Mr. Deans: I am convinced that the member for Grey-Bruce is not really interested. I listened to him—not with much enthusiasm I must admit—but I would say, though, that in the final decision—

Mr. Sargent: Try to keep on the track.

Mr. Deans: —I think that what has to be done is this. For this reason we must determine the goals planned; we must determine the method of financing; we must block the loopholes that are already so apparent in the reassessment. We must establish a lender's policy and then proceed into regional government. I think it has to be done in that order, for it to work. If it is done in other order than that I do not think it can be practical in the province of Ontario.

I want, Mr. Speaker, to close by saying this: that I expect, during the next few weeks, to have an opportunity to go into much more detail on many of the things that I have been talking about. I will use this opportunity to sort of broad-brush out all the areas that I feel we have got to be concerned about.

I think that this is an area that should have been one of the main subjects in the Speech from the Throne. I think it should have played a major part in the government's legislative programme, or should play a major part in the government's legislative programme in this current year.

I suggest that if we contine to permit the government to continue in the manner in which they are presently going, they will create nothing but chaos throughout this province—chaos which, no matter what party succeeds them—

Mr. Ferrier: They have already created that.

Mr. Deans: —we will be faced with an almost insurmountable task in putting back together the broken pieces and putting back together the kind of reasoned approach to proper planned development in the province of Ontario.

I think that the amendment made by the leader of this party makes abundant good sense. But before anything else happens that is going to destroy the economy of this province, for God's sake let us have an election.

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I consider it a privilege to participate in the throne debate. I have many items I would like to bring to the attention of the government. I appreciate what has been done by the government in assisting in so many different ways.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Give us one.

Mr. Gilbertson: But I would also like to make some further recommendations which I hope the government will see fit to implement.

Before I go any further, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to the members of the government not to take too seriously what has been said previous to me getting up.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Hear, hear! Wise advice!

Mr. Pilkey: They do not take anything seriously.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): You know with the hon. member for Middlesex South (Mr. Bolton) in the House, God is on our side.

Mr. Gilbertson: Mr. Speaker, you would think that they did not like us, the way they are—

Mr. Pilkey: It kind of gives that impression.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): It has nothing to do with liking, it is just gross incompetence.

Mr. Gilbertson: I would like to go on, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Lewis: By all means.

Mr. Gilbertson: It is my opinion that assistance to our Indians should be given by a method, or means of helping them to help themselves. A good example of this is the money the provincial government is giving to the Indian municipality of Michipicoten. I must say that I am very familiar with this, because it is in my riding. I know all about the situation at that Indian reservation.

They are to receive $18,000, which they will use to purchase a wheeled skidder for hauling pulpwood to the siding, where it can be loaded on rail cars or trucks. There are other Indian reserves receiving similar assistance, which I consider is the most suitable and practical method of dealing with their plight.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that there is too much assistance given to people without them having to do anything in return. I think that there is something to be desired in the way we go out to assist, not just the Indians, but the other part of our population as well, when it comes to welfare.

There are certain people that should be getting welfare that do not get it. There are others who I cannot, for the life of me, see how they get it and why they should get it, but seemingly they are experts and they know all the angles. They can tell you why

you should have it; they know more about the rules and regulations about the Welfare department than the average individual who is not getting welfare.

Another situation which really requires our attention concerns our pensioners who are living on their farms; although they do not derive a revenue from the farm, they must pay increased land tax. Some of them live in unorganized townships and the land tax is so high it has created quite a hardship for them. In many cases, the husband and wife live on the farm by themselves as their families have moved away to other areas.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that this is an area that should have some consideration. These farmers are too old to work their farms any more. They are at the age where they are getting the old-age pension and they are practically living on the old age pension alone. I think that they are worthy of a little bit of assistance.

In one case the husband was able to get his own wood, so he did not have to pay out money for fuel. Some are too old for that now, and they find that they have quite a burden, with inflation and the cost of living. They find it very difficult to make a go of it and I would say that if anyone deserved a little bit of assistance it is our senior citizens, who have contributed so much to our society.

Mr. Pilkey: Well said, but that will fall on deaf ears over there.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): There are no ears to hear.

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): We will hear it.

Mr. Pilkey: Well, that will be about all.

Mr. Gilbertson: I have confidence in the government. I know that they are listening.

Mr. Lewis: You can see the Minister of Transport taking it all in.

Mr. Pilkey: Sure, he is even writing it all down.

Mr. Gilbertson: I feel, Mr. Speaker, our old people should be able to live with a little more dignity and without any undue hardship in their retired years. I know the government has assisted to supply homes for the Indians and I believe that we should not overlook the senior citizens. Many of the farmers' wives have been former school teachers, and perhaps this would be an opportune time to state my support for the recommendation submitted by the Ontario Teachers' Federation—that additional assistance be given to teachers who were superannuated when salaries were very low.

Mr. Pilkey: Too bad the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) is not in the House.

Mr. Lewis: What a devastating critique this is of government policy.

Mr. Gilbertson: I know that this is being worked on, and I hope that we can reach some solution whereby retired teachers can get remuneration—

Mr. Deans: Why do you not get something done? If you wait long enough they will all die off and you will not have to help them.

Mr. Gilbertson: —for the escalation in the cost of living.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of the government the importance of establishing industry in Blind River.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Hear, hear! The government has let those people down desperately; now help them.

Mr. Gilbertson: I know that this has been given consideration by our government—

Mr. Martel: For two years.

Mr. Gilbertson: —but I would urge that Blind River be designated as a special area for grant assistance purposes, and thus make it more attractive for industry to settle in the town of Blind River. I would like to reiterate this again, and I hope that every one of the cabinet ministers is listening—

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): There are only three in the House.

Mr. Gilbertson: —to the plight of Blind River because—

Mr. Lewis: Rooted to their seats.

Mr. Pilkey: They are enthralled by what the member is saying.

Mr. Gilbertson: —I feel, Mr. Speaker, that this is something that is very important and I know that the government realizes this.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Do not count on it.

Mr. Gilbertson: I just want to urge them again, and I have discussed this with the

various ministers, and I feel that we should get something going on this because they are in desperate need.

Mr. Lewis: Is the Canadian Press getting all this attack? Good.

Mr. Gilbertson: I understand now that there are 30 families through Manpower that have moved away from Blind River and got jobs elsewhere. It is too bad to see these homes—

Mr. Pilkey: It is an NDP riding. I know that is where they went.

Mr. Gilbertson: It is too bad to see these homes vacant, and I understand that by the end of the school year there are possibly another 100 families that will be moving out of Blind River unless something drastic takes place here shortly and there is some indication of industry coming in.

Mr. Martel: They do not believe in economic planning.

Mr. Gilbertson: Now there has been a recommendation—

Mr. R. K. McNeil (Elgin): Let him make the speech.

Mr. Pilkey: We are just reinforcing it:.

Mr. Gilbertson: —that our government request from the federal government that Blind River be made a designated area for special grant, and they assured us that they would do something about it. But they want the request from the provincial government and I do not think that is going to be too difficult to get.

Mr. Pilkey: They gave most of their money to Domtar.

Mr. Deans: That will happen the day they hold the next election—the promise.

Mr. Gilbertson: We give incentive grants, free grants, to industry to establish in various parts of Ontario, and I feel, Mr. Speaker, that if there is any place for which one of these grants should be forthcoming it should be for some industry to establish in Blind River. We know that they have a large quantity of timber, Mr. Speaker, with the quantity of timber there is in the north of Blind River, and I think that with a special grant for an industry, it certainly should induce them to come into Blind River. We know that we have some possibilities, as there are some industries that are considering coming in, but let us make it attractive enough so that they will come in and alleviate the situation.

Of course, I have some other things that I would like to talk about. Mr. Speaker, I think pollution would be a good topic to get on to. No, I am not bringing all these subjects up because the opposition members are pressing so hard for it, but I know that our government is very interested in this, and therefore I think that I reiterate what a lot of our members have said—that we are working on the pollution problem, but if we have been 100 years polluting the country, you cannot expect us to clear it up overnight.

Mr. Lewis: No, not for at least another 100 years. It is a matching grant formula.

Mr. Gilbertson: Another thing, Mr. Speaker, I think we should be realistic about pollution. I can remember an instance where I was in a small room. I was campaigning at the time and, of course, there were quite a few that I realized were not on my side. But they were attacking me. They knew I was a Conservative and they were going to attack me about pollution.

They were all around in that little room. It was a teacher's room where they would go to smoke, of course, and relax.

Mr. Pilkey: A telephone booth?

Mr. Gilbertson: They said: "Mr. Gilbertson, what are you going to do about pollution?"

Mr. Pilkey: Ah, ah! That is a good question. Straightforward too.

Mr. Gilbertson: I was trying to get my breath. I do not smoke myself and I was trying to get my breath—

Mr. Pilkey: I think the question got to them.

Mr. Gilbertson: —and my eyes were stinging from the smoke.

Mr. Pilkey: Go ahead, you are doing fine.

Mr. Gilbertson: I could hardly breathe—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Gilbertson: —but they were very concerned about cleaning up pollution.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Gilbertson: You know, we can talk about cleaning up Inco in Sudbury, for instance, with those huge, huge smokestacks—

Mr. Martel: 1,250 feet!

Mr. Gilbertson: —and you hear some of the opposition say: "Look at that. They exploit our area, they rape our country and then they spew the smoke in our face." Well, you know, if we really get down to brass tacks about this pollution, we cannot be puffing smoke in a person's face and then talk about correcting the pollution at the same time.

I know that this, no doubt, will—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): The moral is that I would want to quit smoking tomorrow.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Gilbertson: No offence to the hon. members of the House.

Mr. Lewis: Oh, no. I do not take offence.

Mr. Gilbertson: No offence. I am a pretty realistic person and I know that we have members in the House here who, perhaps, come from ridings which make their livelihood from growing tobacco.

Mr. Lewis: Tory members.

Mr. Gilbertson: You buy this from a tobacco riding and make statements like I am doing here; well perhaps the people would not think too much of me.

Mr. Lewis: Right, the member should do more smoking than gassing.

Mr. Gilbertson: So, Mr. Speaker, as I told you before, I want to be realistic about this, but you know, I think it is something to think about now.

We hear about the cancer scare. People talk about how they should quit smoking because they are going to die from cancer, while others say: "Well, I smoked so long it does not matter anyway. It will not make any difference."

Hon. Mr. Grossman: They usually die with shortage of the breath.

Mr. Gilbertson: In many many ways, every one of us is a polluter. We are all polluters.

We can talk about the big industries and how, if they will not comply with our rules and regulations, we will shut them down. But then we have to look at it realistically, too. This is the means of a livelihood. We have to have our bread and butter. A lot of us work for industries—

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): Even if the industry has smoke from it? Not the socialists!

Mr. Gilbertson: We have got to be realistic. So I just thought that I would bring it to the attention of the hon. members. Maybe it will help you to quit smoking.

Mr. Lewis: The hon. member sounds to me like a creeping socialist. The more I listen to him the more worried I am.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Maybe the opposition should just quit.

Mr. Gilbertson: If members want to know the truth of it I am what you call a Christian Conservative. I belong to the Christian Conservatives.

Mr. Pilkey: There are not too many of them left.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: It looks like I am all alone.

Mr. Gilbertson: I must say that I have confidence in our Conservative government for the things that have been accomplished over the years. Let us not belittle our government. Let us give credit where credit is due.

Mr. Lewis: A little hand for the PC vote.

Mr. Gilbertson: Enough on pollution for now. I do not want to take up too much time, but after all, you have to get into it some time sooner or later, so here I am.

I have another situation here I would like to bring to the attention of the members and it has already been brought to the attention of the government. This is about the poor wolf and those snowmobiles.

I would like to tell you a little story. Now we have heard, and read in the paper, about that little wolf that was chased on Lake Simcoe and it was such a big thing. Well, I want to throw a different light on the picture.

Up in the area where I come from, wolves are the means of livelihood for a lot of people. Sure, they get the bounty. I can remember when I was married back in the 1930s—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Gilbertson: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. members will give me a little consideration I will be able to get across what I want to say. I would be quite pleased and I will do the same with them. I will try and be considerate and courteous, and so on.

Mr. Trotter: Tell us about when you were married.

Mr. Gilbertson: All right, I will tell you about it—I will not tell you all about it. It was a cold, cold January.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is the best time for it.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): I bet the member warmed it up.

Mr. Gilbertson: Mr. Speaker, I found out that you cannot live on love completely.

Mr. Pilkey: He found that out in February.

Mr. Gilbertson: Work was not very plentiful. I tried to get a job, so I thought I would do a little trapping. I lived out in the country—

Mr. Pilkey: A little trapping, the members heard him.

Mr. Gilbertson: The point that I am trying to get across is that catching a wolf is the means of livelihood for some people and it was for me at that time. I caught a wolf after a lot of hard tramping and at that time I think the bounty was $20. You were lucky if you could get a job and work for a whole month and work for $20. I tell you that was the means of livelihood for my wife and me, and we are still living today, and I am here in the Legislature, but thanks to a little bit of trapping and a little bit of maple syrup and a little bit of hunting and a little bit of fishing—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Gilbertson: And let me say we had a lot of fun too. We are a very realistic people up there, we live close to nature up in the north.

Mr. Pilkey: What else is there?

Mr. Gilbertson: All right, what is wrong with nature?

An hon. member: The NDP do not like it.

Mr. Gilbertson: I would like to go on to another topic now, and this is something that my constituents have been bringing to my attention. They said, "Whatever you do when you get down there this time, when the Legislature opens, do not let the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) restrict our snowmobile regulations."

Mr. Martel: That is why they have not been introduced yet.

Mr. Gilbertson: He said, "Educate them to know how to use them." But, you know, that is one of the greatest things that ever happened in the north when they invented snowmobiles. The people are really finding that the winters are too short now. Before they were too long and now they find the winters are too short. They hate to see the snow go.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Has the birth rate gone down?

Mr. Martel: It was not the snowmobile that did that.

Mr. Gilbertson: I would urge the Minister of Transport to look at it very seriously before he gets too drastic on changing the snowmobile regulations just because there have been so many lives lost and this and that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Gilbertson: I know that our Minister of Transport is a reasonable man and I am trusting that he will look at this seriously.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Lewis: A laugh here and a laugh there.

Mr. Gilbertson: By the way, that reminds me—

Mr. MacDonald: Remind the government they forgot the bridge for 30 years.

Mr. Gilbertson: That just reminds me, when the member mentioned the bridge, we are so bridge conscious that I have a little poem here I would like to read, to show members how bridge conscious the people are here. You may not have heard, but on St. Joseph's Island we are getting more modern all the time. We have now switched from the old system to dial, so of course the hon. member for Algoma had the opportunity to speak at a function where the switchboard girls were retiring. We put on a real sendoff party.

I wanted something in poetry so that I could get up and really give something, you know, the way people on the island can do. So, if the hon. member for Grey-Bruce (Mr. Sargent) can get up and tell a little story or something like that and kind of bring a little bit of laughter, you might say, to the hon. members, I have something. This is a little more serious; this is poetry and, gentlemen, I think you will get the drift. It goes as follows:

Oh the whirling wheels of progress have
come to old St. Joe,
And some fine old local customs now, it
seems, will have to go.

For the gadgets they are installing with the
little dial that whirls
Seem to spell the end of business for our
lovely switchboard girls.
When Alexander Graham Bell the skill did
first acquire
To send the human voice a-traveling down
the little wire,
We could not then foresee the future of
our fast advance in the world
When man could speak the world around
through a little thing that twirls.
So now, this mighty network has invaded
our St. Joe
And a seven-digit number every one will
have to know.
And we will need to have our specs on to
see each number clearly,
For we cannot now leave it to the girls
we love so dearly.
But we can now call up Toronto, and get
our MPP,
Tell them we have got to have some gravel
on that line that is known as G.
We can phone him with our finger across
that lengthy ridge
That our ferry is outdated and we have to
have a bridge.

How does that sound, Mr. Speaker?

Now the reason we are together should to
everyone be clear,
Is to pay a worthy tribute to five splendid
ladies here.
For they have held St. Joe together in a
way that's mighty fine
By ringing up the numbers and plugging
in the line.

And we have the girls' names here. It says:

To Irma goes credit in our little bit of
rhyme
For the longest service given, and it's
meant a lot of time.
So long she's done the service to us, at
least it seems,
She could do it in the dark or she could
do it in her dreams.
Then there's Vera too, and Edith, and
Margaret as well,
For lengthy terms of service they could
lively stories tell.
They would set our ribs a-tickling till we
shed some lusty tears,
Of the things that the wires came
bringing across the years.
Then there's Lady Connell, and to all
she's known as Jean,
She has kept a lively interest throughout
our island scene,
And if from out her service she ever
undertook
To tell the secrets of these years, she
could surely write a book.
And still there's something more we would
like to tell this crowd;
The fact for which we all are really mighty
proud.
Tell it all around this region over every
dial that's whirled,
The splendid group we now honour, all
five are island girls.
'Tis here they've lived, and here they've
served and here they mean to stay,
And our tribute now we pay them in this
awkward sort of way.
And we declare it truly: No little dial
that twirls,
Will ever mean so much to us, as have
our switchboard girls.

Mr. Speaker, the credit for this—I would like to get it on the record—goes to Reverend James Robb, a minister in a Free Methodist church who is a wonderful poet. I gave him the material over the phone, I told him I would be speaking at this function, and I would like to have something in poetry and this is what he sent to me.

Give him a hand!

I think I have maybe been a half hour or so, and there is one thing I would like to say to this House, that we are living in difficult days. We can see, all over the world that there seem to be things sort of closing in on us. Could it be we were all brought up years ago, you know, when we all used to go to Sunday school, and be quite particular about keeping the Lord's day holy? If there is anything I would like to say more than anything else, to the provincial government, and all parties, it is that I do not think it would hurt any one of us if we would just look back a little bit and see if perhaps we could start taking stock of ourselves as individuals.

Ontario is not any stronger than its government or its people who are trying to represent the government. Therefore, I would exhort that we look at ourselves a little seriously and see if we are doing our part conscientiously. Perhaps we have forgotten about the more serious things that each one of us needs to get back to; perhaps be a little more diligent in our worship, whatever form it is. I am not trying to say any particular denomination; if we are all sincere in what we believe, I think, Mr. Speaker, that this exhortation would not hurt any one

of us, and I want to close with that. Let us think on these things.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Speaker, in rising to take part in this throne debate, I first would like to thank you for the courtesy you have shown me since you have been appointed to this honourable position and I wish you well during your term.

The mover and seconder are not in their seats this evening but I would like to congratulate them. Their speeches at the opening on moving and seconding the Speech from the Throne were on a very high plane. They brought to the attention of this Legislature problems that concerned them and problems that concerned their constituents in the ridings which they represent.

Mr. Speaker, since the last session, we have a new Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) and a new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence). The Minister of Health replaced the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Dymond) and the Minister of Commercial and Financial Affairs replaced the hon. member for York West (Mr. Rowntree). I must say to those two ministers, their task will not be easy, following in the footsteps of the hon. member for Ontario and the hon. member for York West, because they gave their best, I always thought, and contributed greatly to the work of this Legislature.

Mr. Speaker, the speech from the Throne this year was a vague document, I thought, offering very little, but what the people of this province had heard before, Mr. Speaker —a document which was disappointing to so many people, coming at a time when we find so many of the citizens of this province very concerned about the skyrocketing taxes, the chaotic administration, costs on the people of programmes that have been put into effect by this government, and the future outlook for more increases in taxation if this government continues on its present course.

Mr. Speaker, it would appear to me that these programmes or changes have not, in my opinion, received enough study or research.

I have an editorial from one of the weekly newspapers, in regard to our new county school boards, which says that the teachers from either our elementary or secondary schools have very little good to say, if anything, about the county school boards. This article also states that the biggest complaint—which is the same throughout the province; this is in general, I am told—is that schools do not have enough supplies. The writer of this article is surprised that a situation like this exists when the costs are so high for education as it is. He also says:

> There just was not sufficient money to take care of all the new salaries involved in these boards, so something had to go short, and the supplies quota was chopped.

Mr. Speaker, I do hope these conditions do not exist, because being short of supplies affects the education of students. This is a great concern for those paying the education taxes, as they want sufficient school supplies to give the students the best education possible. We hope there is not a shortage of school supplies in our county schools, which would curtail the education of our future generations.

Mr. Speaker, we also have the takeover of assessment by the province from the counties and cities. This raised the ire of the people in this province, and is a threat to the local autonomy of our municipalities as well as an erosion of their power. This is not in the best interest of the citizens of this province. Of course, Mr. Speaker, I am in favour of a uniform assessment across the province, and we are now witnessing the first results in Mississauga, as related in a Toronto newspaper last week. I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, this government will rue the day when they took away from the counties and cities the assessment in the province.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Is the member in favour of a uniform assessment?

Mr. Spence: I am, but not the way it is being done.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: How would the member do it?

Mr. Spence: We would leave it to the counties or leave it to the region.

Mr. Speaker, we also have regional government which has been set up in different parts of this province. Also we have regions that want regional government but others that do not want regional government in view of the increased costs this would involve, particularly at a time when school costs are a burden to so many of the citizens in many municipalities. I am one who says that regional government should not be forced on any region without the consent of the people. There is more controversy about regional government in areas where regional government is not even contemplated than from areas where it has been introduced.

Mr. Speaker, I will say to the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) that we read in the press the reports of the mayors and reeves convention at Niagara Falls, last summer, which said that in Ottawa-Carleton regional government they were promised a Cadillac car and received a broken-down bicycle with fewer services.

On February 20, 21 and 22 I attended the Provincial Liberal Party's annual meeting in Ottawa and I would certainly be unfair if I did not inform the hon. members of this House that this annual meeting was a great success and they strongly endorsed the leader of this party. I also wish to say that when in Ottawa on this occasion, I had to go from one hotel to another and called a cab for this purpose. I had never met the cab driver in my life. I got in the cab and the driver said: "What do you think of the snow on our streets and the ice on our sidewalks?" I said: "You certainly have plenty". To which the driver added: "Do you know why the snow and ice are not removed from the streets in this city?" I said I did not know and he then informed me that they had enough equipment to do the job, but that since a regional government had been set up they had to spread the equipment around and this is what they got. I would suggest to the Minister of Municipal Affairs that he should get better sources of information.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Health had the Ontario Council of Health report placed on all the members' desks on Friday last. I have not read the whole report yet. On page 68, it is recommended that long term government policies be formulated with respect to domiciliary health care and having this health care costs borne through provincial health insurance financing mechanisms—a technique which might as well be applied in other long term domiciliary care institutions, foster homes and even the patients' own homes. Also, the report goes on to recommend further changes, including more and better facilities and training. I personally welcome these recommendations, but I cannot become too excited, because these recommendations were made before by other committees and nothing was ever done about them.

Mr. Speaker, on August 12 last year, the Minister of Health said that nursing homes would be given top priority by him, and the Speech from the Throne made no mention of nursing homes. The hon. member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith) did mention that the province needed more nursing homes, but stating the obvious is in no way an indication of the facilities being established or of the wherewithal to run them. Of course, Mr. Speaker, we have no way of knowing whether or not he was stating government policy.

We hear in this House, statistics based on the city hospitals' waiting lists and the *per diem* rates. Let me assure the hon. members, through you sir, that the problem is no less acute in our rural areas. I cannot see why the government has consistently refused to include all nursing homes under OHSC. It does not make good economic sense.

Mr. Speaker, for every patient kept in a hospital an extra two or three days, there is a patient in desperate need of hospitalization. As we all know, the reason patients are kept in hospital a little longer than is medically necessary, is that they are unable to care for themselves at home. It is natural for their doctors to keep them in hospital where the expenses will be covered by OHSC. The doctors have no other choice.

The definition of a patient in need of medical care and of one who needs a few days to recuperate, is not very complex, because the patient who is in a position to pay for nursing home care or has some member of the family for his or her needs, will recover much more quickly than the person who, being medically cured, is too weak to look after herself or himself. This is the person who is in need of nursing home care for a few days to make sure that he or she is completely recovered, and this is the kind of patient that a doctor, knowing the circumstances, will keep in the hospital for extra days.

Mr. Speaker, these few extra days are not usually enough, and the doctor cannot extend the patient's stay any longer, or he would then have the hospital administration to deal with. So we have a situation where a weak person, wide open for any virus, leaves the hospital to go home. He or she cannot look after himself or herself properly and the recovery period drags on.

Mr. Speaker, if he or she is not in a position to afford nursing home care for a while, there are ten chances to one that this person will end up on our welfare rolls, or even may have to return to hospital. I am sure the hon. members are able to recall several such instances in their own experience, and I am sure that they agree with me that the only workable solution would be an extension of OHSC coverage to nursing homes.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to relate a case of a gentleman patient in a general hospital. He is in a semi-private room. The *per diem* rate for this room is $40. The hon. members will

note that this is an average cost for a semi-private hospital room in the province. Here in Toronto it is much higher. This man is 40 years old. He is a clerk in a shoe store where he earns $75 a week. He has both OHSC and OHSIP. He is married with four school-age children. His wife cannot work because she has neither the education nor the training to do so. They have managed to scrape along because there have been no serious illnesses in the family.

Suddenly, the husband finds himself in need of surgery for a non-functioning of the gall bladder. Since it did not seem serious for a while, he put off making a decision about entering the hospital. He then started to feel more and more run down and experienced the pains common to such cases. The doctor decided the time had come for him to enter the hospital, but he finds that he is placed on the "elective" list because this surgery has to be done but it is not a matter of life or death. So he is scheduled to enter the hospital in nine weeks. This is not a bad delay in some hospitals.

This gentleman becomes more run down than ever, because the family budget will not allow for the kind of food necessary for his special diet. By the time he enters the hospital he is very weak; surgery is not delayed. The operation goes well, but his recovery is slow. His doctor keeps him in hospital four extra days, but then discharges him. His wife cannot give him the care he requires at home, and there is no home care programme in the community, with the result that the period of recovery drags on. He cannot return to work and after six weeks his employer is unable to wait any longer. His job is given to someone else, and this man has to go on welfare.

The tragedy of this situation is that the doctor could not readmit him in the hospital because there was nothing wrong with him that proper rest and care would not cure in a short time. Had he been able to go into a nursing home, maybe things would have been different. However, he could not afford it and his insurance did not cover this kind of care.

Mr. Speaker, while this man was spending four days in the hospital, many other sick people were waiting for a hospital bed, only one of which was occupied by him. Suppose a person was placed on the emergency list because he or she was to have exploratory surgery for suspected cancer. I can only think what a person might have to endure—three and a half weeks of torture, wondering what the verdict was going to be, and how quickly it would travel in three and a half weeks if it were cancer. I am told there are some people in that same situation.

I am not suggesting that including nursing homes under OHSC would eliminate these waiting lists completely. But until we have better training facilities, more incentives, so that young doctors and nurses want to stay in Ontario to staff the hospitals and more clinics for preventive medicine, I cannot think of a better way to free hospital beds and some money for the government than through the extension of coverage.

Mr. Speaker, it would seem that all three parties in this Legislature are in favour of this extension of OHSC coverage to include nursing homes. I hope this government will take action soon or give us an explanation for the delay.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words on transportation of goods in this province. As a layman, as far as transportation is concerned, I also know that transport in general comes under the federal government, but I feel that with the Ontario provincial highway system and as The Department of Transport has the issuing of the truck and car licences, it is involved in transportation in this province.

We see inequities in transportation of farm products. We in southwestern Ontario produce over 7,000,000 bushels of soya-beans, as one illustration. They are transported by rail and truck to Hamilton and Toronto to have them processed into soya-bean meal and soya-bean oil and then transported back to the areas in which they were grown, at high transportation costs. Millers in southwestern Ontario have the soya-bean meal brought in from the United States in many cases, and the raw product is as high or higher in the United States, but transportation costs are the key factor.

Mr. Speaker, in my view, by providing greater mobility, there has been a tendency for the larger centres to increase in size and importance and the smaller centres to shrink and, in a lot of instances, almost totally disappear. I agree this is perhaps progress and this is to be partially expected. However, I would strongly suggest that while this has been going on, Mr. Speaker, some changes in legislation should be made in order to alleviate and prevent further erosion of our rural areas.

In order to illustrate, I suggest that the transport laws of this province be studied and

overhauled in such a way as to give preferential treatment to villages and towns, as well as rural areas, so that industries and the supply of goods will not be penalized because of location in the province or in out-of-the-way areas. Also some form of incentive should be given to the so-called areas, especially in northern Ontario, where because of the costs of transportation, prices of products such as gasoline, oils, food, etc., are high.

Mr. Speaker, we in southwestern Ontario have an oversupply of food, and cheap food, and if a cheaper way could be found to transport this food and goods to the north this would assist in the development of northern Ontario, which we hear discussed so often here in this hon. assembly. This would also be a great benefit to the people in southwestern Ontario, who produce food products and manufactured goods.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I find farm products can be transported to market at half the cost of a similar transport. With such inequities we cannot expect our farmers or our labour and business in the smaller towns and villages to exist, and they are not. They are shrinking, and the young people are migrating to the cities. We also find many empty houses in our rural areas and many places of business closed in our towns and villages, which is alarming to many of us, and to a number of us who sit in this Legislature and listen to the remarks that are given here—when we hear in the metropolitan areas and in the big cities the problems that confront the hon. members that represent city ridings: expressways, urban renewal, the shortage of houses, and in the rural areas, empty houses, the migration of our population.

Mr. Speaker, I think the time has come when we will have to look at our transport laws. I think there should be a study; I think that they should have an overhauling because transportation is one of the things that develops any country. I do not want to hurt the trucking industry in this province whatsoever, but it makes me wonder why so many of our large transport trucks travel one way on our highways loaded and return empty. Is it the PCV licence?

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Minister of Transport for a study and investigation into the overall transportation situation in this province, and I would also suggest that special emphasis be put on the special effects of such operations, as to the minimum charges, such as $4 on the handling of small parcels which affect the small businessman.

I have been informed that the minimum charge is as high as $7. This is hurting our small industries, our small people in rural Ontario, and I think it is time that there should be an overhauling. Our society is changing; I think we should have another look at our transportation laws in this province.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would just like to make a few remarks. The hon. Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) is not in his seat this evening.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): He is in Japan again.

Mr. Spence: Well, he is very fortunate; I would like to be with him. However, Mr. Speaker, I might say that under his department—specifically the Equalization of Industrial Opportunity Loans—in my riding there have been two or three EIO loans which have helped considerably some of the municipalities. But I find a number of our villages have industries wanting to locate there and they have met the minister and the officials in his department. I have no criticism of the reception we get in The Department of Trade and Development—we are always given a real reception and a warm welcome—but I do say that there are on too many occasions industries that want to locate in our villages which are classed as service industries by the officials of the department.

These service industries are most generally the ones that settle in the small town or the small villages, and I would like to see the Minister of Trade and Development take another look at whether some more of these service industries should not qualify for Equalization of Industrial Opportunity Loans. They are the only industries, in general, that will locate in designated slow areas such as small towns and villages in southwestern Ontario, and in rural areas across the province of Ontario.

I will have more to say under the estimates of the Minister of Trade and Development on this subject, Mr. Speaker. With these few remarks I want to say thank you to the members.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Mr. Speaker, in talking for the third tiime in this debate on the Speech from the Throne, I want to deal with three or four topics, some of which have significance for the entire province, and some of which are purely local in nature.

Before launching into the main topic, though, I want to congratulate the government for establishing a department of mines and northern development. It is gratifying to note the function of this new branch of government and I would like to just recall this to the members' attention. This department will be accomplished within a department of mines and northern development, which will have special co-ordinating and policy-making functions. Through this enlarged function of The Department of Mines, the people of northern Ontario can be assured of a new form and an entirely new mechanism by which their concerns, requirements and aspirations can be heard and more effectively communicated.

It has only taken 27 years for the government to institute that, and let us hope it does not take another 27 years to get some positive measures, but I have my doubts as to what the effects will be. This government has known the problems confronting the north for years, and until this government wants to get involved in economic planning there is not a hope in hell that we are going to get any improvements in the north.

We are indeed fortunate, too, that we have an ombudsman in the process—according to the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), who appeared on television, a new shining light on the horizon.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): But not yet a cabinet minister.

Mr. Martel: Not yet.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): What else did he say?

Mr. Lewis: Better from downtown Toronto!

Mr. Stokes: What else did he say?

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): He said there was nothing in the throne speech.

An hon. member: He has not been doing his job as an ombudsman.

Mr. Martel: Well, if this ombudsman's comments or his actions are anything like his interjections in the House, the prospect for anything in the north remains pretty dim.

Mr. Speaker, you will recall the other day I raised a question in the House. I want to take a few minutes on that question. I directed a question to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr), with reference to Eddy Forest Products and the question is this—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Sudbury *Star*.

Mr. Martel: I am going to get to the member for Sudbury. Just wait. I am going to come to him in a very few moments

The question is a very simple question:

> **Is the minister aware that Eddy Forest Products is now in the process of asking its employees whether they are willing to move to B.C. should they have to put in the necessary equipment, and what action will the government undertake if Eddy Match does close down?**

Members will recall the member for Sudbury was not in the House, and he came in here with righteous indignation and both hands out in front of him, and here is what the chameleon from Sudbury said:

> Sopha also challenged Eli Martel, NDP member for Sudbury East, to back up charges that the Eddy Company was thinking of moving its Espanola operations to British Columbia. "It is incumbent upon the member for Sudbury East," he said "to produce evidence to support his claim. Nothing short of this will do."

I had an interesting phone call Mr. Speaker, on Friday about 12 noon from the vice president of Eddy who indicated to me that some of the employees, in fact, had been asked to transfer to B.C. He went on to elaborate that it was by different companies.

This was what started the rumour and the innuendo, but the Eddy Match Company, or the Eddy Forest Company, did not feel it would be wise to say that on television and of course, the member for Sudbury, who I termed the chamelon and I am going to come to that term in a moment, with his righteous indignation at all times, was demanding that we prove it. Well, there is a reason for—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Does the member mean he is on such good speaking terms with a capitalistic vice president?

Mr. Martel: I have never criticized another member—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey Bruce): Always a first time.

Mr. Martel: But I am going to take this occasion—

Mr. E. Dunlop (York-Forest Hill): What did the member say about the member for Kenora?

Mr. Martel: —to show what I mean by the term chameleon. As defined in the dictionary

it means: "a person of changeable character or habit."

Let us go back in history just for a few moments and see what the member for Sudbury has so often said about this great company. Here is one reference; the member for Sudbury has always taken credit for leading the battle for fair taxes in Sudbury for municipal assessment. Back in March 31, 1961 the member for Sudbury said:

> I am not advocating that these mining companies be taxed, if it is not the government policy that they be taxed, at the municipal level. I hold no brief for or against Falconbridge Nickel Mines, or International Nickel Company and I do not think there is any—

And get this:

> —and I do not think there is anybody in Sudbury, at least not amongst our body of opinion, who suggests that they should be taxed at the municipal level and thus be, in many respects, at the whim of the local council.

Now that is a big battle and just recently in Sudbury he was the man who led and championed this fight. Well, that is just one example.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Give the member for Sudbury five minutes for rebuttal.

Mr. Martel: Oh, he can have it. He can have it. I am just quoting the member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: Well read my last year's speech.

Mr. Martel: Oh, yes that is what I mean about the chameleon from Sudbury, the changeable individual.

An hon. member: He hardly rates a next year's speech.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Yes, in another speech, Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, December 6, 1960, there is another aspect to it; and we must always keep these things in balance and make reasonable approaches to them.

Mr. Sargent: The member really has been digging, has he not?

Mr. Martel: I might say, as far as Sudbury is concerned, it has been the recipient of the most bountiful munificence on the part of these two companies.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Yes, now what did he say the other night in the Sudbury *Star*? Let us go back and see what he said about the munificence of this company.

> Mr. Sopha described Inco as a company which takes our resources and as a final insult blows their sulphur smoke in our faces to show its contempt for us.

Mr. Sopha: I said that.

Mr. Martel: For ten years this man, in this Legislature, never once criticized Inco for its pollution. He has discovered it in the last year and a half.

Mr. Sopha: Point of order. So the record will set out, Mr. Speaker, a rebuttal to this deliberate attempt to mislead, I want to say for the record that the statement he has just made is untrue in substance and in fact.

Mr. Stokes: He quoted the hon. member.

An hon. member: The member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) is writing his speeches.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, if I can quote just once more on the bountiful munificence of this company. Back on December 17, 1962—

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): In 1962? Let us hear that!

Mr. Sopha: The member does carry on a campaign.

Mr. Martel: Well, the hon. member should get up and make a speech about that, but I was not going to let the remarks of the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald) remain uncontested without, in fairness, putting on the record some of the positive achievements that this company has made and the positive contribution it has made to the development of our community.

An hon. member: So for the injunction of Inco!

Mr. Martel: Oh they have championed everything and now we come to the real crux of the incident.

I asked a question to assure—

Mr. Sopha: Three millions dollars to Laurentian.

Mr. Martel: It was $2.5 million.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): So the member is wrong again.

Mr. Lewis: The member is even inflating their contribution.

Mr. Martel: But what is interesting, Mr. Speaker, and why I brought this up. I asked a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management the other day to ensure that the rumour that was going on was a rumour only; and if not I wanted the government to take action to ensure the people would not be left without a job.

Now what does the member for Sudbury do? He calls me irresponsible and—

Mr. Sopha: And the member was!

Mr. Martel: —and I can quote from *Hansard.* Then he turns around, an interesting thing, he turns around and says: "I have taken an injunction out against Inco, or I am going to do so in two weeks, which could close them down indefinitely."

Mr. Sopha: I said no such thing.

Mr. Martel: And put every man out of work.

Mr. Sopha: On a point of order!

Mr. Martel: I will read it.

Mr. Sopha: Point of order!

Mr. MacDonald: Let him read what it said.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. members will both resume their seats for the moment.

Mr. Sopha: I said no such thing.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will resume his seat for a moment.

Now the hon. member for Sudbury has a point of order he will state it.

Mr. Sopha: I said no such thing, that I would close Inco down, at any place at any time.

Mr. Stokes: That is not a point of order!

Mr. Martel: The member said: "I am going to bring an action—

Mr. Sopha: What is the member reading from?

Mr. MacDonald: *Hansard.* The member's own words.

Mr. Martel: It says here:

> I am going to bring an action against Inco in the courts for damages for those ill effects. I am going to seek a permanent injunction against the International Nickel Company in the court against the emission of sulpur fumes.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: It was on televison. I happened to be listening to Channel 6 the night that the statement came out and it was quoted there or it was stated there—my colleagues were there when we listened to it—that this action could close the company down permanently.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Now that is not irresponsible Mr. Speaker? To throw the whole Sudbury basin out of work is not an irresponsible statement, because how else are we going to stop the emission of fumes immediately but to close it down?

I have never heard the member get up and give the procedures for cleaning it up, but I have heard him—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I thought the member had a point there for a while!

Mr. Martel: The member for Sudbury does do a typical Liberal flip flop all over the park, whichever way the wind is blowing. He puts his finger up, licks it, and sees which direction it is safe to follow.

Mr. Sopha: The member knows that is not true.

Mr. Singer: I would not have believed it.

Mr. Martel: And that is a very, very responsible statement from the member for Sudbury!

Mr. Sopha: I am a chameleon am I? He is a charlatan and I—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: What else?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: You know, Mr. Speaker, I started out by saying that if the drivel that we get from comments of the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence)—and he got into the act that day too and made the comment that it was wishful thinking on my part that Espanola close down—the member for Sudbury is finished, he can leave. Is he going to leave with you? They can debate it on the way home.

The Minister of Mines, he got into the act and said that I was hopeful that the plant would close down, and if that is the type of responsible statement that we get from a cabinet minister, and if that is the type of legislation that we are going to get from that

minister, we might as well call it—no, the minister was not here. I will get to the rest of them in a little while.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): It was on Romper Room.

Mr. Martel: So I hope that we can get something more positive from the minister—the ombudsman of the north—because I say if his interjections are in any way related to the type of legislation we can anticipate, we can anticipate very little!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: The member for Kenora—that is right—I am glad he is sticking by me.

Mr. Speaker, the part of the throne speech that intrigued me the most was that little portion that I want to read, dealing with pollution. It was just beautiful. I do not know if they got a ghost writer to do this, but it was just beautiful. Let me quote:

> Ontario has been truly blessed by providence with the bountiful gifts of nature. But this bounty of natural resources, including soil, water and air, must be recognized for what it is: a fragile gift to be treated with the utmost respect; an heirloom to be passed on unimpaired to our children. The ecological balance is extremely delicate. We cannot continue to abuse our environment.
>
> One of the great challenges we face during the 1970s is to restore this balance. The challenge to reduce and prevent pollution is, of course, not that of Ontario alone. It is world-wide. But it is one to which the people of Ontario can make—indeed must make—a major contribution.

It would be interesting if the government made a contribution and not just the people.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: But the government is the people.

Mr. Martel: No, they only represent 42 per cent.

> To its credit, the Legislature of Ontario has concerned itself with this problem for many years.

You know, Mr. Speaker, if the problem was not so serious, that could be a joke. It could be a joke.

> An impressive array of measures has been implemented to halt pollution of our waters, air and soil, to repair past damages and to prevent future pollution.

Now if some of the legislation that we hear had some teeth in it, we might anticipate some of these things would come about. But I am going to show as I go through the material—and it has taken me almost a year to gather, on the latest studies from Sweden, Germany, and the United States—what a farce, and just how ridiculous, this diatribe is.

I will show by data that even the latest contracts—that our agreements that have been signed between Falconbridge and the air pollution control branch of The Department of Energy and Resources Management—will not even start to cure the problem based on the data from the American government respecting Trail back in 1929. But we will come to that in detail and I do hope that a few of the ministers responsible for pollution, or the enviroment of our country, will be around.

Does this government really believe that the citizens of Ontario are so naive as to swallow the diatribe in there, when all they have to do is look around and see the massive air, water, and soil pollution which confronts them? I think this illustrates the arrogance and smugness which pervades the entire Tory party. Let us take a long look at some of the problems confronting the Sudbury area; these can be applied to many other regions of the province.

Our problems stem from the emission of sulphur dioxide from Inco and Falconbridge. The sulphur dioxide affects the air, the water, the soil, the vegetation and man himself. Before we deal with the effects of sulphur dioxide, I think it is necessary to establish the quantity of SO_2 being poured out of the Inco and Falconbridge stacks annually.

According to the release of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management on February 4, 1970, Falconbridge was daily pouring out 1,028 tons of SO_2. This amount comes to an annual emission of some 374,120 tons of SO_2. Inco is at least five times as big, and therefore their contribution to the good life is approximately five times 374,120 tons, or a whopping 1,870,600 tons of sulphur dioxide.

The nickel basin planning study, a government document, says that Inco alone, from its Copper Cliff holdings emits over one million tons, so we are not that far out. If you do not want to believe me, hopefully the government will believe one of its own studies. Now, combined, it can be estimated that there are, roughly, in the neighourhood of 2,244,720 tons of SO_2 being dumped in the Sudbury area annually.

How does this compare with the United States? In 1963 alone there was only 23,360,000 tons of SO_2 in the United States from all of the sources. How do we stack up against it? From U.S. refinery operations and smelting operations, which contribute some 14.2 per cent of the total emissions of 23 million tons, there are some 1,583,000 tons from refinery operation and 1,735,000 tons from smelting.

That comes to a total of 3,318,000 tons from smelting and refinery for the entire United States. We, in the Sudbury area, from Inco and Falconbridge alone, get in the neighbourhood of 2,244,720 tons, or less than one million tons difference than the entire United States on amounts of sulphur.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, the member's area has the biggest nickel producer in the world.

Mr. Martel: Do not run red herrings!

There are all kinds of smelters in the United States. We are talking about the entire United States.

Mr. MacDonald: That is not the point.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Yes, it is the point.

Mr. Martel: We are not talking about one area of 45 miles in diameter. We are talking about the entire United States, a million tons.

Now, in 1968, for the latest figures, the amount of emission has been reduced in the United States in the smelters and the refineries. It now only represents some 12.2 per cent of the total emission of some 28 million tons in the United States, for roughly 3,203,000 tons. Now, what does this do to the Sudbury area, when we get a million tons less than the entire United States get from smelters and refineries?

It behooves me to think that this government can sit there and write the platitudes that were written in the throne speech and expect people in the Sudbury area to believe them. We in the Sudbury area can see what this SO_2 has done to the vegetation, but what disturbs me, Mr. Speaker, is what the SO_2 does that cannot be seen by the naked eye—to the soil, to the water, to man himself. The government has done nothing, and, in fact, has not been concerned about the health of the men, the destruction of the soil, or the pollution of the water.

Let us examine the statements of some of the members. In a statement last fall by the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers) he asserted that in the Sudbury area there was no water pollution problem as a result of the companies' activities. I see the vice-chairman of the OWRC is taken aback by that a little, that one of his colleagues would make a statement that there was no water pollution problem in the Sudbury area caused by the companies.

Mr. Stokes: What did the member for Nickel Belt say?

Mr. G. Demers (Nickel Belt): He said nothing.

Mr. Martel: He said there was no water problem—the companies were doing an excellent job to curb the water pollution problem in the Sudbury area. We will find out what they are doing in a few moments when it comes to emissions of sulphur dioxides that get into the water.

Obviously the Minister of Health is not worried about health and neither is the Minister of Mines, because the Minister of Mines refuses to adopt a very simple scheme—to remove the men from the concentration, which goes from five to 10 to 50 to 100 parts per million. He will not adopt it.

There is a very simple solution, you know. They have what we call draeger meters; you just work this little instrument and, in a matter of seconds, you can tell what the gas counts are.

We are suggesting that the shift bosses have one of these with them, as most of the union men have. When they feel the gas count is too high, then all they have to do is demand of the shift boss that the draeger meter test be conducted in front of them. If the designated five parts per million, as it now stands with the government, is exceeded, then the men have the right to leave the area until the quantities of gas are reduced.

The Minister of Mines is not worried about the health of the people because he will not go along with that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Oh come on, cheap!

Mr. Martel: Cheap? My people are into this place at 300 parts per million.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member may disagree with him, but he should not say the minister is not interested.

Mr. Martel: If he were, he would go along with this very simple scheme.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Would the hon. member sign his personal cheque for the amount to cure it?

Mr. Martel: No, they make enough money to cure it. Their profits were only $160 million last year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But not the Minister of Mines'.

Mr. Martel: No, I am not asking the Minister of Mines to pay it, I am asking Inco to clean it up. Is that too simple?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not what the member said.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Sounds simple!

An hon. member: Too simple for this government.

Mr. Martel: Well, listen to the pot calling the kettle black.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: It is always simple to the opposition.

Mr. Martel: Well, you are not confronted daily with these concentrations. I hope the minister is here tomorrow because we are going to come to what the health department in the United States describes as a safety level. It is now 0.17 parts per million for three minutes, and the people in the Sudbury area who work in the smelters are exposed to anywhere from 50 to 100 to 200 parts per million, hour-in and hour-out. We are going to relate tomorrow, from the various studies the type of ailments that the men are suffering as a result of overexposure to sulphur dioxide.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder, would this be a good point for the hon. member to move the adjournment?

Mr. Martel: Very good!

Mr. Speaker: If he is starting another section—

Mr. Martel: I am starting another section.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I think perhaps he might move the adjournment.

Mr. Martel moves the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Lewis: Better get the Minister of Energy and Resources Management in here tomorrow.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Grossman moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.25 o'clock p.m.

No. 16

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Friday, March 13, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Friday, March 13, 1970

Preliminary review of federal budget, statement by Mr. MacNaughton 583

Preliminary review of federal budget, questions to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. Nixon, Mr. MacDonald 584

Letter from Elizabeth Fry Society, question to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Nixon 585

Meetings between Minister of Trade and Development and elected Metro and Toronto city officials, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Singer, Mr. MacDonald 585

Shutdown of Dunlop rubber company in Toronto, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 587

Shutdown of Murray-Selby Shoe Company in London, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Bolton 587

Provincial study re conservation authority in Essex county area, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. B. Newman 588

Charge of polluting against Lakefield College School, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Pitman, Mr. De Monte, Mr. T. P. Reid 589

Advertisements for teachers in colleges of applied arts and technology and secondary schools, question to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. T. Reid 590

The $140,000 ARDA survey of Northern Ontario and recommendations, questions to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. Stokes 590

OPP policing new regional district of Muskoka, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Bullbrook 591

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Martel, Mr. Haggerty, Mr. J. Renwick 592

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. J. Renwick, agreed to 614

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 614

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1970

The House met at 10 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: In view of the fact that last evening Mr. Speaker neglected to announce the hour of commencement this morning, I congratulate the members present on being here on time.

We have this morning as our guests: in the east gallery students from Beverley Heights Junior High School in Downsview, and the Elms Middle School in Etobicoke; and in the west gallery from Glen Merritt Public School, St. Catharines, and from Oak Park Junior High School in Toronto. Later today there will be, in the east gallery, students from Scarborough's Guildwood Public School.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, I want to provide a brief review of last night's federal budget, for two particular reasons: one, the fiscal programmes proposed by Ottawa become increasingly significant to all other jurisdictions in the confederation; two, they build the framework within which our own provincial-municipal plans must be drafted.

I stress these comments are preliminary, because I will deal with the federal programme more fully in my financial presentation to this House in a few weeks. I emphasize too that this review is a considered contribution from a provincial partner who shares responsibility for national economic health.

I can commend the Minister of Finance for some of the measures he has undertaken. I can rationalize other steps he has taken even if I cannot agree with them. But primarily I am disappointed that he has overlooked significant opportunities to give Canada the leadership it deserves.

The budget has to be reviewed in the context of Canada's priority concern, inflation. I had expected the federal programme to provide clear direction for an all-government attack. I had anticipated a full accounting of the current and expected course of inflation, and of the effectiveness of monetary and fiscal policies.

Regretfully, the budget reflects indecision at a time when more definitive action is required to shape future developments. The federal plan offers only a continuation of worn weapons which have not recognized the softening of the economy, or the rise in unemployment.

The greatest disappointment is the almost cruel indifference—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey Bruce): Some Monday morning quarterback he is. No leadership—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Let us hear what the minister has to say while the Liberals go on defending Ottawa.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Still at it, same old postures.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, I was about to say that, exactly.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, at the risk of just continuing rather than interjecting—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I repeat, Mr. Speaker, the greatest disappointment is the almost cruel indifference to the victims of inflation and federal policies—the pensioners and the unemployed. No help has been provided to our senior citizens with inadequate incomes, who suffer most and contribute the least to inflation. Why must they carry the heaviest burden for our mistakes? The unemployed, too, are innocent bystanders who take the brunt of across-the-board restraints.

You may not like those words, I say, Mr. Speaker, but I think they are pertinent.

In attempting to contain inflation by reducing total demand, Ottawa appears to be treating the symptoms rather than the causes of inflation.

Ontario has questioned on previous occasions the current restraints on commercial buildings in major centres of this and two other provinces, through deferral of capital

cost allowances. The budget, which extends that deferral, offers no evidence that this move has been effective in fighting inflation. This measure has not postponed investment activity; it probably has been reflected in higher costs and prices.

Ottawa apparently does not recognize that the buildup of commercial facilities is essential for long-run growth of the service industries which are central to industrial development in general.

The federal fixation on Ontario as a prime source of inflation ignores our price record in the field of durable goods which is the best in North America. The cost of Ontario durables has increased by only one per cent over the past year, which is much less than that for other provinces across Canada and in the United States. Surely this demonstrates that productivity increase is effective in containing prices.

Mr. Sargent: The minister is not taking credit for that, is he?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: No, but I am taking credit for it on behalf on the productive people of Ontario.

Mr. Sargent: The government is in the biggest financial mess in Canada and it is telling Ottawa what to do?

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We note that Ottawa is giving consideration to consumer controls but we have reservations about the possible adverse effects in certain industries and areas. The measure covers most credit purchases, including durable goods and services. I have stated that durables have not contributed to inflation. Our current production is below capacity. To exclude durables from the credit restrictions might have encouraged more activity and, consequently more employment in this sector.

The federal budget singles out travel as an inflation target. If travel and other services are contributing to price problems, why not tailor the credit controls accordingly?

Ontario welcomes the promise of an increase in CMHC financing. Because of the federal concern over inflation in Ontario, we hope Ottawa will recognize the housing bottle-neck in the metropolitan areas of this province. The high cost of shelter is an element in wage demands and contributes to inflationary pressures.

I want to commend Ottawa for extending the anti-pollution incentives through the corporation income tax. We support the continuation of accelerated depreciation writeoffs on equipment for control of water pollution and the similar concession on equipment for control of air pollution. We share the cost of these incentives in a joint tax field. In addition, we are considering other measures to encourage a cleaner environment for Ontario.

Some hon. members: Oh!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Oh! They moan and they groan.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): The former Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett) said it would all be gone by 1970; remember that?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I was pleased to see the projection for another federal surplus, even with new spending programme developments. The containment of federal spending is important not only to the inflation fight, but also to the future of intergovernmental affairs. Now that Ottawa has proved its ability to control federal expenditures, the provinces and municipalities can at least hope for some recognition of their revenue needs. Obviously it is possible to meet the pressing priorities at the municipal and provincial levels without placing heavier tax burdens on the Canadian people.

As I indicated at the outset, these are general comments of a preliminary nature which I wanted to share with the Legislature. I will be commenting in greater detail on these and other important questions in the budget I will be presenting at the end of this month.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, would the minister permit a question?

Mr. Speaker: No, there is no question or discussion. The hon. member can ask anything he wishes in the question period, if he has the opportunity of asking a question.

Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I might ask the Treasurer if he accepts the concept that the province has not only the right but the responsibility to deal with those people that he referred to in his statement as having "suffered most from inflationary pressures—those living on inadequate incomes."

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, Mr. Speaker, this is recognized very well, no question.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: Might we therefore expect this responsibility to be recognized in the budget that the minister is about to present?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a further supplementary question on this point. May I ask the provincial Treasurer whether he could meet this acknowledged need—acknowledged by him—by implementing resolution 2, standing on the order paper in the name of the member for Hamilton Centre (Mr. Davison)?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I think it is quite proper for me to suggest to the members of this House that they might well wait another two weeks for the budget to see what it contains.

Mr. MacDonald: We are waiting on both Ottawa and this government, that is the problem.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary question of the Treasurer on his statement. Does he feel the emphasis on the federal budget to continue with further pressures to combat inflation is proper in light of the developments that he has recognized in this province?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Of course, any measure that will tend to restrain inflation in these times has to be approved, I would hope, by everyone. We did comment on the matter of the extension of the capital—

Mr. Sargent: Even at the expense of mass unemployment.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —cost allowance deferrals. We do not think they have been effective. We wonder why they have been extended; there has been no evidence they have had any material effect on construction in this province.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): The Treasurer just said he approved of them.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, we approve of them. But we also say that we do not think they have been very effective.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: Is there any disagreement, then, in the attitude expressed by the Treasurer, with that previously expressed by the Premier of Ontario, who said that he felt the problems were not those of inflation, but, in fact, the downturn in the economy?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: No; I think this is getting into a bit of a debate, I say to the Prime Minister of Canada—

Mr. MacDonald: He is a brave millionaire. He can stand by and watch people unemployed.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We all recognize the inflationary problems of the day, but we do not think that the cures that are proposed by the federal government are in the best interests of the people. Reduction of the production capacity of Ontario as a means of controlling inflation increases unemployment.

The suggestion by the federal Prime Minister that he would tolerate a rise in the percentage of unemployed, in our opinion, is neither tolerable, nor will it work. We do not think it is a good thing to do, but obviously the Liberals do.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Correctional Services. Has he received a letter from the Elizabeth Fry Society expressing their concern about the method by which some problems, or imagined problems, in the institutions under his direction have been brought forward in the Legislature without an expression of the facts on both sides of the problem?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): No, Mr. Speaker, this is the first I have heard of it. I would appreciate if the hon. Leader of the Opposition would send me a copy.

Mr. Nixon: All the members received one and I just naturally thought that the minister might have received one as well.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Excuse me, but the members just received it this morning. If I, in fact, have been sent a letter, it is probably down at head office and I have not been down there yet.

Mr. Nixon: Well, there may be further questions on this matter after the minister has had an opportunity to see the views expressed by the Elizabeth Fry Society, which obviously are critical of members of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. leader will confine himself to asking questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Premier. Is he aware of meetings

taking place between the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall), and perhaps other members of this government, and the elected officials of the Metropolitan Toronto and the Toronto council, in an effort to bring some co-ordination into the development of the lakefront of the metropolitan area—

Mr. Singer: Harbour City.

Mr. Nixon: Including Harbour City. If he is aware of these meetings, can he make any expression on policy as to whether or not there should be a single jurisdiction under which these developmental policies will be formed and brought into actual being?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am well aware of these discussions and I have taken part in some of them myself. We are in the process of trying to work out a means of co-ordinating the activities of all the jurisdictions involved and all the people who have interests in them, and when we have reached conclusions I would be very happy to put them before the Legislature. At the present time it is a matter of discussion, and until we reach some finality I do not think much purpose will be served.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary: Surely it is not unreasonable to ask the Premier, if I may, Mr. Speaker, whether or not he believes that in the development that must take place at the waterfront and in which we as a provincial government will be involved financially, it would be best to consider giving the responsibility to one level or the other of government rather than continuing to, I suppose, pass the buck, in justification for a lack of action?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I reject the implication of buck-passing, but I would ask the member, when he gets into this matter of waterfront development, what exactly is he talking about? There is a lot of waterfront and it extends from Frenchman's Bay on one side right over to the Humber on the other, so you have to have more than one approach.

What we are looking at and considering, would be the possibility of creating a body which will have specific responsibilities, and on that body might be represented all the people who have an interest, but there would be more than one. For instance, I do not know whether the member is including in his thinking, the plans that the Canadian National and the Canadian Pacific Railway have for the development of their property, what is going to happen to the CNE, the property that is controlled by Metro, and the property that is controlled by the city of Toronto and the harbour commission—

Mr. Nixon: That is federal—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, it is federal legislation that sets it up, but the city of Toronto has a very large financial stake in the harbour commission and over the years has put a great many millions of dollars into this development.

The meetings to which the hon. member refers are being held in order to devise a way of centralizing control so that we can do exactly as he suggests—that is, to have one body which can make decisions, but I have an idea that you cannot really lump the whole thing together. You have to define what you are talking about on the waterfront. If you are dealing with the question of Harbour City, that is a relatively limited area. If you look at the whole picture, which might very well be dealt with by itself with one overall administrative body, then you need planning covering the whole waterfront which involves other jurisdictions. I am just outlining for the member some of the problems that we see.

I am confident that within the relatively near future we will find an answer, and when we have it, it will be an answer that will be worked out by agreement, and I will be very happy then to put it before this House.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary is it reasonable to conclude from what the Premier has said that he does not share the optimism of his Minister of Trade and Development that people will be living in Harbour City by the end of the year?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is just a great red herring. He did not say that—

Mr. Singer: Yes, he did say that.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: And in any event, regardless of a comment such as this, we propose to continue these discussions in order to get it developed.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister is very optimistic, Mr. Speaker, on this topic. Would the Prime Minister use his good offices to have that co-ordinating body established before many of the basic decisions are rendered a *fait accompli* by the Minister of Trade and Development?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Of course I can use my good offices. As I say, I have taken part in these discussions and I do not think that the Minister of Trade and Development is

going to make any decisions that are going to unduly—

Mr. Singer: He just makes announcements and office decisions.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —that are going to unduly affect the total development. I do not really know what—

Mr. MacDonald: Everybody else involved says yes, but he is making the decisions that are a *fait accompli.*

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I do not know what they are, but should the details—

Mr. Singer: The Premier does not listen to him either?

Mr. MacDonald: Have a public co-ordination body!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: All I can say is I am part of these discussions. I see the direction in which they are going. I think we have a solution in sight and when it is complete I will place it before this House.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Prime Minister.

In view of a news story that assurances were given to federal MPs from the Toronto area yesterday with regard to the Dunlop plant, that the federal government would be glad to sit down with all of the ministers involved, from both levels of government, to work out a solution to the Dunlop situation if the initiative were taken by the province, would the Prime Minister give us the assurance immediately that that initiative will be taken?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I have not seen this particular news report, but all I can say is that I will proceed to find it immediately. If there is some action that awaits our initiative, that initiative will be taken.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Speaker—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will give it my attention as leader of the government. I do not know who is making these propositions but—

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I do not want to violate the rules of the House, but it may or may not be in the news story. I will have to say to you and the Prime Minister I know the assurances were given to federal Toronto MPs privately.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: My answer still stands. But, as I say, nobody has come to me and said, "Prime Minister, if you will do such and so and so, we will do such and so and so." I have had no such approach, but if the information is available I will get it.

Mr. MacDonald: My second question of the Prime Minister is: Was he or his government made aware in advance of the plans of Murray-Selby Shoe Company in London, Ontario, to shut down? If so, what action was taken in advance to cope with the situation; and what action has been taken after the event?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I can just say this. There has been discussion about the closing down of this plant for some time, but the negotiations between union and management continued up until the present time and up until the time the decision was made. I do not know how final that decision is. However we were aware of what was going on because The Department of Labour, of course, was involved in the negotiations between the union and management.

There is a meeting being held in London, at 2 o'clock this afternoon, to discuss this matter. While I am unable to be there personally, I have asked the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White) to attend on my behalf, at which time the whole situation will be examined. And then I believe there is another meeting, which has been called by The Department of Labour, to be held on Tuesday next in London to go into the question as well.

At this stage I am not able to say what the possibilities are of this plant being kept open. There is no doubt that the plant itself is having some trouble in terms of production and continuing as a viable economic unit, if that is the term. But certainly we know about it and we are involved in it; and as I have said on other occasions we will do everything that we can within our power to see that this plant is kept open.

I might say it just changed hands about a year ago. It was sold by the previous owners and this may have something to do with the whole matter. I am not certain of that, but in any event we are in there doing what we can.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question: Has it been brought to the attention of the Prime Minister that the government conciliator who was named last Monday, a Mr. Dempster, was then and is now on two weeks' vacation and therefore was and is unable to provide the necessary help?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, all I know is that there is a meeting called for next Tuesday, for both parties, with a representative of The Department of Labour, a conciliation officer, I believe his name is Mr. Speranzini. I have never heard of the man whose name the member mentioned.

Mr. Bolton: A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the government insist that the plant remain open for a time sufficient to allow phasing out rather than an ordinary shutdown?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, as I have said before, I do not think the government has the power to insist upon anything. We can discuss this, we can see what can be done to cushion, as in other things; we can ascertain how long they propose to take before the shutdown is complete and what we can do with the employees.

Mr. Bolton: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: I think we have had sufficient supplementaries; this is getting into debate.

Has the member for York South completed his questions?

Mr. MacDonald: My final question is of the Prime Minister: In response to a question from the Leader of the Opposition some two or three days ago with regard to the government's reaction to statutory requirements for coping with the kind of situation we have in Dunlop and the Murray-Selby Shoe Company, the Prime Minister indicated that he was willing to consider it. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Prime Minister, what is the government's position—because immediately afterward he went outside the House and indicated—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked his question.

Mr. MacDonald: Which is the government's position—what was stated by the Prime Minister in the House, or the doubt with regard to the possibility of statutory action which he expressed immediately outside the House?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, here is this eternal attempt to twist words. I do not think there is any difference between what I said here and what I said outside the House. If I say in the House that we are prepared to consider something it does not automatically mean that all the difficulties involved disappear.

If we are going to consider a matter, I suppose we are going to consider the difficulties that are presented by the proposed course of action; and I see some real difficulties in having a statutory requirement that any plant has to give some fixed period of notice. The hundreds of bankruptcies and failures of businesses that occur in this province in a year all have their own peculiarities and their own circumstances; and the rigidity of a statutory requirement for notice has many practical difficulties—

Mr. Nixon: Bankruptcies could be partially excluded, we are talking about—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh well—here is the whole point; now we are into a debate as to what could be partially excluded or completely excluded. The whole—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Nixon: All right! But in the case of Dunlop, the matter could easily be legislated because they are not bankrupt.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to continue this debate; it can take place in some other form. I would just say that I do not really understand, now that we are into it this far, what the hon. member means by legislative or statutory requirements. He now says the Dunlop matter could have been handled by legislation. I wonder if that is an inference that there should have been a specific Act passed by this Legislature for that specific situation?

An hon. member: No, no! The Premier will be all right after the weekend.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will be all right on the weekend and any other time; I just have to point out that we cannot get into these very complex matters by way of question and answer and then—

Mr. Nixon: Then why is the government not thinking about it?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is the wrong way to handle the question period.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Would the minister consider the approval of a provincial study to determine the need for a

conservation authority in the Essex county area; and also demonstrate to the municipalities the benefits of a conservation authority in that area?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, we have over a period of some months suggested to the municipalities in the area that it would be practical to form a conservation authority there. As the hon. member knows, the municipalities, at least two of them, have to take the initiative and apply for the establishment of an authority. If there are at least two, certainly we would consider it, because basically we are in favour of it.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, if I may ask, as a supplementary: The question that I am asking is if the minister would approve a study concerning the establishment of a conservation authority, not necessarily the establishment, could his officials come down and point out the benefits or the disadvantages?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, that could be done, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker. The member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I have a two- or three-part question for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. I wonder if he is aware that the charge of polluting against Lakefield College School has been dismissed because the evidence produced by the OWRC failed to hold up? Recognizing this, is the minister aware that those who placed the charge against the school, carried out their investigations with the advice and assistance of the Ontario Water Resources Commission? In view of this, in recognizing the significance this will have for future efforts of the minister to deal with water pollution in the area, is he prepared either to appeal the case or lay a new charge, based on different dates?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, my information is, as the hon. member indicates, that the charges were dismissed just yesterday by the judge. However, the reason for dismissal —and this information is just as a result of a phone call this morning—was that there was not sufficient evidence called to establish that the analysis of the material, or the pollutants, was in fact taken from the area in question by OWRC.

Mr. Pitman: It was all in the OWRC's hands.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. Contrary to what the hon. member says about the evidence produced by OWRC, it was not a question of that evidence not holding up in court. It was a question of presenting the evidence—

Mr. Pitman: Continuity.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not wish to go into the question of who acted for the complainant or how the evidence was presented, but the fact is that the case was not proved, as far as the judge was concerned. There is no question of the interpretation of the OWRC Act; there is no complaint or reference by the judge to the Act—

Mr. Pitman: It was OWRC procedures.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, we are waiting, of course, for the copy of the reasons for judgement and the transcript of evidence. At this point, after we receive that information, if there is any reason to appeal, of course, we would advise the complainant. As the hon. member knows, the person who laid the charge, in the event of a judgement like this, has to, in fact, make the appeal; a new party cannot make the appeal.

Mr. Pitman: If I may ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could ask the minister if he would send over the report of Lakefield College School which he promised me a week ago, and which I think has been in his hands for some time, and I wonder if he would take off the shelves that OWRC pamphlet, "What good citizens can do about water pollution".

Mr. Speaker: The member for Dovercourt.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I sent it to the hon. member.

Mr. Pitman: I have not got it.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that was a reasonable question. Has the member for Dovercourt a supplementary?

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Yes, I have. By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker, who prosecutes for the OWRC?

Mr. Pitman: That is a good point.

Mr. De Monte: Is it the local crown prosecutor or somebody appointed by the OWRC?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think this is a proper supplementary unless the member wishes to ask who prosecuted in this case.

Mr. De Monte: Well, I will ask it that way, Mr. Speaker. Who prosecuted in this case?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In this particular case the charge was laid by citizens, I believe; members of Pollution Probe, Mr. Stevenson, in Peterborough. Private citizens, in other words, laid the charges.

Mr. De Monte: Who prosecuted, Mr. Speaker? I would like to know who prosecuted?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The complainant hired a young lawyer who acted for the complainant.

Mr. Singer: The government had no—

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): May I ask a supplementary question? Is this the usual process that the complainant gets his own prosecutor, or does the crown prosecutor usually—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In most cases, and cases that have happened particularly in northern Ontario, the Crown has acted for individual complainants, for citizen complainants, and I cannot understand why this was not done in this case.

Mr. Speaker: I think that, again, is developing into a debate and I give the floor to the member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): I have a question of the Treasurer, Mr. Speaker. Could the Treasurer inform us how much money went from the Treasury into the five pages of ads for teachers in the colleges of applied arts and technology and the secondary schools in the *Globe and Mail* this morning?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, no I could not do that; we would have to get that information from the respective boards.

Mr. T. Reid: (Scarborough East): Do the boards not receive grants from the Treasury?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Of course, they do, but we would have to get the information from the boards, I would not have that at my fingertips. How could the member expect me to have?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): The member gets paid by the province, but we are not responsible for his actions.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the provincial Treasurer. Could the provincial Treasurer advise the House when the $140,000 ARDA survey will be ready and how he is going to proceed with the recommendations contained therein? Will there be any consultation between the provincial Treasurer's office and the Ontario Development Corporation, and the new minister of northern affairs, for the implementation of the recommendations contained therein?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member made reference to an ARDA report. I do not know which particular report he is referring to.

Mr. Stokes: Northern Ontario.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Northern Ontario. Yes. I am not too sure of the schedule but I think it is either the end of this month or the end of next month that it will be made public.

Mr. Stokes: The end of this month?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The end of this month, yes. I would express the hope, and I think this is the way it will work out, that it will provide an avenue for board discussion, and involve all the agencies that the hon. member has referred to. This will be the purpose of the release of the report. The purpose in publishing the report will be so that there can be identification and dialogue and discussion by all agencies that might be involved. The publishing of the report does not mean that it is a final decision, in other words.

Mr. Stokes: If I might ask a supplementary, is it true that it has been indicated that the report will be sent back to the people interested in north-western Ontario for further study?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Well, not in the terms, I think, it has been expressed in, Mr. Speaker, but it will go to the north-western Ontario regional development council and from there we would hope it will be examined by all interested parties. We hope then that they will have an opportunity to make any recommendations they see fit. This does not constitute another study, but is a review of the findings and an invitation for comment that may flow from it. And if then some adjustments are required, we would have the benefit of the view of the people who have seen the finished report.

I understand the member's concern quite well, because it has been studied and studied

extensively, and many representative agencies have been involved in the input material. Nevertheless, we feel that they should have an opportunity to view the finished report and make any final recommendations or observations they wish. But this does not mean the whole thing is going to be restudied, I can assure the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York Centre. Was he on his feet? If not, the member for Sarnia has the floor.

Mr. Bullbrook: I have a question of the Minister of Justice. In connection with the announcement made last week by his colleague, the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough), that the new regional district of Muskoka would be policed by the Ontario Provincial Police, could the minister tell me whether that anticipated force will be administered by a local police commission or by the Ontario Police Commission?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the discussions and the proposals so far carried forward in connection with the regional government in that area are that there are three small towns, and a number of smaller municipalities, villages and hamlets, and we contemplate that it will be possible for the Ontario Provincial Police to do the policing of the area. The provincial police force is administered by the commissioner of the provincial police, subject to the general supervision of the Ontario Police Commission, under the direction of the Attorney General.

Mr. Bullbrook: Do I understand the minister's answer to be, then, and I say most respectfully, I know his answer in connection with policing—

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member would ask his supplementary.

Mr. Bullbrook: Do I understand the minister's answer to be that there will be no local police commission administering such OPP force, and is this the beginning of a policy to remove local control and administration in connection with police force in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the definite arrangements have not been worked out to the degree of finality where I could say there will be no municipal police forces. This is a matter where the government does not seek to impose any policy upon municipalities. There is room for both systems, as in other regional governments that have been set up, but I cannot say it has reached that final stage yet.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Speaker, would you permit: Am I to understand that the minister has made a decision to use the OPP and has not decided whether they are going to be under the control of the locally appointed or elected commission?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member does not need to be quite so vehement.

Mr. Bullbrook: It is an extremely important matter.

Mr. Nixon: Good question.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We have not made a decision, as I said. The discussions have not reached that stage of finality, but I will say this—

Mr. Bullbrook: But there is a decision to use the force?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I will say this, that if the Ontario Provincial Police goes in to police any area, it will do it as it does today—under the direction and control of the commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police, subject to the supervision and direction of the Ontario Police Commission, and—

Mr. Bullbrook: As a local police force?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —and, through that commission by the Attorney General, a minister of this government.

Mr. Bullbrook: Removing the local police commission entirely.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This is not a policy which is imposed on any municipality.

Mr. Singer: It is not imposed, but the minister is going to put it in the statutes.

Mr. Speaker: The oral question period time has now expired.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

May I, before the orders of the day, draw to the attention of the members something which became very evident in yesterday's throne speech debate. That is, that the customs of parliamentary procedure are that

hon. members, when addressing the House and referring to other members, will do so by the name of the seat that they occupy and the constituency they represent, and not by their surname. I think that it reduces the heat and it also is much more proper. I will point out to the members that, from now on, I will consider it completely out of order if members are referred to by their names, rather than by their constituency.

—Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The third order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Mr. Speaker, I want to pick up the pieces quickly from where I left off last night and then move ahead.

You will recall that I used some figures that had been submitted to us by the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) in a press release on February 4. This press release indicated that 1,028 tons of sulphur dioxide would be emitted from the Falconbridge plant in the Sudbury area daily.

If one calculated that for a year, we then come up with the figure of 374,120 tons of sulphur dioxide from Falconbridge alone. Then one looks at Inco and finds it five times larger, so we can assume we will get at least five times as much, which would be roughly 1,870,600 tons of sulphur dioxide annually, for a total of some 2,244,720 tons of sulphur dioxide annually on the Sudbury area.

I quoted some figures and I forgot to indicate where I obtained these figures, Mr. Speaker, and I think this is very important. It was from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Public Health Service, and the title of the book is, "Air quality criteria for sulphur oxides". In that book, on page 21, Mr. Speaker, they indicate that, in 1963, there was a total emission of some 23,360,000 tons of sulphur dioxide in the United States. From refining operations and smelting operations there was a total of 3,318,000 tons of sulphur dioxide. This is roughly 1,000,000 tons more from refineries and smelters for the entire United States than has been dumped in the entire Sudbury area.

Mr. Speaker, also in a later edition of "Air quality criteria for sulphur oxides", again from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the 1968 figures are that 14.2 per cent of sulphur dioxide from refinery operations and smelting of ores had now been reduced in the United States to 12.2 per cent of the total, or even less than 1,000,000 tons more than in the Sudbury area.

It is quite conclusive, Mr. Speaker, that when we are talking about the sulphur dioxide figures for the Sudbury area, we are talking about only 1,000,000 tons difference. I will try to elaborate as I go along on just what the government action in the Sudbury area to date is going to amount to. The hon. members are going to find that it is just a lot of propaganda, and I will use data to prove this, Mr. Speaker.

Before going on, I want to read a letter from a man involved in the pollution control committee in the Sudbury area, and this letter is dated February 6:

> Attention Mr. Elie Martel, MLA:
>
> Attached find a letter, a newspaper clipping and reports pertaining to the most virulent and dangerous pollutant that the Sudbury district is exposed to—sulphur dioxide.
>
> For over three years the Sudbury and District Pollution Control Committee have been concerned over the air quality in the Sudbury area when it is exposed to sulphur dioxide from the local smelting industries. Informations received have confirmed our fears.
>
> We have been trying to get factual information on sulphur dioxide and its effects on humans and health from the provincial and federal agencies, but to no avail, which is par for the course. You just cannot get any.

It is interesting, Mr. Speaker, that even the medical health officer in the Sudbury area maintains there are no studies available on the effects of sulphur dioxide on the human body. This is the whole attitude that pervades this problem of sulphur dioxide.

> The only material available on sulphur dioxide that has been compiled had been by the provincial Department of Mines pertaining to emissions of sulphur dioxide on vegetation. Because of this lack of information our organization wrote to the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, the University of Uppsala, in Sweden, for any studies they might have carried out on sulphur dioxide and its effects on health.

It was only after receiving this information, with its observations and conclusions, and then relating it to the effects of sulphur dioxide, that it became apparent that we are existing in an environment that could cause serious consequences to our health and wellbeing.

B. R. Dreisinger and P. C. McGovern, in their report on sulphur dioxide levels and resultant injury to vegetation in the Sudbury area during the 1968 season—and that was done for The Department of Mines—state in their summary: "Half-hour concentrations ranged up to a maximum of 2.86 parts per million."

The United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare has made an exhaustive study of the harmful effects of sulphur dioxide on living things, including humans, and it concludes by suggesting—and again I quote from this document:

The maximum tolerable level of sulphur dioxide for three minutes is 0.17 parts per million, and this would produce adverse health effects in particular segments of the population.

Mr. Speaker, that is some 25 times less than what is established by our present department, I guess, when they say five parts per million.

There appears to be this lack of information or ignorance on the part of The Ontario Department of Health regarding the seriousness of the effects of sulphur dioxide on human organisms, and an apathy toward positive studies to help minimize health impairment by this obnoxious gas.

The United States Public Health Service, under the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, prepared a study entitled "Air quality criteria for sulphur oxides" (sulphur dioxide and its related compounds) and studied their effect on water, air, soil and humans. These studies were startling. For example, in all of the United States, about 23 million tons of sulphur dioxide were emitted to the air in 1963 which, as I have already stated, was only 1,000,000 tons more than that emitted from refineries and smelters in the Sudbury area alone.

This letter goes on:

I am appealing to you and the Legislature of the province of Ontario to take immediate action for all the citizens of the Sudbury area, in order that studies of the highest order be implemented and legislation be passed regarding the control of emissions of sulphur dioxide, and The Damage by Fumes Arbitration Act be repealed, with its features implemented in The Air Pollution Control Act, with some teeth, for the good of the area.

There is a great injustice being performed by the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, and the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) in the way they are allowing sulphur dioxide and its related compounds to pollute and deteriorate the soil of the Sudbury area.

The Air Pollution Control Act makes no provision for pollution of soil by air pollution, nor does The Damage by Fumes Arbitration Act provide for compensation or fines for pollution of the soil. We will go into this in some detail in a few moments to show that there is no way that industry must compensate for damage to soil, and, at the same time, there is no way that we can get at industry for polluting soil. There seems to be a great gap. I hope the minister is listening in that particular sphere.

The smelting industry, whose emissions have virtually destroyed the farming, forestry and tourist industries, continues to spew aerial death in an ever-widening circle by making soil and water non-living and non-giving. Scientists that we have been in contact with claim it is still not too late to stop this perversity that is being allowed. Our lakes are dead or dying, the soil is sterile and a virtual desert surrounds Sudbury. Our people are being affected by these obnoxious poisons that permeate everything we do, we eat and we breathe.

The results of a study of comparable areas in the United States and Sweden are available. They are frightening.

I sincerely hope your concern will be reflected in your action—action that will mark you as those who really care to do something for Ontario and Canada, and not just an irresponsible man that could have done something but did not.

That is signed by Mr. William Hrinivich. He is on the Sudbury and District Pollution Control committee. This group has done a tremendous amount of work in this field.

Let us take a look at some of the effects, keeping in mind the following points: The U.S. Department of Health, Welfare and Education indicates the following in a study of harmful effects of sulphur dioxide to living things, including humans, and concludes:

A level of SO_2 of 0.1 part per million over a 24-hour period may produce adverse

health effects in particular segments of the population.

They also suggest that the maximum tolerable level for three minutes is 0.17 parts per million. Compare that to what is in the Sudbury area at a distance—and this does not include the plants themselves, Mr. Speaker, this includes distances of 20 and 30 miles away from the plants. This was done; it was a government study, the only one we have been able to get hold of, done by Driesinger and McGovern. I will just read a few of the statistics which indicate the high levels of concentration over half-hour periods and over 24-hour periods in the Sudbury district.

In Garson, for example—this is one of the stations where they are sampling—on August 13, hours of SO_2 were 16; the maximum was 0.67 for half-hour periods and 0.17 for the 24-hour periods. You will note, Mr. Speaker, that both of these figures are above what the United States health and welfare department considers a safe level.

In Skead—this is an interesting one, Mr. Speaker—on October 15, in a 24-hour period, the half-hour maximum was 1.22 parts per million, and the 24-hour maximum 0.36.

Penage—June 7; 25 hours; the maximum level 1.15 for the half-hour period, and for the 24-hour period, 0.19; again all above the level which could be considered safe.

And then we get down to Skead, Mr. Speaker. Skead had a high of 2.86 parts per million, which is roughly about 25 times higher than what would be considered safe in the United States.

This is a government study. There are many, many figures in there, and if anyone cares to check, they nearly all exceed the level which we could consider safe and which would not be detrimental to vegetation or to the human body.

What is even more interesting, Mr. Speaker, is that when you enter the plant where the men work for eight-hour periods, the range is from, let us say, one to maybe 200 to 300 parts per million, and they are exposed to this for hour after hour after hour. As I said last night, we have not been able to get the Minister of Mines to implement a new policy where the men could remove themselves from this location until the concentrations were reduced.

What are the effects? I want to quote extensively, Mr. Speaker, from a variety of sources, on this matter of the effects, and I will start by dealing with the effect to the human body. On page 12 of "Air quality criteria for sulphur oxides, 1968" it says:

> A major British study has found an association between mortality from bronchitis and lung cancer and levels of air pollution, after taking into consideration differences in age, smoking habits, social class and occupational exposure.

So now we have two: cancer and bronchitis in England.

We go to Italy, and it says:

> A study in Genoa, Italy, included housewives 65 years of age, or more, who were non-smokers and who had lived for a long period in the same area without having any industrial experience. Sulphur dioxide was monitored for 10 years at 19 sites by a technique analogous to the volumetric method of the British. An increased frequency of coughs, sputum and bronchitis was noted in the moderately polluted area as compared to the relatively clean area.

So we see that where people are not even working in the plants, and are away from the plants, they are affected by the emissions of sulphur dioxide.

I want to go to the second of these volumes, Mr. Speaker, and look at a few more studies. Viiker in Germany studied x-ray changes in lungs of 53 foundry workers who had been exposed for more than 10 years to an average of less than 10 parts per million of sulphur dioxide. As I said, in the plants in Sudbury, it ranges from two to 200 parts per million. These men were exposed to less than 10 parts per million of sulphur dioxide, but with occasional higher exposures.

The x-ray showed normal lungs in only seven of 53 exposed workers, whereas in the controlled group 20 out of the 37 were nomal. The chief pathological finding in the 53 exposed workers were four cases of fibrosis, 17 cases with enlarged ileum and several cases of emphysema and cardiac diseases. Approximately one third of both the exposed and controlled groups had evidence of old pulmonary tuberculosis. That was the study in Germany.

Members will recall earlier I said that in Sudbury the medical officer of health there maintains there is no evidence of the effects of sulphur dioxide on the body. Litkens studied workers in metallurgical plants who were exposed to five to 500 parts per million. The author concluded that most increasing concentrations of sulphur dioxide in the working atmosphere, and increasing durations of

bronchitis, resulted in increasing laryngitis, chronic bronchitis, pulmonary fibrosis and emphysema. The author also concluded that interference with enzyme systems by inhaled sulphur dioxide circulated in the blood resulted in the pathology.

There were also increasing instances of pneumonia and gastro-intestinal disorders. Other reported responses to sulphur dioxide in industrial exposure are allergic skin reactions and asthma. We are covering the whole waterfront, Mr. Speaker, on the effects of sulphur dioxide.

Finally, it says here:

> These studies indicate that less serious effects are produced by low humidity atmospheres polluted primarily with sulphur dioxide, and the effects increase in seriousness as the atmosphere becomes more contaminated with other pollutants, such as particulates and sulphuric acid.
>
> The more frequent findings include abnormal urinary acidity, a tendency to increased fatigue, reduced respiratory flow rates, upper respiratory irritations with constant adulterations in the sense of smell and taste, bronchitis, and increased instances of a cough and expectoration. There are increased instances and increased duration of certain respiratory diseases from infections, including colds and pneumonia.

I do not know what more evidence this government needs to really zero in, Mr. Speaker.

This latest bit has come to my attention as a result of an article recently in the *Globe and Mail* by Dr. Shapiro in New York. I will read this article that appeared in the *Globe and Mail*:

> Dr. Shapiro of New York has conducted studies on sulphur dioxide and its related compounds, notably sulphates and bisulphates. He has established the fact that these compounds cause cancer, genetic mutations, and mongoloidism in humans. It is ingested either through food or through the lungs.

This article is full of facts that could be related to our environment in the Sudbury area.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, there is an increasing amount of evidence to indicate the seriousness of the problem and it is unfortunate that the government does not feel the same way.

Let us move on to vegetation, Mr. Speaker. One does not have to say much about the vegetation in the Sudbury area, because it is quite obvious that we do not have to worry about the effects, we can see them. But I just want to look at the minister's release again.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member would let me make just a quick comment.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All I want to say is that we are quite aware of the problem in the Sudbury area.

Mr. Martel: I hope the minister is going to stay around.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are putting these two companies, the two main companies, in a programme in that area. But, unfortunately, technology as of right now does not make it possible for us to have these companies clean up overnight or within a matter of a few months. If the hon. member can advise me, or members of my department, of methods to do just that in a shorter period and to a greater extent, we will adopt them.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, I want to go back—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is SO_2 we are talking about.

Mr. Martel: Yes, this is SO_2.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The rest of the world is not ahead of us, you know, in this matter.

Mr. Martel: Well, I hope the minister read the information I gave him last week.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is strictly at an experimental stage.

Mr. Martel: Oh, no. It is being expanded, Mr. Minister, and I will quote where it is being expanded.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is not that stuff on Trail?

Mr. Martel: No, we will come to that stuff on Trail right now.

I want to go back to the minister's statement of the other day, where he indicated that 1,028 tons daily were being poured out by Falconbridge alone. If you calculate that they are going to reduce this by 55 per cent, Mr. Speaker, this would reduce it to about 460 tons per day. If you multiply that by 30, that comes out to something like 13,800 tons of sulphur dioxide a month from Falconbridge alone.

Let us read what was happening in Trail in 1929 to 1934. It is very interesting:

> —in the vicinity of the Trail, B.C., smelter, which in 1929 emitted an average of 9,300 tons of sulphur (or 18,600 tons of sulphur dioxide per month).

Now just note, in Falconbridge it is going to be 13,800 tons under the announced five-year plan. In Trail in 1934 it was only 18,600 tons, or something like 4,800 tons more in Trail in 1929 to 1934. What were the effects? I will go back and pick up the pieces here: "Plant injury was noted as far as 52 miles south of the smelter." All the minister is reducing Falconbrige to is 4,800 tons per month less than Trail had to clean up because it was damaging 52 miles beyond the plant in 1934.

That is not what is in itself so bad, Mr. Speaker. I am going to come back to that in just one moment, but I want to finish this bit on Trail, because we have to remember that Inco, which is five times bigger, is sitting in there at the same time.

> Three zones of injury were delineated on the basis of the per cent injury to ponderosa pine, douglas fir, and forest shrubs. Zone one equals 60 to 100 per cent injury, zone two equals 30 to 60 per cent injury, and zone three equals one to 30 per cent injury.
>
> Zone one, in which injury was acute, extended about 30 miles south of the smelter in a river valley. Zone three, at a higher elevation, extended 52 miles south of the smelter and contained trees with relatively slight markings and trees suffering from slow but progressive deterioration.
>
> After control devices were installed, measurements in 1934 and again 1935 showed that the injury to broad-leaf trees and to shrubs had dropped to 20 per cent in zone one and to four per cent in zone three. Appraisal of ponderosa pine cone production in 1936 revealed that 81 per cent of the pines in zone one had no cones and that outside the zone, 15 per cent of the pines had no cones.
>
> Sulphur dioxide concentration 15 miles south of the smelter in zone one averaged about 0.03 parts per million during the summer with occasional peak concentrations in excess of 0.5 parts per million, for a total time of five to 10 hours.

Those times and concentrations are much lower than we are going to accept now—

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Five years from now.

Mr. Martel: Five years from now, as my colleague from Sandwich-Riverside points out.

But let us go back to this difference. With 4,800 tons more than Falconbridge alone will be allowed to emit, damage was noted 52 miles away in Trail. If Inco emits five times as much as Falconbridge, and if it must clean up by 55 per cent, we will receive from it about 70,000 tons per month and there will, in fact, be continued devastation of the vegetation in the area.

I do not know what the minister's comments are on that, but this is the data from the United States government, which reports much lower emission levels then than what we are striving for. We get the announcements. This government and the new minister continue to be lackeys for the companies and help to spread the propaganda that the companies are cleaning up, using the department guidelines. Maybe the government should adopt appropriate guidelines.

It is interesting. The U.S. government determines that if we at least establish guidelines that would protect human life, this would also protect vegetation, because humans are, according to them more susceptible to sulphur dioxide damage than is vegetation. We have not been able to get this government to admit this yet. Nor have we been able to force the Minister of Mines, nor the Minister of Health, over the years to take some changed attitudes with respect to the men who work where the concentrations are up to 200 parts per million.

How much more do we have to present in this House? We have mortality figures that show that among men in the Sudbury area of 55, the death rate is much higher than anywhere else in Canada. But that does not prove a thing. Dr. Mastio Mario is doing a study—he has been doing it for two years—on figures here in Toronto and not in the Sudbury area. How in the world does the government expect anyone in the Sudbury area to believe that it is interested in the welfare of the people in that area?

I hope that the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch)—and I know he has aspirations—will see fit, maybe, to drive this message home to the Cabinet—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): He wants to be Minister of Labour.

Mr. Martel: —to the Cabinet that something has to be done to get the men out of the plant when the concentration exceeds safe levels—even if you want to accept the government's present standard of five parts per

million. This is going to be costly to Inco, mind you, but what it will force them to do is to find the technology. If, as the minister says, it is not there, I have some information that says it is.

But nonetheless, if they knew that men were going to be moved out for 45 minutes, two hours or three hours a day, do you think Inco, with all its money, would sit there and not do the necessary work, or hire the necessary scientists to find the technology to clean up? I think not, and I do not think anyone over there thinks it either, because it is pretty lucrative and Inco is not going to move out. I hear this cry: "Well, they might move out." Anybody who is making $160 million profit is not about to move out.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Unless the member for Sudbury shuts them down.

Mr. Martel: Yes, well he might with his latest tidbit.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): He wants an "ineffective" injunction.

Mr. Martel: To close them down. I hope that the Minister of Energy and Resources Management will reconsider those levels, and if he wants to glance through this book after, I will lend it to his department if they have not got a copy.

Let us look at the effects of sulphur dioxide on some of the other materials, because it is strange. I do not know why, for example, other companies have not had the strength to tackle Inco because it has a tremendous effect on a whole variety of things. I want to show the members just a few of them—the effects that sulphur dioxide has in other areas. If I could quote again, here is a study:

> The practical significance of metal corrosion has not been given adequate attention. It has been estimated that, in England, about one third of the annual replacement cost for steel rail is caused by air pollution.

That is a pretty significant contribution.

Cooey investigated the effect of atmospheric corrosion on maintenance and economics of overhead line hardware and guywires on trams in Pittsburgh, and these conditions of actual material in use over a period of roughly 20 years were determined for areas of severe and average pollution. Areas of severe pollution included valleys traversed by railways and areas in direct windline with industrial fumes. He also developed formulas to determine the amount of inspection required, the materials needed, and the cost involved for a particular situation. No direct cost estimates were made, but it appears that the life of the material in the severely polluted areas was reduced to about two thirds of the life of the material in the average polluted areas.

Mr. Speaker, it is significant that a former member of about 25 years ago, Bob Carlan, brought into this Legislature some wires that the farmers were using in the Sudbury basin. That part of the wire which was under the soil was new, and you could take the wire that was above the soil and just go like that and you broke it. This was the effect of the sulphur dioxide on the wire. It just had no life at all; two or three years and it was finished, and it is still allowed to go on.

There are other effects. I will just read a few of these because it affects a whole host of things, Mr. Speaker:

> Concentrations of 0.09 parts per million on the annual average: severe bleaching of dyed fabrics in exposure to ambient urban air.
>
> Concentrations of 0.15 to 0.05 parts per million: life of overhead line hardware reduced by one third.
>
> 0.15 to 0.05 parts per million annual average: life of zinc and aluminum facings reduced from 30 to 40 years each to respectively seven and 10 years.
>
> 0.15 to 0.05 parts per million, fourfold reduction, and corrosion of zinc associated with indicated reductions in pollution.
>
> 0.10 to 0.20 parts per million; certain paint pigments are destroyed.

So it has a tremendous effect, Mr. Speaker, on everything that it surrounds itself with.

We could go on and discuss the effects on rainwater, and this contributes to the formation of sulphuric acid when the two are combined. It is interesting, and I am glad to see the vice-chairman of OWRC here. I wonder what the effect of large quantities of SO_2 gases in the water courses over the years would do? It just so happens that I have some of the recent studies done in the Sudbury area by The Department of Lands and Forests in co-operation with OWRC, I guess, who did the analysis. In lake after lake, and river after river, Mr. Speaker, we find that the pH ranges from 4.5 at least seven. Seven is normal, I believe. I will just point out a few of these, Mr. Speaker.

O.S.A. Lake, for example, has a pH level at the lab of 4.8; McGregor Bay has a pH

level of 6.5; Nellie Lake has 5.1 parts per million at the lab. All of these pHs indicate —and I am sure the chairman will agree with me—they have a high acidity content and this will result in the destruction, I am sure, of certain of the aquatic life. This might account for the lack of life in so many of the waters surrounding the Sudbury area. I am sure the vice-chairman must agree with me on that.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): I would say the quality of water differs in many regions, and that is why careful studies have to be made before decisions are made on how to treat the water coming from the various lakes. Whether the point of view raised is valid or not, I am not prepared to say. I will have to check it with the technical people.

I know the quality of the water in Kelly Lake is probably affected, as the member knows, by the raw sewage from the entire city of Sudbury. In fact we were so concerned about that lake that we actually had to give Sudbury an order to proceed and get back on schedule with its programme to build a treatment plant.

Mr. Martel: I know, the city fathers are not happy with me either, I am afraid, for my statements when they indicated that they were going to hold back the possible implementation for another while. His worship the mayor has written me several letters wanting to know why I made these statements.

But I am sure the chairman agrees with me that it certainly points out—and I could read these, I have many of them—that the acidity content in the lakes in the Sudbury area is extremely high. And when one concludes, Mr. Speaker, that for every million tons of sulphur dioxide emitted, when it is combined with water it serves to produce, I believe, three million tons of sulphuric acid—very mild, but nonetheless three million tons; I believe that is the ratio, three to one. This falls on the lakes and the rivers year after year, in winter and in summer. It sits there all winter. Naturally the acidity that is going to form is going to be detrimental to the aquatic life.

It is interesting in this study, while the chairman is here, that they did not bother to test Wahnapitae, which eventually is going to be the source of drinking water for the city of Sudbury. I found it very interesting that out of 54 lakes The Department of Lands and Forests took samples for, they did not take samples for Wahnapitae. I find that very strange.

We can go on to other effects of sulphur dioxide. The Minister of Lands and Forests pointed one out last week; the high forest fire rate in the Sudbury area, which is directly related. Sulphur can come down and it is going to sit there and sulphur is pretty flammable. Consequently we have a high rate of forest fires. I have the minister's letter on that; it is just another indication that the whole area is polluted to the core. This leads me to another point. When we get to soil, here is the greatest flaw possible, because there is no protection against soil pollution by this government in that area. Whether it was intentionally designed in that way or just a *faux pas* I am not sure. We will come to that right now, because it is an area that the government has shied away from continuously.

For some time, members will recall, I attempted to get some soil maps, starting with the Minister of Mines who indicated he knew nothing of the soil testing carried on. Then I went to the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) who stated the maps were not ready, the printer had not completed these. It was a waste of time, really, to ask for the soil maps, because the sole purpose of the maps was—and I want to quote a letter from the Minister of Agriculture and Food as to the purpose of the soil tests:

> When you originally posed this question in the Legislature some months ago I replied that the survey of both soil type and soil capability for the Sudbury area had been completed.

Soil type and soil capability; it does not include the effect of sulphur dioxide on soil, so it is quite obvious there is no intention on the part of the government to get into that area. I want to quote again from the letter from the Minister of Agriculture and Food to back up this statement:

> I should point out that there is nothing in either of these studies that relates directly to the effects of sulphur dioxide in the soil, nor was there any justification for making such an examination during the preparation of information on soil types and soil capabilities.

No justification? This area is like a desert. The government is studying soil capability and with the destruction that is there they are not going to find out why the vegetation has died.

This, to me, is a bit of nonsense—no justification for making a study on the effects of sulphur dioxide on soil when determining soil capabilities where representatives of The

Department of Lands and Forests indicate that to have any vegetation at all we will have to begin rejuvenating the soil through the long process of planting mosses and lichen, breaking the rock down, developing humus and eventually soil; and hopefully, in the future, grass.

How long? Fifty, 100, 200 years? We will never see it in our lifetime, Mr. Speaker. No way will we ever see the rejuvenation of plant life in the Sudbury area that has been so devastated.

There are areas which have not been ravaged to that degree, and I am concerned about these. Continued emissions from the stacks will not help to improve the condition of soil there and of the vegetation which has managed to survive.

What does excess SO_2 do to soil? I have an interesting letter, Mr. Speaker, from a Mr. Ross A. Hall, professor and chairman of the department of bio-chemistry at McMaster, addressed to a Mr. Bill Hrinivich. I want to read what Professor Hall has to say about soil pollution:

Dear Mr. Hrinivich:

As you are undoubtedly aware, sulphur dioxide dissolves in the moisture of the air to form sulphuric acid. Some of this may be neutralized by alkaline pollutants in the air, but much of the sulphur dioxide remains in the gaseous, potentially acidic, form.

All sulphur dioxide emitted to the atmosphere eventually reaches the ground. Thus it will react with the soil. The soil has a limited capacity to neutralize contaminants, so that over a period of time the acidity of the soil will increase. The acidity is measured in pH units: seven is neutral, one is very strongly acidic.

Professor Sven Brohoult and Professor Oden, at the University of Uppsala, Sweden, have studied the rate of acidification of the soil in Europe. They report that in 1958 pH values below five were found in limited areas of the Netherlands. Ten years later these areas, pH less than five, had spread over Europe. In fact, in the Netherlands pH values below four are rapidly spreading. In Sweden the isopleth of pH value of 4.5 has moved to central Sweden.

The types of plants—

And this is the significant part.

—that grow in a given area will change as the acidity of the soil changes. In addition to the acidity question, the accumulation of sulphur as sulphates and sulphites in the soil will reach a point where these substances become poisonous to the plants. An insidious feature of this series of events is that once the soil becomes sterile it will not support growth for many decades even if the smelter should cease operation today. I do not have an original article by the Swedish workers, but I suggest that you write directly to Dr. Oden for more information.

I appreciate very much receiving the report by B. R. Dreisinger on the sulphur dioxide levels in the Sudbury area. The levels are really amazing. The United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare has made an exhaustive study of the harmful effects of sulphur dioxide on living things, including humans, and they conclude a level of sulphur dioxide of 0.1 part per million over a 24-hour period may produce adverse health effects in particular segments of the population. They also suggest that the maximum tolerable level for three minutes is 0.17 parts per million.

It is interesting to read his comment on the stacks—this is for the former Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond)—this is from Ross H. Hall:

Do the smelters at Falconbridge or Copper Cliff remove any of the sulphur dioxide from the flue gases, or do they vent their entire production of sulphur dioxide into the air? This business of building a higher stack is a lot of nonsense.

This is from Ross H. Hall, and I can support the contention that a bigger stack is a lot of nonsense with what appeared in 1966 in a report on the National Conference on Air Pollution, December 12 to 14, 1966, Washington, D.C., and it states:

Important contributions to the solution of present problems can be made by fuel substitution, e.g., use of natural gas instead of coal, or residual oil or selection of the low sulphur coals or oil available. The use of tall stacks to provide increased dilution can be a practical answer in some situations. However, they are limited solutions and will not be adequate for future pollution problems.

This is 1966, and our great friend, the International Nickel Company, is now building one. It was not adequate in 1966 and they are now building one. Interestingly enough, they are building it because one stack of the three that they have is in the process of falling down, and they are also going to increase

production by 30 per cent from their operations in Shebandowan. So they need a new stack but it is not to curb pollution, it is to satisfy a need. We go back now to this:

> We see the plants are poisoned, die, or in some instances, I am sure, the growth must be retarded by SO_2 in the soil.

This must account for so many farmers going belly-up in the Sudbury area because plants are not only damaged directly by fumes when fumigated, but as well, poisoned.

This Tory government has protected farmers from sulphur damage by fumigation, but the interesting part is that most farmers do not bother to make use of it because the little amount they receive for the damage is not worth the effort of trying to collect. But the companies have been protected from damage done to the soil, which, in turn, affects the plants. Let me illustrate: There is no protection for the farmers from the type of damage I am going to talk about, and what is even more important is that the companies are exempt from any damage to soil under present legislation, so far as I can find, and I have had research people working on it.

Nowhere under The Air Pollution Control Act is soil included as being one of the things for which an investigation will be conducted, and I want to read from The Air Pollution Control Act, 1967, and it says:

> Where a person complains that air pollution is causing, or has caused injury or damage to livestock or to crops, trees or to other vegetation which may result in economic loss to such persons, he may, within 14 days after the injury or damage becomes apparent, request the minister to conduct an investigation.

Nothing is said about pollution of soil. In fact, that section, which is 11(I) and 11(II), goes on and says:

> This section does not apply to injury or damage caused by sulphur fumes arising from the operation designated in The Damage by Fumes Arbitration Act.

Well, I thought, we cannot get them with that Act, Mr. Speaker, so I thought maybe we could under sulphur arbitration. I looked in there to see—we looked at regulations as well—to see if there was any way we could get at the company under this Act for devastation to the soil, and what does this say? It says:

> Where damage is occasioned directly or indirectly to crops, trees or other vegetation by sulphur fumes arising from smelting, roasting or refining, or otherwise treating ores or minerals, such damage may, subject to section 3, be determined by the arbitrator who has exclusive jurisdiction to determine the amount of such damage and to make an award.

In other words, there is no way that the government, at the present time, can get at the companies who are causing the soil pollution in the Sudbury area—at least insofar as we can ascertain by reading regulations and Acts, and so on. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, to be a tremendous flaw that there is no way to get at these companies. There is no legislation, and as far as we can ascertain, there are no regulations, so the companies go scot-free to destroy as much soil as they want in the Sudbury area and there is no way we can get at them.

This is a government that in its throne speech several weeks ago presented all the platitudes possible about what it has been doing with respect to pollution, and here we find these very important points:

> There is no control against soil damage.

The new agreement signed between the proper department, The Department of Energy and Resources Management, and Falconbridge will result, in the long run, even five years from now, with more sulphur dioxide being emitted—six times more in the Sudbury area than Trail had to clean up in 1934, and at that time with only 18,600 tons being emitted they were destroying vegetation for some 52 miles, and we are going to get six times as much under the new agreement and, hopefully, this problem will be eliminated.

How ridiculous can they get with this kind of nonsense? We use every type of device, particularly the news media and the government publications, to convey an idea to the people of Ontario that we are winning this battle. Well, we are winning it on paper, but that is the only place. I am going to make a few illustrations of how we are winning this on paper here, in a few moments, but it is my opinion that this government has done nothing for the Sudbury area and it intends to do nothing. In a few moments, as well, I am going to read the latest scientific material on how to curb sulphur dioxide emissions and reduce them by upwards of 85 per cent and reduce the particles being emitted by some 99 per cent.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Write him a letter.

Mr. Martel: Oh, no. No, it is better here. And I would have to send the member one too and I do not want to write two of them.

But the real joke is the way they are winning it. They are winning the battle of pollution by announcements and pronouncements. I am looking at OWRC and I see the great announcements we have from the chairman, and the former Minister of Health. I think about a month previous to that it was the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), if I am not wrong, who appeared in these great battles against pollution. They are winning it on paper and in other places. They are trying, and they are using everything in their power, to convince the people of Ontario that they should pay their shot to clean up the pollution that the companies have made.

There is another article in *Topic,* if the members want to read it, and they have great material. The title of this article is, "Dedicated to air serene and pure". I hope that they see fit to send someone to the Sudbury area to see if we have air that is serene and pure with over 2,000,000 tons being pumped annually at the present time. But it is great; three or four pages of publications. Here is just another one.

Mr. Sargent: Quite a bit written up in here.

Mr. Martel: Yes. Well, at least we do some reading to find out what is going on, that is more than I can say for some people. Then we have the three documents, "Forest policy for Ontario", and here is what they are saying about pollution, of all types:

> Accordingly, it is recommended that the government consider grants toward the capital costs of pollution abatement facilities.

In other words, get the public to pick up the tab.

> Loans are guaranteed to help finance the industry portion of the capital costs involved.

Or a third one:

> Tax incentives for expenditure on research or pollution abatement—

And we can ask John Q. Public to pick them up. You know, the corporations have made fantastic profits for years, particularly in my area, and we want now to turn around and ask the public to pick up the tab for pollution control equipment, and government agencies are suggesting this.

I was just wondering—it has nothing to do with pollution—but I was just wondering what all this is about, why we have these Tory members in every government publication. Here we have the member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. J. R. Smith) as chairman. Then we have the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Every publication you pick up, every government document, is now loaded with Tory backbenchers getting their best side forward in the photograph. Is that just the way of publicizing the Tory party, I would just like to know?

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): All depends on the way you got your hair cut.

Mr. Martel: I want to know, is this just the way of getting your publicizing of the Tory backbenchers? I think it is squandering the money of the people of the province of Ontario to run that stuff. It is a good method of propaganda I guess, and certainly they are going to need it come 1971. I think we can already see the wheels in motion for the next election campaign as they desperately try to convey the idea on paper of government in action—and that is all it is: on paper.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Martel: Yes, well, I will be around. But there are controls, Mr. Speaker, to pollution.

Mr. Sargent: Sock it to them.

Mr. Martel: What is necessary—

Mr. W. Hodgson: You are sure of that, are you? You are not running scared?

Mr. Martel: I am not running scared. What is necessary is guts—and this government lacks it—to clean it up.

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): Stop smoking then.

Mr. Martel: For a few moments, I want to go into a new system of pollution control.

Mr. W. Hodgson: That should be interesting.

Mr. Martel: It should be. The results are extraordinary. I hope the member listens, he might learn something.

At the American power conference held in Chicago on April 22 to 24, 1969, the following paper entitled, "Operating experience with the first full scale system for removal of SO_2 and dust from stack gas" was presented. I want to read a few excerpts just briefly; the introduction, the description of the equipment, the removal of oxides of nitrogen, and, finally, a short summary.

Mr. W. Hodgson: You could read the summary first, could you not?

Mr. Martel: No, I could not.

Mr. Sargent: That guy is becoming a smarty, reading all those books.

Mr. Martel: You know, Eddie, that is one way of learning. One can remain ignorant—

Mr. Speaker: Order! I pointed out to the hon. members earlier that if a member speaking wished to refer to another member of this House he would do so by the name of constituency, in the normal course of the parliamentary tradition.

Mr. Martel: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I would just suggest that the member for Grey-Bruce—

Mr. Sargent: They all do that, Mr. Speaker, not just—

Mr. Martel: I am just suggesting, Mr. Speaker, that if the hon. member would just once read something—

Mr. Sargent: Watch that.

Mr. Martel: —if he would just read something, I will lend him the material if he wants to read it, but it might be over his head.

I want to start:

> Combustion Engineering—

This is the name of the company,

> —has based its air pollution control research and development work and system objectives on current regulations and the possibility, as indicated in the published report of February 11, that air quality control would become more stringent. The objectives of the C-E—

And that is Combustion Engineering.

> —air pollution control system have been discussed previously. In summary, the system is designed to operate at a low cost without the recovery of chemicals.

Now maybe this is the objection. Maybe this is the objection to most companies installing this without the recovery of chemicals. Because, you know, wherever they have been able to recover the chemicals they have been able to make a fantastic profit as a sideline, and they go ahead then. But if they are going to have to spend a few bucks without making any in return, that is taboo.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Not Stelco nor Dofasco.

Mr. Martel: That is taboo.

> In addition, no chemical plant that might affect boiler availability is tied to the unit. C-E's goal has been to develop a system for control of SO_2 and dust emission without appreciable increased capital costs over that now required for control of dust emissions alone.
>
> Union Electric is faced with regulations restricting emissions of SO_2 from certain of its plants beginning in 1970. Because the amount of low sulphur coal available to the St. Louis area is limited, a review of developments and processes for flue gas desulphurization was made. Union Electric concluded from the review that the C-E system has unique advantages over chemical recovery processes for middle-aged plants such as Meramec—

Maybe Hydro could pick up some of this. Too bad the vice-chairman of Hydro is not around, he might get this too.

> It is also believed that the process would be attractive economically on new units where the cost of the system could be partially offset by the cost of installing efficient electrostatic precipitators.

Mr. Sargent: Even your own members are reading the newspaper. Just look at them, they are not even listening.

Mr. Martel: They do not have to. They know I can take you all on alone. I do not need their support; I can manage quite well.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): He is trying to get through to the hon. member for Grey-Bruce and it shows he is listening.

Mr. Martel: Continuing:

> This paper will discuss the initial operating results of the first full scale SO_2 and dust removal system which is installed on unit No. 2 at the Meramec station of Union Electric Company, St. Louis, Missouri.

I think I will just leave the description out. I want to go to the results.

I want to get to this while the Minister of Health is here, or the former minister—maybe he will appreciate these preliminary operating data. Oh, he is leaving. He does not want to hear it. He bypassed the problem so long himself, Mr. Speaker, I can well imagine why he does not want to hear it.

Mr. W. Hodgson: You know how much weight you carry.

Mr. Martel: If I just might make an interjection, there were eight members here when your man spoke last night. Where were you? I was here listening to him.

Summary: Preliminary operating data has demonstrated that the air pollution control system installed at Meramec station of Union Electric Company does have the capability of meeting guaranteed performance. Initial operation of the unit has shown the following:

1. A sulphur dioxide removal efficiency of 85 per cent or more can be attained when firing 3.4 per cent coal. This is equivalent to reducing emission of SO_2 to a level equivalent to burning a coal containing 0.5 per cent sulphur.

2. The steam generator can be operated with additive injection into the furnace. Low temperature surfaces, including the heat extractor which operated at about 220 F, were easily kept clean, indicating that SO_3 in the flue gas had been reduced to a low level.

3. Dust loading and oxide of nitrogen measurements have not been taken on the Meramec installation. However dust loading data on a similar unit at KP&L in Kansas City indicate that particulate matter removal efficiencies greater than 99 per cent can be achieved.

The results of pilot tests have shown that oxide of nitrogen emission may be reduced by as much as 30 per cent—

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Any byproducts from that system?

Mr. Martel: No, no byproducts. That is why it is not looked on too favourably, there are no byproducts.

What it does do, Mr. Speaker, is reduce the SO_2 by at least 85 per cent. That is in excess of the percentage agreed to by the minister and Falconbridge by at least 30 per cent. It reduces the direct fallout by 99 per cent.

I think it is incumbent on this government to suggest to the International Nickel Company and to the Falconbridge Nickel Company that they start to clean up using this type of system for the benefit of the area which I am concerned with.

In summing up, Mr. Speaker, I think also that it is incumbent on this government to establish a set of guidelines which would be adequate to protect the residents in the Sudbury area. I might suggest the following guidelines:

Guidelines for the choice of criteria are that the quality of air be good enough that the health of even sensitive or susceptible segments of the population would not be adversely affected.

Concentrations of pollutants would not cause annoyance such as the sensations of unpleasant taste or odours. Damage to animals, ornamental plants, forests and agricultural crops would not occur. Visibility would not be significantly reduced, as is happening now.

Metals would not be corroded and other materials would not be damaged. Fabrics would not be soiled, deteriorated or colour affected. The natural scenery would not be obscured.

I think if we establish this set of criteria, Mr. Speaker, we might be well on our way.

One final point, Mr. Speaker. I have become increasingly convinced that it is not up to the people of the province, or of Canada, to do what so many people are trying to suggest that they have to do to clean up the pollution, and that it is going to be expensive to them. This is a lot of nonsense.

When I put a sewer in my home, I pay for it. I do not ask management. When they bring out the new cars—and thank goodness they are doing it with controls on—I will pay for it. I am easy to get at that way.

What about the companies—or just one, Inco, which has made over $100 million a year profit for the last 10 years? Should we ask the public to pick up the tab for creating the pollution and the devastation that industries have inflicted on the area? Nonsense. They take it right off the top, off the profit. They do not add it as a cost now to clean it up, they take it out of the profit statement. That is where it comes from.

They created it and it is up to them to eliminate it, just as we must eliminate the pollution we are responsible for. I suggest that this government had better get working on it because I know that in northern Ontario the feeling is such now that, Mr. Speaker, after the next election, there will be two Tories left in northern Ontario.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Two. There will be one cabinet minister left, and he is with us—the Minister of Lands and Forests. He will not be in the cabinet but he will be back. There will be one other Tory and he is also

in the House. The rest will be gone. The people in the Sudbury area—

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): Where are the Liberals going to get all their seats? Up in northern Ontario?

Mr. Martel: Well, the Liberals are not going to win all the seats either, I am afraid.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: I am afraid they are not going to take them all. Well, just watch this seat, I will be here. Just keep your eye on it. I am suggesting, Mr. Speaker, if any of the Tories want to return—outside of the other two—this government had better get busy on the problems of pollution, because the people in the Sudbury area and around Sault Ste. Marie and so on are fed up. They are fed up with air pollution. They are fed up with the farce that my colleague from Sandwich-Riverside mentioned on water pollution, where the pulp and paper people have not been forced to clean up, except one Canadian company which was convenient to get at. But this alone will reduce the number of members from six to two in northern Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: Is that the end of your speech? The member for Welland South.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the leadoff speakers on the throne debate, the member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith) and the member for Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman).

I would also like to congratulate the Speaker on the fine job that he is doing in trying to keep law and order in this House. I can well imagine that he has one of the toughest positions in this House to fill, after all the talk you hear on pollution of air, foul air—language, you might say in one sense—and not only that but the noise pollution in this House, so he has rather a difficult task. Mr. Speaker, you are continuously sitting in that chair day after day. I think perhaps we should have earmuffs for him.

The members in the leadoff speeches on the throne debate mentioned quite a bit about the white paper. Of course, this is actually a federal position paper and it deals with some of the problems which will face the province of Ontario. For example, the government members on that side criticize the white paper for taking certain positions, saying "this is going to hurt the small businessman". Of course, last year I sat in this House and they put a tax on to the equipment tax on industry, and again this penalizes the growth of industry in the province of Ontario.

But there are two types of welfare programmes that I find we have in this province of Ontario and perhaps throughout Canada. There is a welfare programme for the church and a welfare programme for the poor. One looks at the subsidies that are given to industry and particularly by the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) through his EIO programme. We sit back and see in this House where we are bringing American interests again into this province, and the loans that are given to companies that are well off in the United States yet they come over here where they can obtain loans, free of interest, if you are a good customer.

I cannot see, in this province of Ontario, with the housing crisis, why the same programme should not be applied to the property owner, to the person who wants to obtain land and own a home. Why should they not be given the same benefits, with the government saying: "We will help finance you with a home. If you are a good customer we will give you a loan interest-free for 10 years." Surely this would produce the production required for building homes in the steel industry, in the electronics industry and so forth throughout the province of Ontario. Would this not boost our economy? I am sure it would.

Last March, the hon. Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) introduced the main Ontario theme in the anti-inflation tool for a balanced budget. When I heard this mentioned this morning by the hon. minister, I looked back at the Tory programme for some 26 years and what has caused inflation in the Province of Ontario? Great deficit spending for some 25 years. Now it has finally caught up with all of us. Somebody has to pay the shot, so we have to go back to John Doe out on the street and say: "Here, we are going to tax you to pay for this deficit spending for the last 25 years." So I think that you members do realize and recognize that there is a problem in the province of Ontario and it is with your own government. It is there. They have said it.

This week I was fortunate enough to attend two school gatherings to speak at a political science session at the schools. One of the main topics with the students was: "Are you in favour of legalizing marijuana?" The other one was: "Are you in favour of lowering the drinking age to 18?" I must commend the Premier (Mr. Robarts) of this province for the action he has taken to say: "I am not in

favour of legalizing marijuana", and I congratulate him on that. I picked up a little article here from the *Courier Express*, the Buffalo, New York, local paper, and it says:

HEROIN KILLS EIGHT MORE IN NEW YORK CITY

> Eight young men, four of them teenagers, died over the weekend from using heroin, the city medical examiner reported.

It goes on to say "Last year there were 224 teenagers among 900 heroin deaths in this city," and of course, this deals with one of the drugs. In a comparison between the population of the city of New York and the population of the province of Ontario, I am sure that we have almost the same problem here, and again the member from Ontario South discussed this and mentioned it in his speech. I think it is an important topic today, facing not only the Ontario Legislature but the parents and the youngsters out on our streets today.

I heard the member for—I cannot mention first names here, so I had better look at the book—for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) talk today on pollution. I think this is a serious issue that is facing us in the province of Ontario and most of the pollution is caused by the affluent minority, and this is industry. I will not go into detail because surely he has gone into detail today to bring to the attention of this House the problems that are there. We have allowed them to pollute our air and water.

I am concerned, as my leader has mentioned in his throne speech, about the problem that is going to be facing us on the shores of Lake Erie, and this refers particularly to the Nanticoke area—Stelco and Dofasco, the two steel complexes that will be located on Lake Erie, and the numbers of tons of pollutants that will be poured out of their stacks and out on to the communities in an area. This is of great concern to me, and I think to all the residents, the people in that area.

I know that the Ontario Hydro has come out with a little brochure in one of its monthly newspapers telling us that it is going to remove some 98 per cent of the fly ash. Of course again we come into the problem of inorganic and organic pollution. When one looks and finds out and reads into the studies of some of the things that I have read into, one could almost sum it up by reading headlines in the paper that pollution is a more serious problem than epidemics. Of course, again, with the flu epidemics and so forth, perhaps this was caused by some pollution from industry within that area.

I know it certainly has created quite a problem in certain industries in my riding within the Niagara peninsula dealing with men working in industry. These are men who are in contact with foul air day after day. In many cases they come down with emphysema and other lung diseases, and I find, going into some of the research I have gone into, there is very little done in industry today to find out what actually causes the many diseases among the workers within our plants in the province of Ontario.

I am delighted to see in the throne speech that the government has given consideration to opening the door, perhaps, to more legislation dealing with labour in the province of Ontario, and I welcome this, as does the member for Dovercourt (Mr. De Monte) here. I think it is time that the labour people—I am not talking about heads of the unions—but the labour people themselves should have the right to come into this labour committee in this province and bring their problems to us and let us decide what legislation is best for this labour working force in the province of Ontario.

To continue with the matter of pollution on our Great Lakes, I also find out that these large steel industries locating on Lake Erie will need a large amount of water to manufacture a ton of steel, and a large amount of water is going to be required for the production of hydro electricity at Nanticoke. I am sure that after the process, the water that has been taken out of Lake Erie and has gone through the certain heat treatment phases of bringing out the product of iron and the product of electricity that is required, will have come into this industry as water of fair quality, but the water that is returned back to the lake will be of the poorest quality. I see I have got the eye of the vice-chairman of the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I do not know on what the member is basing his statement that it is of the "poorest quality". We are negotiating with the Hydro. We are taking samples of the water now, and have been, so we have records, and Hydro will not be allowed to pollute the water. They will not even be allowed to raise the temperature an appreciable degree that affects the quality of the lake. We have asked them to have enough area even to put in cooling towers if that is necessary.

Mr. Haggerty: That may be quite so, Mr. Speaker, and I could probably agree with him

to a certain extent on this, but the oxygen is gone from this water, once it goes through this stage and once it goes back into Lake Erie. It becomes dead water. I do not wish to get into debate with the vice-chairman on this matter, but I have raised this question in the House, and perhaps if he wants to come back to it some other day and perhaps challenge me with this, this is quite all right with me.

Mr. Root: I will answer right now; it is not dead water. It is not hard to return the oxygen to water.

Mr. Haggerty: This may be all very well, that the company is going to put in the reservoirs for cooling. I can well remember speaking on a panel at the Pelham District High School in my riding, and there was a representative from Ontario Water Resources Commission and one also from The Department of Lands and Forests. Their greatest concern was of the thermal heat of this water going back into the lake.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): That is right.

Mr. Root: We will require them to cool the water; it has to be.

Mr. Haggerty: Cool the water. That is right. They can cool the water, but I say to the member that they can harm this water. They could use this water, perhaps, to provide heat for vastly needed hospitals that are going to be required in the area, for schools, for all municipal buildings. In fact, they could probably put up one of the largest greenhouses in Canada, and heat from the heating coils could be used to heat the greenhouses. By that time, the water going back to the lake would be cool.

Mr. Root: There is nothing wrong with that.

Mr. Haggerty: That is just a suggestion. I hope the member will take it.

But the main point that I want to bring to the member now, while I have got him into this debate, is that water is our most important natural resource to the province of Ontario and to Canada. I have said in the House on previous occasions, that our water is like liquid gold to the Americans. That is how important water is to them. They have been allowed to pollute their streams and all their water resources, so they are looking for another outlet for water, and of course, no doubt, they have been to the department here, the Ontario Water Resources Commission, hoping perhaps they could get a deal with the Ontario Water Resources Commission, and perhaps with the federal government for us to supply water to them.

I heard the Treasurer speak this morning on what the federal government is going to allow for pollution abatement, what it will give in tax incentive plans to help encourage pollution abatement. This might be perfectly well, and we could accept this in principle, but I have another idea, and it is that I think it is time now that this government of Ontario put a tax on the use of that water. What right has industry, wanting to locate on Lake Erie or any other body of water, to take these natural resources free and then return them back into our lakes and streams later on, polluted? Why should they not be taxed for the use of that water? Even municipalities should be taxed.

The revenue received from this tax could be one eighth of a cent per gallon, and that money then could be used and applied for pollution abatement. After the revenue fund is set up, money could be used there for borrowing at a reasonable rate of interest to help provide these control programmes, not only by industry but by municipalities. I understand, if my figures are correct, some $10 million is spent for control of the quality of water in the province of Ontario by the Ontario Water Resources Commission. Why should it come out of one big general revenue? Why should not those who use it pay for it?

I suppose, Mr. Speaker, that if the throne speeches had to be given titles, this one would qualify for that of "Work and Play". I want to touch on two major issues this morning and the first one deals with the present status of the worker. I am just firing the first shot and I know my colleague, the member for Dovercourt, who is the labour critic of the official opposition in this Legislature, is going to have a field day with this issue when he gets going on it next week.

But this morning it is my turn, and I am going to fire the second salvo at the people on the benches to our left. The member for Grey-Bruce said a good many things yesterday that have needed to be said for some time, and I am going to follow him up in spirit.

Do you notice how often the NDP are using the sneering catch phrase about coalition between the government and ourselves? Let me say this: The Liberal Party has its own distinct philosophy and if we were not confident of putting over our own case in the

coming 18 months, then many of us would not have the bearing that we do today. We are proud to stand behind our leader (Mr. Nixon), the one man in this Legislature who can see, more clearly than anyone else, just where Ontario is going, or ought to be heading, given a Liberal government.

I also follow the member for Grey-Bruce in saying once more that we will not have any truck with the NDP, the party that has betrayed Ontario workers—the party that has sold the working man down the river.

Mr. Sargent: Do you fellows hear this? Listen to this now.

Mr. Haggerty: There is a great awareness today that this is so. Every day our office phones ring with news from shop stewards. The hot line of the NDP is a cold line today.

Now the workers on the shop floor say: "Call the parties, tell everyone the truth about the situation in our factories and let us see who gets busy resolving our problems." I am glad to report that the Liberal Party is scoring all down the line.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): That is right.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Speaker, the member for Dovercourt will document success after success next week in this unending battle for the confidence of the Ontario working man. When I was in steel, the men knew me for what I was, but I was an isolated individual.

Today it is altogether different. In the member for Dovercourt we have a man who talks to the man on the bench, or in construction, in the language he understands and who tells it like it is. If we see changes in the workmen's compensation system in the near future, it will be because the rank and file of the union, dissatisfied with the adversary system, have listened to the member for Dovercourt, or have read his speeches in *Hansard*.

Who was the first man to document caisson disease fully and scientifically in this Legislature and made The Department of Labour tighten up all around? Was it an NDP member? No. It was a Liberal, the member for Dovercourt.

Today, when the special labour committee of Ontario Liberal caucus issues a notice of meeting, these invitations are eagerly sought after by men from the shop floor. We are all quite excited about this. We can feel the new spirit; we can sense that labour has it, and it wants to break the shackles tying it to the NDP.

The great advantage of the Liberal relationship with labour is that you do not have to sell your soul. It is possible to work with us and still hold your head high. Nor is your pocket bled by checkoffs that are very deceitful and go to the very heart of a free society. The Liberal way is the way of freedom; the NDP way is the way of servitude.

Doris French once wrote a book about unions called "Blood, sweat and politics." The time is ripe for her to add another chapter. It should tell the story of how the workers are now casting off their blinkers and realizing that to be tied to one political party is to reduce their chances of effective political and social action by three to one. The NDP is no good for the minority groups.

Let me read you an article from the United Steelworkers of America, local 6200, Port Colborne, bulletin, January, 1970—a report of the area council meeting held at Niagara Falls in December, 1969. There were two guest speakers at the meeting and one of them was the member for York South (Mr. MacDonald). The report in the bulletin is by Mr. Foresi. It is a long report but the key paragraph is this:

> I asked Mr. MacDonald, "As a member of the minority group would we be discriminated against if the NDP came to power?" and to my surprise he replied, "That will be the chance you will have to take."

That is from the leader of the New Democratic Party in Ontario—the party that plays lip service to the Ontario Human Rights Commission. There is discrimination captured in black and white in a union journal, in the bulletin of local 6200, United Steelworkers of America. If any member of the press wishes to see it, I have a copy right here at my desk.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): I do not understand it.

Mr. Haggerty: The member would not; I did not think he would. He may belong to the bar association, but not to a union.

Mr. J. Renwick: A couple of your members belong to it.

Mr. Haggerty: Let me say that I am not at all satisfied with the answers the Premier gave to my question yesterday. I took the trouble to send along to his office an advance copy of the question in order that his staff might compile an adequate reply. They had about three hours in which to put together some of the reasons for dismissing the claim of local 6200.

The president, Jim Babirad, said organized crime was not involved in the nickel strike last year. Jim Babirad believes—and is absolutely sincere in his belief—that senior union

officials, not the rank and file, are hand in glove with the Mafia. The Premier did not say how the strong suspicions—which had as one basis, a threat of murder—were nullified by police investigation. I certainly intend to pursue the matter further, if not through the Premier, then through the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), and I will want a full explanation.

I want to make an appeal to the union men in Ontario to follow debate in *Hansard* in the coming months, including the question period, with great care. They will soon begin to see where their true interests lie. Do not fence yourself in, I say, by adhering to one party and one party line. Be free and approach all parties with your problems; you will get a better result than if you remain slaves to a political arm that has now a half-nelson lock on you.

Mr. Sargent: How do the socialists answer that—the Mafia mixed up with the unions now? How are you going to talk that one down?

Mr. Haggerty: When the question arises now, Mr. Speaker, from the member for Grey-Bruce and from the opposition over here, one is well aware of the present legislation that is being put forth in the Congress of the federal House in Washington. It deals particularly with the inroads of crime in unions in the United States.

One would have to sit back and question the remarks made here that crime, in one sense, is in unions in the province of Ontario. One looks and says, "Well, read the papers and find out."

Here we have unions donating large sums of money to run the elections. When one finds out they can go out and hire professional organizers to move into an area, one could ask, "Where does the money come from?" Are the workers actually aware that, perhaps, in one sense, they say: "Well, if there is organized crime in the United States it is in with the unions and union money is coming over here to Canada and to this party here to my left."

Mr. J. Renwick: The member is condemning the whole trade union movement in Canada now, eh?

Mr. Haggerty: Am I? One might question that and say: "Well, is organized crime within that party?"

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Haggerty: Let me turn to the other side of the coin, Mr. Speaker; the question of play, leisure and breathing space, room to move around.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Not only is the member misinformed, he is sick.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, I am sick. I am sick of looking at you.

Mr. Stokes: The member tried to get the nomination for our party down there but did not quite make it.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): That is the—

Mr. Haggerty: That is the biggest shock you fellows ever got, I will tell you.

There might be a diversity in my family in politics, but it was not this boy who was going to run for that party.

As we are aware, the Americans are perhaps trying to take over our Arctic waters and our Arctic land in the north—

Mr. Martel: With the compliments of the Liberal government in Ottawa.

Mr. Sargent: Oh, the member is back in his seat now.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, the member for Sudbury East is entering the debate now. His speech was so dry that we could not get an argument or a debate across the floor.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Tell him he will not be back in his seat after the next election.

Mr. Haggerty: I have an eye on the member's seat over there.

Well, Mr. Speaker, to get back. It looks as though the Americans have got the Arctic all sewn up. If they have their way they will take it from us and those lines that go right up to the north pole, in the land of the midnight sun, will mean nothing. They will put atomic submarines through there and they will pollute our Arctic shores with oil.

Some would question this comment that I have made. I am sure we are all aware, as Canadians, that if it had not been for our Canadian icebreakers, the *Manhattan* would never have made that trip.

Mr. Martel: One of the best things that happened to Canada.

Mr. Haggarty: When one looks back to what our Royal Canadian Mounted Police have done in regard to supplies that have gone through that northwest passage year after year—it is nothing new. I say Canada

has control of it and it belongs to us. The federals say the American individuals are doing the same on the shores of Lake Erie. They are using every legal trick in the book to steal the Canadian coast line of Lake Erie from the Canadians to whom it rightfully belongs.

Mr. Martel: The member's friends in Ottawa—

Mr. Haggerty: There is an action which will shortly be in progress at Osgoode Hall relating, among other things, to the riparian rights that will likely cut us off from our beaches for ever. What will then become of the dream of the park land along the north shore of Lake Erie? It could well vanish with the dust, and all the fine plans of Mr. Nigel Richardson, working through municipal affairs for the rationalization of competing interests in the Nanticoke area would come to nought, unless the larger plan, spoken of at length by my leader in the throne speech, were to be implemented.

The province has far less time than many may think to get land consolidation going. If the untold millions of future Ontarians are to have any recreational lands at all, we have to secure them now. We have to change our laws and drive away the exclusive ownership of Americans from our beaches. We have to legislate Canada back to Canadians and Ontario back to Ontarians, otherwise everything will go south—our energy, our raw materials, our water and our chance for a better future.

Mr. Speaker, I have one subject of interest to place before the members of this Legislature and the citizens of this province for a new look and approach to human environment, a way of living in this province. Day after day there are more people, more cars, more trucks—and even aircraft—jamming our communications system with traffic.

There are more families requiring living room, as well as time and space for leisure and recreation; there are more jobs requiring the use of the automobile. There is complete chaos on our highways and roads in this province, even with the GO trains, the commuter service that is provided in the city of Toronto.

Pedestrians are pushed, shoved and jammed on the streets, all rushing to their places of employment. Our highways are a driver's nightmare that has become one daily struggle for helpless commuters. It takes all their skill and courage, perhaps, to be even foolish enough to move their vehicles during the rush hours in the cities in this province. I speak particularly of the city of Toronto, but there are other cities throughout the province that fall into this category. Would a solution lie in a seven-day work week?

Mr. Speaker, not too long ago I was shocked and saddened by the news of dear friends, a father and a son along with a companion, who lost their lives in a traffic accident going on a fishing trip to northern Ontario on a weekend outing. Every member in this House is aware of the number of highway fatalities and the accidents in which persons lose their lives while fishing or swimming, using the recreational facilities in the province over the weekends. I have taken notice of the highway traffic report tabled in the House by the hon. Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett). By contrast, Wednesday and Thursday are the safest days of the week with the fewest number of traffic accidents resulting in injuries and fatalities.

Is it time for the citizens of this province to make an assessment, to consider a new approach to our environmental living? We may become accustomed to the new and more flexible pattern of everyday life in which many businesses, professions and public services would operate on a seven-day-week basis. Our present system has the greatest majority of people employed from Monday to Friday, five days a week, for 40 working hours. Everyone is forever going on a weekend trip, jamming our overburdened highways in this province, which simply cannot handle all the weekend motorists. They are bumper to bumper creating some of the most undesirable, unsafe, overcrowded highway conditions. This government can by no means cope with and provide the safety measures that are required to avoid the many needless deaths that occur on our highways.

Saturday and Friday evenings also have become the worst times for shopping. I myself, like many, am tired of being pushed and trampled on. Why should a great majority of people of this province be subject to such treatment because our laws have not kept pace with the computer age, or even the space age?

I have often gone to play golf at the Niagara Glen—this is one of the parks run by the Niagara parks commission—and sometimes you have to leave by 5.30 in the morning to be on the greens at 7 o'clock; and you would still have to wait two to three hours even then to get onto the golf course at the weekends.

People are discriminated against because their only freedom from work falls at a time when a great majority are trying to shop, travel and enjoy outdoor recreation. This would end if one would consider that the

offices, the banks, the stores and schools and churches could be open on Saturdays and Sundays. Church services in many instances are carried on practically every day of the week. My view about the good book are that we are to keep one day sabbath, but it did not say what day.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): The seventh day.

Mr. Haggerty: The seventh. That is right, but it did not say Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday.

An hon. member: Is that right?

Mr. Haggerty: Probably the hon. minister knows more about it than I do.

An hon. member: We should have three days!

Mr. Haggerty: Three days? The individuals should decide; there is no reason why a second "weekend" could not be provided in our style of living. Schools should be open seven days a week. The day off for school students could coincide with that of the parents—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): The member is losing the gallery vote.

Mr. Haggery: There is no doubt in my view that this alone could be a great saving to the taxpayer, who would be relieved from the heavy burden of school taxes with fewer classrooms required. Schools today are equipped with full air conditioning. We could get full value from all the heating equipment seven days a week in the winter months, for six months of the year; we could get the use of the air conditioning equipment throughout the summer in the many cases where air conditioning is available. It is a better place to be rather than in hot schools that have none. Perhaps we should have air conditioning in this chamber, but then again if we had air conditioning we would likely be here 12 months of the year.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It is the hot air that causes it.

Mr. Haggerty: It is the hot air that causes it!

There is no doubt that automobile travel would be safer, more smooth to handle with far less time required on the roads. The crowding and many delays that now make the average person so stressful would be eliminated, and we would perhaps reduce the number of heart diseases and heart cases.

Working and living would be much more enjoyable. Government, industry and business would perhaps be more efficient and economical. Great numbers of persons work on weekends at the present time, such as police, nurses and so forth, so there is no reason why we could not spread this out so that we would have seven days working with two weekends.

There is the possibility that work loads spread over the seven days would increase employment, with more production and an increase in profits.

Mr. Speaker, I will leave these views with the members, who perhaps will say, "Let us take a second look at our total human environment, and thus may we work for seven days a week."

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a number of matters that I would like to deal with in the Speech from the Throne.

I hope that the member for Welland South (Mr. Haggerty) catches his bus and gets home in good time. I can assure him before he goes that if there is any organized crime in the party we will try to root it out over the weekend so that we will be as pure as the Liberal Party come Monday morning.

I want, Mr. Speaker, in the course of my remarks, to deal with the shutdown of the Dunlop plant; but I choose, if I may, to leave that matter until Monday when I may have something of more significance to say about it than I could say today.

I think all of us at the present time know most of the facts of the situation. But on Monday I am going to take the liberty of putting them on the record, so that the records of this House will disclose at least what I know about the shutdown of that plant and what can be done. They will disclose the fantastic default by the government of the province, so far as its laws, or its initiative, is concerned in dealing with this matter.

You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that a year or so ago I took the time of the House to put on the record the position of Mr. W. R. Boulter, and his wife, who was a chronic invalid. They are caught in this ridiculous regulation which the government persists in having, differentiating between those who are chronically ill and require medical care, and those who are chronically ill and do not require medical care. In the one case the coverage is continued under the Ontario Hospital Services Plan. In the other case the coverage ceases and the burden of the cost of the care of such a person falls either on that person, or on his family.

Let me bring you up to date on what happened to Mr. Boulter. You will recall, I

am certain, that I told you at that time that he had been sued by the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for the cost of his wife's care. I told the House that Mr. Boulter had—or a friend of Mr. Boulter—had received from the then deputy minister of Social and Family Services a letter, in substance saying that Mr. Boulter need not concern himself about those charges being made for the care of his wife, because arrangements had been made otherwise.

The arrangements had not been made otherwise and the case went pretty much down to trial. By that time the account for the care of Mr. Boulter's wife in Queen Elizabeth Hospital had mounted to something in excess of $12,000. Had the case gone to a decision and an award been made, then Mr. Boulter would have been completely bankrupt as a result of it.

The negotiations went on through the government, for reasons which the government have never specifically disclosed. But, in any event, a settlement was achieved through the intervention of the government for a nominal payment of $500, on condition that Mrs. Boulter be moved out of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

I think the reasons are involved in the intricacies of the law, that, in some way or other, there had been a holding out to Mr. Boulter that he need not concern himself about these charges. But, in fact, the bill which was finally rendered was in excess of $12,000.

Mrs. Boulter is now in one of the nursing homes in the Pickering area. She is as content as she can be, the surroundings are good, there is no criticism of the nursing home as such. Her charges for her care are being taken care of through Metropolitan welfare at the rate of $9 or $10 a day, which is being paid by the commissioner of welfare for the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. But, Mr. Boulter, in order to achieve this kind of assistance for his wife's care, has had to give the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto a lien on his house for the cost of that care, which has been mounting since last November at a rate in excess of $10 a day.

It does not take any mathematical genius to realize that, in a very short time, even though Mr. Boulter may be allowed to continue to live in the house, the lien on his house will have eaten up the full amount of his equity. Mr. Boulter will then be reduced to the situation where his wife is being taken care of by welfare. He will have no equity whatsoever in his house, and, at his age—a man in his middle or late fifties—he will be reduced to living on his income, which is in the neighbourhood of about $80 a week gross.

I simply say to the ministry, regardless of the fine statements they make about this matter being under consideration, it can no longer be allowed to continue. It is immaterial whether or not there is a cost-sharing agreement with the federal government. This government, on its own initiative and at its own expense, has got to relieve all the persons who are in that kind of circumstance in this province.

Let us remember the specific distinction that the regulation has. The regulation, in substance, says that, if a person being chronically ill has reached the apparent limit of recovery and requires medical care, or skilled nursing attention, that that person may remain within a hospital setting, receive that care and attention that a hospital can provide —that a doctor and a skilled nurse can provide—and that the hospital insurance coverage will continue.

But the very fine semantic line is the negative of that—if you are a chronically ill person, you have reached the apparent limit of your recovery, and medical care or skilled nursing care cannot assist you any longer, then you cease to be covered. It is that fine line which is causing this immense hardship for people in the province of Ontario. Because it is very, very difficult—and I sympathize with the doctors who are called upon to make this kind of decision—to decide whether or not a person is, or is not, entitled to continue in a hospital setting and therefore to have his care paid for from hospital premiums.

In practice, of course, there are people who are not in a hospital setting, but in nursing homes. You can go to nursing homes in Ontario where one patient is chronically ill and is covered by his hospital insurance premiums, and in the adjoining bed is a person, equally chronically ill to the visible eye of a layman, and is not covered, and the expense is horrendous.

I happen to have received this morning a letter from a constituent of mine giving the case that she is now faced with in this identical situation. I did not have an opportunity to get her permission to use her name, or to disclose the particular hospital setting. I just did not have time to do it, and therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to use the name. The letter is dated March 12:

Dear Mr. Renwick:

I wish to outline details concerning the distressing situation I find myself in at the

present time. Due to the immediacy of the situation, I am appealing to you.

I have been notified that my mother, who has been a patient in—

And the name of the hospital is given—

—since January 5, 1970, is considered no longer in need of hospital care and is therefore to be discharged to a nursing home of my choice by March 18.

My mother has been an invalid for the past 16 years and I have been fully responsible for her care during this time. In all, she has suffered three strokes, a severe coronary, has developed diabetes and was admitted to hospital on four different occasions for the treatment of gallstones.

The initial stroke left her paralyzed on the right side. The second, suffered approximately 11 years later, increased the severity of the paralysis and resulted in deterioration of her general health. The third stroke, suffered on August 24, 1969, affected the left side and left her completely incapacitated.

For 15 of these 16 years, I have cared for her in our own home. For five of these years her condition necessitated the services of a practical nurse, the cost of which could not be claimed as a tax deduction.

From the onset of the first illness she has never been able to dress or undress herself, nor go beyond the confines of our home unassisted.

At the present time she is completely helpless, requires a permanent catheter, is unable to pick up anything with either hand, is unable to feed herself, or even shift her position in bed without the nurse's help. Her condition on admission to—

And the name of the hospital is given—

—was assessed by a doctor specializing in physical medicine. He was of the opinion that physiotherapy would be of no benefit, despite the fact my mother had received physiotherapy at—

And she names the name of a previous hospital—

—up until her transfer to the hospital in which she is presently residing.

No consultation was held with her personal physician of many years. I was recently informed that since my mother was not receiving any "specific treatment"—

And I emphasize that, that this was the advice she received—

—that since my mother was not receiving any "specific treatment," she was no longer in need of hospital care.

I am aware of patients in this hospital who, like my mother, are not receiving any "specific treatment" and yet are not being asked to leave. I find this hard to understand.

I am limited in the choice of a suitable nursing home because many refuse to accept a patient with a permanent catheter and I have also found that the cost in my mother's case has increased because she requires total patient care.

Since my father's death 17 years ago, my mother has depended solely on her old age pension as her source of income. I am a single woman myself and have experienced considerable financial strain as a result of her long illness. I feel I am unable to handle the excessive costs of a nursing home and am convinced that, because of the amount of care that she requires, she should be allowed to remain where she is.

The location of the hospital makes frequent family visits possible and these are essential in keeping up her morale. In spite of her physical condition, the family has been able to keep her spirits and interest at an unbelievably high level.

This is not a request for anything more than just treatment and compassion for an older person who has already endured a great deal of anguish and adjustment to total disability.

I would be most grateful if you could give this matter your immediate attention.

Thank you.

And the name and address of the constituent of mine who wrote that letter is appended to the letter.

Well, my constituent makes two points, Mr. Speaker. One is that nursing home care for a person in that condition can hardly be called adequate, regardless of how good the nursing home is. The second point that she makes—and she makes it only indirectly, because it was not her principal problem—was to ask if she is now to be saddled with this expense of the nursing home care for her mother, after the years of expense that she has already undergone. Or is the alternative that her mother, a citizen of this province, is now going to become a recipient of welfare under the welfare scheme of the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto?

All that this person is asking, really, is that her mother be given the best possible care for the balance of her life, however long that may be, in this extreme case of chronic invalidism. And, on the other hand, she is

simply saying, "I can't bear the expense. I don't really want my mother at her age to be a burden on the state or on the community. She never has been, my family never has been. I have endeavoured to do all that I can do about it."

Surely, along with what other members of the House, from all parties, have said, the government cannot procrastinate, when the newspaper pressure comes on about nursing home care and the cost of it being taken care of by the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, by having the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) respond by saying it was being studied and would likely be initiated and letting people in the province drift into the sense that, "Well, the government is dealing with it."

We all read some weeks ago the play which was given to this whole question in one of the weekend editions of the Toronto *Daily Star*. And, of course, on Monday, we read in the paper that the Minister of Health was going to deal with the matter—that it was a matter of study and it was complicated and difficult.

It is not complicated and difficult, Mr. Speaker. Problems are only complicated and difficult if you want to make them that way. The essential requirement is that persons who are chronically ill, regardless of whether they require medical care in a specific sense, or specific treatment, or skilled nursing care, or whether they do not require that specific treatment, or skilled nursing care, are entitled to continue to be covered under the Ontario Hospital Services Commission.

The Ontario Hospital Services plan is designed to alleviate this immense financial hardship for everyone in the province, and I want the government, at some point in this debate—whether it is the windup speaker, or the Minister of Health, or one of the ministers of the Crown—to tell us that, at the first day of April, 1970, the patients who are in nursing care, who are chronically ill, are all going to be covered under the Ontario Hospital Services plan.

I do not think that we can afford any longer the luxury of having us stand up here—having members of the government party stand up, having members of the Liberal Party stand up—and ask about this and talk about it and examine it and study it any longer. I ask the government to give us the assurance that, come April 1, if it is not possible to do it by March 15 to do this—to get it over with.

People like Mr. Boulter, people like the constituent of mine whose letter I have just read, cannot afford the luxury of government procrastination. They are losing right down the line. Their dignity is being destroyed. They are citizens of the wealthiest province in Canada.

Let us get on with it. Let us at least get the sensation that, during the course of this last four or five weeks that we will have spent in this House between February 24 and next Thursday, this problem has at last been solved, once and for all.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to turn very briefly to another area in some remarks that I want to make—not at the same length that my colleague from Lakeshore did in his brilliant analysis of the white paper—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Hear, hear.

Mr. J. Renwick: —and of the problems that that white paper has raised, the way in which he believes we, in this party, would deal with those questions and the way in which he believes the government should deal with them.

I assume, again, that, during the course of the throne debate, if it is to be a meaningful debate, ministers of the Crown will intervene in the debate to give some sense of participation and of debate in its true sense.

I am going to digress there and comment about that, Mr. Speaker. I think that if this institution is to play any meaningful role and if we are to pride ourselves that there are two general debates, then, without fearing that there is some political loss to be suffered, or gain to be made, that when members of this party, members of the Liberal Party, members of the government party, take the time and the effort to express their views on various topics, that various ministers would feel, "All right, I will come in and I will express our view on this matter."

But they either do not attend, or they do not intervene in the debate. I do not think there has been a government minister take part in this debate since we assembled. I may be wrong, but I do not think so. Indeed there are seldom very many of them in the House during the course of the throne debate.

It was a much better debate of course, at the closing part of the remarks of my colleague from Lakeshore, when the Treasurer and the Minister of Economics (Mr. MacNaughton) and the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White) were in their seats. At least my colleague had the ministers responsible for matters of taxation to talk to. Everybody who was here for that particular portion of my colleague's remarks felt there was something vaguely meaningful going on.

But in the earlier parts of his remarks there were none of the ministers present. The brilliance of his remarks have disappeared into *Hansard*, where only a very few people will ever take the trouble to read, or study or consider them in the context in which they were made.

Mr. Speaker, it has been traditional now for people dealing with the Benson white paper to deal with the marginal and peripheral problems that the white paper raises. I want to try to put very clearly on the record, in supplement of what the member for Lakeshore has said, the perspective in which we see the taxation problem.

In other words, there is one major part of the taxation system which requires the full focus and the attention and the concern of government. And then off to the right are the esoteric, sophisticated accounting and other problems, which are sophisticated and esoteric because the people who have money can afford to hire the sophisticated and esoteric persons to analyse that kind of problem. They get a tremendous play in the press, even though very few people understand them, and they deal only with marginal problems.

Mr. Speaker, the principal part of the white paper is contained in chapter two, and it deals with the whole question of the individual and the family in tax reform. We happen to have the benefit of the information which was placed before the standing Senate committee on banking, trade and commerce on Wednesday, February 11, 1970, dealing with the income tax returns of the people of Canada for the year 1967—which I assume means that with regard to anything that comes before a Senate committee it is the latest available information.

Mr. Gilmour, who is the consultant to that committee, was placing the information before it. And just for the sake of the record—because I think there was some brief reference to one of these figures a while back and the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) interjected to say that they were talking taxable income and whoever made the remark nodded his head in agreement—these figures are not dealing with taxable income. They are dealing with the gross income of individuals who file income tax returns in Canada. The gross income before deductions!

I just want to put on the record the exchange which took place before that standing committee that clearly points this out so there will not be any argument about what the figures are. Senator Everett said:

> *Mr. Gilmour:* According to the statistics from which this chart was prepared, income is salary or professional income. It is not taxable income.

Well, we all know that in preparing your income tax return you put in your income and then you take certain permitted exemptions and deductions and you arrive at taxable incomes. These figures are not taxable income, they are gross income of people in this country by way of salary or professional income.

There were 6,655,000 returns filed for the year 1967. Of course, those reporting gross income from salary or professional employment of under $3,000 came to a total of 1,665,000 returns.

Of those reporting gross income between $3,000 and $4,000, there were a total number of returns of 1,026,000.

Of those reporting gross income between $4,000 and $5,000 a year, there were 977,456; for an interim total of 3,668,456 returns, or 55 per cent of those reporting.

So 55 per cent of the people in Canada in 1967 reporting incomes from salary or professional income of $5,000 or less amounted to some 55 per cent of those who were filing returns.

Between $5,000 and $6,000 the number reporting was 871,320; between $6,000 and $7,000 there were 689,497; between $7,000 and $8,000 it was 458,090; between $8,000 and $9,000 it was 290,614; and between $9,000 and $10,000 there were 180,542.

In synoptic form, between $5,000 and $10,000 of gross income there were an additional 2,490,063 persons reporting income; and that, in percentage terms of 6,655,000 total number of returns, was 37.5 per cent.

So again in summation, in Canada for the year 1967, out of 6,655,000 returns, 6,158,519, or 92.5 per cent, were filed by persons having gross incomes of $10,000 or less.

Mr. Speaker, that may be a convenient place for me to move the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. J. Renwick moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, we will continue this debate on Monday.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1 o'clock, p.m.

Legislature of Ontario Debates

No. 17



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, March 16, 1970

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Monday, March 16, 1970

Conduct of municipal elections, statement by Mr. McKeough 617
MTARTS second report, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 618
Air pollution monitor reports, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Nixon 618
Disposal of farm wastes, code of management re, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Nixon 618
Feasibility study re Dunlop plant closing, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 618
Appointment of returning officers, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 619
Possible closedown of further industrial operations, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. B. Newman 620
Stone and Webster report on Hearne plant, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Trotter 620
Increase in costs of low phosphate detergents, question to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Deans 620
Appointment of northern Ontario citizen to Ontario Securities Commission, question to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. T. P. Reid 620
Route of Highway 34, questions to Mr. Gomme, Mr. Shulman 621
CNR service to northern part of western Ontario, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Gaunt 621
Number of prosecutions under air pollution section, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Young 621
Establishment of national marketing boards, question to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Innes 621
Pesticide co-ordinator for Ontario, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Makarchuk 622
Financial support for Vaughan, Markham and Pickering townships, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Deacon 622
Animal experiments in Toronto schools, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Burr, Mr. Nixon 622
Establishment of national park for northern Ontario, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. R. S. Smith 622
Whiterock Estates group and section 33 of The Planning Act, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Pitman 623
Extended use of Mohawk Institute, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Nixon 623
Animal-breeding-for-research placements, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mrs. M. Renwick 624
Payment of 1969 road subsidies to municipalities, questions to Mr. Gomme, Mr. Ruston 624
Use of mercury in manufacturing processes, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Burr 624
Leasing policy on great hall and auditorium at Ontario Science Centre, question to Mr. Auld, Mr. Edighoffer 624
Doctor's bill charging patient five cents, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. MacDonald 625
Code re protection of consumer against certain trade practices, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Deans 625
Distribution of Windsor medical services fund, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Nixon, Mr. MacDonald 625
Volunteers at Don Jail in liver function tests, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Shulman 626
Safety posting of waters for swimming in Detroit River, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Paterson 627
Distribution of Windsor medical services fund, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Newman 627
Erection of incinerator on former Mimico Reformatory grounds, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Lawlor 627
Compensation for seizures of DDT supplies, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Gaunt, Mr. Nixon 628
Temporary lifting of ban on liquid industrial waste at dump near Stouffville, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Lawlor 628
Animal-breeding-for-research placements, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mrs. M. Renwick 629
Assessment of mobile homes, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. Ben 629
Ontario Hospital Services Commission and Pinkerton Detective Agency, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Shulman, Mr. Ben 629
Regional medical centre in Windsor for workmen's compensation claimants, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. B. Newman 630
Plan 174 in Oakville, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Shulman 630
Inquiry into Toronto area's construction industry, question to Mr. Bales, Mr. Shulman 630
Discrimination cases re Castlefield Apartments, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Lewis 630
Report, standing orders and procedures committee, Mr. R. G. Hodgson 631
Report, minister's municipal elections committee, Mr. McKeough 631
Labour Relations Act, bill to amend, Mr. Bales, first reading 631
Municipal Act, bill to amend, Mr. Gisborn, first reading 631
Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. J. Renwick, Mr. Good 632
Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Good, agreed to 648
On notice of motion No. 4, Mr. Paterson, Mr. Jessiman, Mr. Burr, Mr. Haggerty, Mr. J. R. Smith, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. De Monte 648
Recess, 6.00 o'clock 657

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Today, our guests in the east gallery are students from Holy Family Separate School in Toronto and Hillside Public School in Clarkson; in the west gallery from King Edward Senior Public School in Toronto; and this evening we will have the Ninth Scarborough Boy Scout Group with us.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, paralleling the ever increasing pressures on municipal government structure throughout the province during recent years has been a growing expression of concern by voters, candidates and election officials as to the adequacy of present procedures and provisions for the conduct of municipal elections.

There have, of course, been amendments to these procedures from year to year to take care of problems of application. But it has become increasingly evident that a review of the entire municipal elections procedure is essential.

Accordingly, during the fall of 1968 I established a committee to study, evaluate and make recommendations concerning the present municipal election provisions under the applicable Acts of the Legislature, more particularly The Municipal Act, The Voters' Lists Act, The Assessment Act and The Municipal Franchise Extension Act. Nominees for this committee were invited from the various province-wide municipal associations. As a result, the committee is composed of municipal officials—both elected and appointed—representing a broad cross-section of municipal knowledge and experience. The chairman is a senior officer of the municipal organization and administration branch of my department.

From the outset, liaison has been maintained between this committee and the select committee on election laws, chaired by the member for York-Forest Hill (Mr. Dunlop).

The municipal elections committee met frequently and regularly throughout 1969 and has now concluded its review and brought in its report. I would like, Mr. Speaker, with your permission, to table the report at the appropriate time for the information of the members of the House.

Although the municipal elections committee was set up as an advisory body to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, what it has to say regarding municipal elections is obviously of considerable interest and importance to many people throughout the province. Accordingly, I wish to promote the broadest distribution and the greatest interest possible in this report.

The report, of course, is just that—a useful document in which the committee comments and makes recommendations in regard to changes it regards as having merit. It should not be construed as necessarily indicating the government's intentions at this time. The recommendations will be useful in assisting us to take stock of the existing situation and to determine what amending legislation this government may put before the House.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that the select committee on election laws has not yet had the opportunity to examine municipal elections provisions, and I would certainly prefer to have the benefit of that committee's recommendations before proposing revision to the legislation.

Also, since the conduct of municipal elections is of direct concern to the municipalities, I intend to seek the comments and reactions of municipal officials—both elected and appointed—prior to the drafting of any legislative proposals.

Some major recommendations of the municipal elections committee are:

That all qualified residents within the municipality and all non-resident property owners, tenants, and the wives and husbands of such owners and tenants be entitled to vote at municipal elections;

That a voter at municipal elections be required to be a Canadian citizen;

That the qualifying age for voting at municipal elections be the same as that of provincial elections;

That the present provisions for plural voting, i.e. in more than one ward, be discontinued;

That the voters' list be prepared primarily by enumeration in much the same manner as for provincial elections, but that the names of non-resident owners and tenants and their spouses be added;

That every person who qualifies to vote at municipal elections be similarly qualified to be elected a member of council;

That, subject to any special provisions in respect to regional and metropolitan governments, the times, date, year and term of office for all municipal councils, school boards and other local boards and commissions be the same;

That, as far as possible, all provisions for the conduct of municipal, school board or other local board elections be consolidated and included in The Municipal Act as a separate part.

That, as far as possible, the qualifications and disqualifications applying to membership on local boards, be the same as for membership on municipal council, and that all such provisions be included in The Municipal Act;

That the holding of advance polls by all municipalities be mandatory;

That proxy voting be permitted at municipal elections;

That the use of electronic voting equipment, mechanical vote recording units and voting machines be permitted for municipal elections, subject to the establishment of regulations for their use by the department.

These are only some of the more salient recommendations. Others deal with the expanded use of certificates to vote; simplified entry on, and appeal of, the voters' list; revision of the nomination procedures; the form of the ballot and so on.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully commend the report to the attention of the hon. members.

We will be mailing it shortly to all municipalities in the province, inviting their officials to study the report and let us have their views.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Premier? Has he received the second MTARTS report; and if he has received this report when will he make it publicly available?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): I am not aware that I have received it, no. I will check and see just where it is, but I do not recall having received it.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Is he now prepared to make public the air pollution monitor reports in Toronto and other major centres where his department has air monitor equipment? He promised to do so about five months ago.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Yes, Mr. Speaker, there will be a statement on this, I am hoping before we adjourn for the Easter recess, regarding publication of ratings in Toronto.

Mr. Nixon: A further question of the same minister, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if he would explain to the House the role of his department in the preparation of the code of management associated with the disposal of farm wastes?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, there was a representative from my department on a committee, along with a representative from The Department of Agriculture and Food and a representative from the Ontario Agricultural College. This particular code, of course, will come from my department eventually, as the responsibility of my department, as had been suggested by my colleague, the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart). This is only a suggested code of practice—

Mr. Nixon: Sort of a white paper!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is only a sort of white paper. It has only been distributed for comment. It has already been revised once. The agricultural community is really looking at the second suggested code. I am sure there will be further amendments and I am sure that the hon. member is interested in our department coming up with the best possible code so that pollution from that source may be controlled as much as possible.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. Is the minister, or those people in his department responsible for the code, specifically seeking out consultation and advice from the federation of agriculture and the farmers' union?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. Now that we have a rough draft or a suggested code, all such bodies will be consulted.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, my first question is of the Prime

Minister. In view of the telegram which has been received by the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) and the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) from the federal minister, the hon. Allan MacEachen, requesting that a task force or a work committee of government, management and labour examine the actual position of the Dunlop plant in regard to finances, productibility, markets, and so forth; will this government move as quickly as possible to co-operate with the federal government in such a feasibility study?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not really know that it is a question of co-operating with the federal government, as I read the telegram. Mr. MacEachen sent this telegram as a result of a meeting that was held in Ottawa, but I believe that there was a meeting this morning and I can only say that we stand ready to meet with management and the union on a study, if this is the wish of the company and the union combined. I rather expect that I will hear, perhaps sometime this afternoon, of some negotiations that were going on this morning; but if such a study is indicated, we would be happy to participate in it.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question: the federal government has said quite rightly that this is under provincial jurisdiction, and if the provincial government takes the initiative it will co-operate. May I ask the Prime Minister whether the initiative has been taken by this government to request the company and the union, and all other related parties to come together for the feasibility study?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am informed that there was a meeting this morning at which The Department of Labour and The Department of Trade and Development were represented, and of course the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. J. Renwick) was at that meeting this morning. Certainly we are quite prepared to go ahead; and as I say, the meetings are already taking place.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Certain supermarkets in the Metropolitan Toronto area are now selling milk which is being brought in from dairies in Montreal.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is not asking a question at the moment, he making a statement. Perhaps he would indicate at the beginning that he is asking a question.

Mr. MacDonald: I thought it was obvious that I was going to be asking a question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The question is—

Mr. MacDonald: In view of the fact that certain supermarkets in Toronto are now selling milk which is being brought in from dairies in Montreal, may I ask the minister whether or not this conforms with the regulations of the milk marketing board or the government; and if not what steps are going to be taken?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): I will have to take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker. I am not aware that is going on and I am not sure whether it is contrary to the regulations or not. There are extenuating circumstances today, and I suppose likely—

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. minister is taking it as notice he should not answer it. If he is going to answer it now, then he should answer it.

Mr. MacDonald: My final question is of the Prime Minister. Is it the government's intention to clear the way soon for action in the immediate future in the appointment of returning officers? In that connection, is the practice going to be continued, as in the past, that returning officers will be appointed on the nomination of the local Progressive Conservative riding association? If so, will steps be taken to have them make that nomination as early as possible so that the chief electoral officer can move?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not quite know what the question is, but certainly the amendment to the Act provides for permanent returning officers and we will do whatever is necessary to have as efficient an arrangement as we can. If that involves an immediate appointment I will look into that as well.

Mr. MacDonald: Could the Prime Minister indicate how far in advance of the next election it is the government's intention to have the appointments made?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker I suppose before I could decide how far in advance one would have to decide when the next election is going to be, and of course I have no knowledge of that whatsoever.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of rephrasing that, for purposes of avoiding the election, would the Prime Minister indicate by what

date it is the government's intention to have permanent returning officers appointed?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I do not think I could give the member any such statement.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): I have a question of the Minister of Labour. Other than the Dunlop Rubber Company and the Murray-Selby Shoe Company, what other industrial operations have informed the minister they plan on discontinuing operations or drastically changing their operations?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker I have had discussions concerning a number of situations. Some of them are confidential, because some of them are only tentative, and for that reason I cannot deal with them here. Hopefully there are not many that are going to result in a closedown.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask a supplementary of the minister? Of the industrial operators that intend to change their method of operation, by that I refer to either shortening the work week or extending to more overtime, have many informed the minister well in advance of contemplated changes in their operations?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the overtime arrangements are handled through a branch of the department from which they get the necessary permits. They do not come to me with reference to changes as to their own industrial structure.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask the minister a final supplementary? How far in advance are requests for overtime extensions required by his department?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, it depends on the kind of permit that is applied for. If it is the 100-hour permit, that is one thing; and of course they cannot apply for any further permit until that is used up.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, my question is of the Prime Minister. Will the government make the appropriate amendments to The Welfare Act, if necessary, to provide for income supplement as provided by The Canada Assistance Act to those working and earning moneys less than would be paid by municipal welfare?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would have to take that question as notice and go into it. Perhaps it could go on the order paper and I will answer it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Huron-Bruce (Mr. Gaunt). The member for Parkdale.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Would the hon. minister release the Stone and Webster report in regard to the Hearne plant?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I was under the impression that report was released. As a matter of fact, I believe the member's leader has a copy of that report; however I will check it and send the hon. member a copy.

Mr. Trotter: A supplementary question: Would the minister not regard this as a public document to be open to the public and the press as well as the members?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. I am quite sure that report has been released, Mr. Speaker, but I will look into it.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Huron-Bruce a supplementary?

The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs: Has the minister been made aware of the recent increases in the cost of low phosphate detergents? If he has, is the minister prepared to take some action to ensure that this increase in cost is not used to undermine anti-pollution efforts in the province?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs: Will the minister act to appoint to the Ontario Securities Commission someone from northern Ontario who is concerned and knowledgeable with the mining community of northern Ontario?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: My understanding, Mr. Speaker, is that I do not make these appointments. They are made by order-in-council.

Mr. T. P. Reid: By way of a supplementary, Mr. Speaker: I would ask if the minister is aware of the editorial in the last edition of *The Northern Miner* dealing with this problem and if he will bring this to the attention of his colleagues?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will bring it to the attention of my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): A question of the Minister of Highways, Mr. Speaker: In view of the many requests from Glengarry riding about the route of Highway 34, which is apparently planned to cut Lancaster in two, has the minister given consideration to changing this route, so as to save the business district of Lancaster?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, we are still negotiating on this matter and discussing it with the people in the area.

Mr. Shulman: As a supplementary, will the minister advise us, or will he make some statement shortly, so as to reassure these people?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, those people will be brought up to date as soon as a decision is reached.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Transport. Has the department decided what posture it is going to assume in relation to the CNR application to discontinue its passenger service in the northern part of western Ontario?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, a week or so ago I intimated to the House that a case was being prepared in connection with the application by the railways for discontinuance of service in the Bruce area. That work is going forward. As soon as I have a definite announcement to make, if I have further information to add, I will be glad to give it to the House.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Speaker, would the minister not be prepared to inform the House what position the department is going to take in respect to this application? Is the department going to go along with it, or is it going to oppose it?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I think I indicated at that time that we are preparing a case, to ascertain that we have grounds for a valid opposition.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. Gaunt: As a supplementary: is the minister aware that the submission has to be in Ottawa by March 27?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Yes, we are fully aware of it and are acting accordingly.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management. I would like to ask the minister how many prosecutions have taken place under the air pollution section since that matter has been taken over by his department?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, since last July, the date of the transfer from Health to my department, there have been 13 prosecutions resulting in 10 convictions. Fines ranged from $100 to $2,000, and at present there are six prosecutions pending.

Mr. Young: As a supplementary question, I wonder if the minister would table the names of the companies, or individuals, who have been prosecuted with the fines imposed in each one?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to inform the hon. member of the names of those people who have been convicted.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Oxford.

Mr. G. W. Innes (Oxford): A question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. What progress is being made by the minister or his department with the federal Department of Agriculture in connection with establishing national marketing boards? I understand there have been some meetings.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, I would not say there have actually been meetings on that particular subject, but the federal minister discussed with us, in the meeting last summer of the Ministers of Agriculture and their deputies, how we might proceed, or how he should proceed. He suggested at that time that consideration should be given to the bringing in of an Act providing for a national marketing board. I believe that Act has already been introduced in the House of Commons. Now I hope I am not saying something

that is not a fact as yet, but as far as I know it has been introduced and given first reading. I know that it is contemplated, anyway.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Brantford.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Can the minister indicate his department's reaction to the recommendation made by the Ontario Institute of Agrologists that a pesticide co-ordinator for Ontario be appointed?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we have accepted that recommendation as a very logical proposal. I would hope that we would be able to take some action on it, provided we have the necessary budgetary funds, and I hope we will have.

Mr. Makarchuk: By way of a supplementary, could the Minister indicate when he will come to some final decision on this matter?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh I thought I answered that. Whenever we know whether we have the budgetary funds to do that.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York Centre.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Premier: In view of the mounting pressures within Metro and outside caused by growth, does the Premier intend to provide the townships of Vaughan, Markham and Pickering with alternative and comparable means of providing the many services and giving the financial support that these municipalities require to meet the growth, and which Metro Toronto promised to provide if they joined Metro?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, these matters are under study at the moment.

Mr. Deacon: Supplementary to that, does the Premier expect to have an answer to that in the next few weeks, or is it a matter of months?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am really not in a position to say.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Is the minister aware that animal experiments are being conducted in Toronto schools?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It depends on the kind of experiments. I gather there have been experiments of one kind or another going on for some time, but I am not sure just what the hon. member is referring to.

Mr. Burr: Am I correct in assuming that during the discussions of Bill 194 last fall it was understood that animal experimentation would be restricted to the medical field and would not be allowed at high schools?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, I would not say it would be restricted entirely, but certainly, any experimentation on animals, or any research work done on animals, would fall within the purview of the legislation.

As the member knows, the legislation has not been proclaimed as yet, and in fact the regulations are now being drafted. I think we will have to take some action to see that there is some means whereby only proper types of research on animals are conducted in high schools under the bill.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: Can the minister tell us when he will have the staff lined up so that he can proclaim that bill, or is he taking a second look at the principle of it?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh no, we are not taking a second look at the principle of it, we are just trying to get the staff together and trying to get the regulations drafted. At the moment we have a director hired, Dr. Urquhart, who has been in charge of this work in the province of Saskatchewan. He has just assumed his responsibilities here; he came to our department about a week ago last Friday. He has just nicely got here.

We are working to get the various things in line so that we can proclaim the bill, but it will be a while yet.

Mr. Trotter: The minister was in an awful rush last fall.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Nipissing.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: What rush were we in last fall?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member for Nipissing has the floor.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests.

At what stage are the negotiations with the federal government in regard to the estab-

lishment of a national park in northern Ontario; and, second, has the provincial government changed its attitudes toward the turning-over of the necessary lands to the federal government to establish such a park?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, with reference to the first part, negotiations are continuing. They have been going on for quite some time and my parks people meet with the federal parks people continually.

On the second part—I missed part of it—apparently the attitude of the provincial government has been, over the past good number of years, that it would not turn over the necessary lands for the establishment of a national park to the federal government.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Has the attitude of the provincial government changed in regard to that portion of the negotiations?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: In a recent meeting held in my office, the minister responsible for national parks indicated that there was a possibility that the federal government might consider altering its policy with reference to assisting in the acquisition of private land for park purposes.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I wonder if he could assure me that in relation to the Whiterock announcement he made last week, there has been no violation of section 33 of The Planning Act in relation to land being conveyed from one person to another—the original person not owning the land—after the minister's order was put on that township?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I think the member would have to ask the registrar of deeds of that. I am not aware that there has been any. On the other hand, I am not aware of all things that go on in the Northumberland and Durham registry office.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Social and Family Services. Has the minister contacted the council of the Six Nations Indians concerning what assistance might be available from a provincial level to assist in the extended use of the Mohawk Institute, which comes under their jurisdiction and which will be vacant as of June?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, I had replied earlier to a similar question by the Leader of the Opposition indicating to him that I had heard of this matter in passing.

I inquired of the Indian community development branch. No formal proposal has been placed to them. They asked our department to get in touch with The Department of Education, and no contacts or proposals to my knowledge, have been placed before them. All I can say is that I gather that this has come about by a long consultation among the Six Nations people, the federal Department of Indian Affairs, and the parents of the children who were involved in the Mohawk Institute.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Is the minister aware that the institute does not serve, or has not served only the Six Nations children—only about 60 of them were involved—and that in fact it was a boarding school for Indian children from northern Ontario and it is being closed? As a supplementary question, would the minister risk contacting the Six Nations Indian people with proposals for their consideration as to what this administration might do to assist them in keeping the institution working for the Indian community?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I was aware that the Mohawk Institute served far more than the immediate families on the Six Nations reserve, and I understood that the families of the children who used to be sent to Mohawk Institute were in complete agreement with the closing.

May I put it this way, that we have always taken the position that we will welcome the initiative, from the point of view of the Indians, with reference to any proposals they might have to make. I would have expected that by now a proposal would have been forthcoming from the Six Nations either to us directly or indirectly through the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) who, as the hon. member knows, has specialized people in this field.

Mr. Nixon: Would the minister be prepared to have people from the Indian development branch attend a meeting of the Six Nations council for the purpose of exchanging views on this matter?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, if the community development branch were invited, we would be very pleased to attend.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough Centre.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): A question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food: Will the minister state all animal-breeding-for-research placements in Ontario, or those planned in the future, and the kind of animals they are breeding for research purposes and their location?

Would the minister answer in particular about one of those locations that I am aware of now? Would the minister state when the specially bred, disease-free animals at Bio Breeding Laboratories in Ottawa will be released on the market, for what kind of research primarily; and did the minister have anything to do with this firm receiving a $120,000 EIO loan?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, I did not even know that institution was involved in breeding such animals and I know nothing about the grant.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex-Kent. Did the member for Brantford have a supplementary? No, then the member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): A question of the Minister of Highways. What steps is the minister taking to have the 1969 road subsidies paid to the municipalities in order to avoid large borrowing on their part?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, I think I explained this question very well at the meeting of the Ontario Good Roads Association. For the benefit of the members, we pay the first 25 per cent in May, the second payment is available to them on their making a request in September, and the final payment of course is after the close of the year.

At that meeting I pointed out that very often the delays in receiving subsidies were a result of the non-application by the people who were looking for the money. Although I spoke at the end of February, there were still 60 municipalities in the province which had not made requests for their subsidies due in September, so we have tried all along to get this money out as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside was on his feet a moment ago; does he wish the floor?

Mr. Burr: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Has the minister concluded his investigations into the extent to which mercury is used in the manufacturing processes in Ontario, and is he ready to reconsider his decision of last fall not to ban the use of mercury in manufacturing processes?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, we still have not completed our study or survey of the use of mercury.

We do know where it is being used. At the present time the use, to our knowledge, is not alarming. It involves The Department of Agriculture and Food, The Department of Lands and Forests and the OWRC of my department, and it is a matter of correlating all this information at which time we will be in a position to make a decision.

At the present time all known plants and mills that are using this substance have been written a letter advising them of our concern regarding the use of mercury and asking for a report from them to the extent of this use, why it is being used, and suggesting certain alternatives. So we have not reached a decision, Mr. Speaker, as far as banning mercury is concerned, and as I say when the report involving the three departments is correlated we will be making a decision.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Speaker, could I ask a supplementary question? Is the minister's department monitoring the plant at Sarnia which produces caustic soda and chlorine? Is there any possibility that any of this is escaping into the St. Clair River?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As I mentioned, Mr. Speaker, all plants that we are aware of using mercury have been monitored. The form letter, for example, that OWRC is sending out refers to the use of mercury in the production of chlorine and caustic where it is used in electrolytic cells. I think this is the type of plant to which the hon. member is referring, so that I would assume certainly in the Sarnia area that we know exactly what is going on.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Perth.

Mr. H. Edighoffer (Perth): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Tourism and Information. Can the minister make a policy statement on the leasing of the assembly hall at the Ontario Science Centre, with particular reference to the experience of the management firm called R.J.B. Associates?

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Speaker, as far as the policy is concerned, I assume that the hon. member is speaking about the great hall and the auditorium. They are available, on those occasions when the centre is not open, to

anybody who wishes, as far as I know, on more or less a first come, first served, basis.

I do not know about the management firm. I am not sure just what the member is concerned about, as far as this firm is concerned. He kindly sent me a copy of his question a few moments ago and I will take that as notice and give him a reply tomorrow when I look into the specific instance to which he refers.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Health has a reply to a question asked by the member for York South.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, last week the hon. member for York South asked me a question and sent me over a doctor's bill which purported to charge a patient five cents.

I have talked with that doctor. There never was any intention to charge the patient for the five cents. He submitted his bill to OHSIP, received $4.95 and accepted this as full payment and, according to his statement, so informed the woman by way of receipt.

I think the point here was that if the woman had phoned the doctor and asked about this she would have been told this information very clearly and quickly.

Mr. Gisborn: Maybe it went from the minister's department.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. What position did the minister's department take concerning the recent increases in telephone rates by Bell Telephone that amounted to as much as 270 per cent?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot answer that at the moment, Mr. Speaker. I will dig into it and get an answer for the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Brantford has the floor if he wishes. The member for Wentworth, then.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Can the minister indicate what action has been taken by his department in the last 14 months to meet the commitment of the director of consumer affairs, Mr. S. D. Turner, that a new contract was being prepared by the department to meet the difficulties that they were being confronted with in the sale of products to the consumer?

Second, what action has been taken by the department on the statement by A. R. Walker, registrar at the bureau, at the same meeting that the government action was necessary to protect the consumer against the commercial type of crime, such as unfair, dishonest selling and trade practices aimed at the gullible and ill-informed – the false and misleading advertisement, overpricing of shoddy products, and extension of credit to already overcommitted debtors and the "bunko" free-gift schemes? I want to know what action has been taken by the department; it is 14 months since the statement was made.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well I cannot, in a definitive way, answer that; but I can, broadly speaking, say that the department is considering in detail the pros and cons of the development of a comprehensive code.

This involves not only the problems of the code itself, but a question of what sanctions and what administration would enforce it. It is alive and we will try to have something for the House to consider before the end of this session.

Mr. Deans: May I ask a supplementary question—whether the consideration will include insuring that advertising will, indeed, advertise the worth of the product, or the value of the company, as opposed to using the good name of the person doing the actual advertising as the only saleable commodity?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well I might say, in partial answer to this question, that the criminal code itself has sections dealing with misrepresentation, and certainly sections dealing with fraud.

Insofar as product advertising that may be misleading is concerned, my hope is that jurisdiction in this field will be accepted, and continue to be accepted, broadly by the federal authority.

As to what we do in trade practices, again, we come back to what I would consider to be the fundamental provincial jurisdiction. Here we are discussing and contemplating the development of an adequate code.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Is he now in a position to make a statement as to the department's attitude on the disposition of the $1 million fund to be distributed by the Windsor medical scheme to the

doctors participating, rather than some charitable cause, or for medical research?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I am not, Mr. Speaker. Partly this is on purpose. I would hesitate to intervene peremptorily, in any manner, if the possibility exists that the doctors themselves, of their own volition, can work out some reasonably acceptable solution to this problem.

My hope, and I think it is the hope of all members of the House, is that the doctors will, of their own accord, come up with a solution that will be satisfactory to the public of that area and the people of the province.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. Would the minister agree that the doctors have already decided that they are going to divide the fund of $1 million and distribute it among those doctors who have been participating in the plan up until this time? I thought that decision had been made?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, Mr. Speaker, the decision as to that particular point has not been made. They have not reached the point where they said they would distribute it.

The directors themselves have considered the problem. There has been one meeting of doctors, as I understand it; there is another meeting this Thursday. But the Leader of the Opposition is not correct when he says that a decision has been made to distribute.

As I mentioned in my response to the earlier part of his question, my hope is that with the passage of perhaps a few weeks time, the doctors themselves, of their own motion, can work out something that will be satisfactory to the people.

Mr. Nixon: As a further supplementary: If the doctors do decide to distribute the fund among themselves, will the minister then consider intervention?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would prefer not to worry about that until the day arrives, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a further supplementary question—

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question.

Mr. MacDonald: —and this is repeating what I put earlier. Do the guidelines which have been sent out by this department, under the minister's predecessor, permit of the doctors to divide the money among themselves, or must it be used for some "public purpose?"

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In the case of Windsor medical, the leader of the NDP is really asking me for the answer to a very complex, legal question.

I am advised that the Windsor medical service is in a specific category as compared to other such schemes in the province, and that in this particular case we have a very fine legal point involved as to whether or not this can be done. My hope, as I have suggested to the Leader of the Opposition, is that we will not get into either a legislative or legal tussle over this, and that the doctors be given a reasonable period of time to sort out their own thinking as to what is best to be done.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of final supplementary question: were the reserves in the Windsor medical plan, as in other nonprofit plans, not accumulated under the direction of the superintendent of insurance, who required that they be built up?

Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence: Again, Mr. Speaker, I am being drawn into a legal opinion. As I understand it—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister does not need to be drawn into anything. He has the right to answer, or not to answer.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is a distinction, as I understand it, between the legal status of residual funds in Windsor medical as compared to the legal status of residual funds in other similar organizations.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville has a supplementary.

Mr. B. Newman: My supplementary has been answered, but I have another question.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park has the floor.

Mr. Shulman: I have a question of the Minister of Health, Mr. Speaker.

In view of the refusal by The Department of Correctional Services of the request from the alcohol and drug addiction foundation to assist it by the use of volunteers at the Don Jail in liver function tests—this is last year—will the minister intervene to ask his colleague in the cabinet, the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman), to allow this study? This second study which is to be done, was

requested last week by your visiting professor from Rutgers, who is now at the alcoholism foundation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I will look into this and see what we can do about it, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Shulman: As a supplementary. Would the Minister agree, in light of all the work that has been done in other jurisdictions of this type, that The Department of Correctional Services has been rather archaic in its refusal?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I would not agree to that, Mr. Speaker, until I talk it over with my colleague; certainly not.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex South.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. As the guardian of the waters of the Detroit River, could the minister inform the House as to whether his department will be doing studies in that water—to post the waters, as to whether they will be safe for swimming—as it is an international waterway; or would it be up to the Essex county health unit, as such? And, during 1969, how many tests in the area of Crystal Bay did the Ontario Water Resources Commission undertake?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I hope the hon. member was not asking me to be responsible for all of the Detroit River. It would be just too much.

I think the posting of the condition of the waterway, or the river, where there are recreational areas, really is the main responsibility of the local medical officer of health. However, there is no reason why our branch office or regional office of OWRC could not help the local medical officer of health.

As far as testing and analysis is concerned, I know of at least three times since last July that these waters were tested by the commission. I am not sure if it was done more than that; it quite possibly could have been done earlier in the year, but I know of at least three times.

Mr. Paterson: As a supplementary, the minister mentioned the recreational area. Under the conservation branch, would he consider placing these islands in the lower Detroit River under his authority to properly manage these islands and the waters surrounding them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I will look into that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Health. Would the minister consider, now that the Windsor medical services still have not divided their funds, having someone approach them with the suggestion that the department would provide a matching grant, if those funds were put into some type of health use for the citizens for that section of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I think my colleague, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, indicated that this was not the time to interfere in the disposition of these funds. I think he answered the hon. member's question. There is a certain procedure for any group or any community that wishes to get grants for health facilities and anybody in Windsor is free to follow them.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, if I may. This is an unusual situation—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member may, if this is a supplementary question, otherwise he may not.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Considering the fact that the situation is unusual, would the minister consider using his persuasiveness—

Mr. Nixon: Oh, he has to have something better than that.

Mr. B. Newman: —to notify the authorities in the Windsor medical health services that, were they not to dispose of their funds, his department would match the funds in providing some type of health facility for the area?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well Mr. Speaker, of course I cannot do that kind of thing, but I think if the hon. member will look through the records he will find that we have, in the works, some very substantial projects in the Windsor area that are going to involve them.

Mr. Nixon: The minister could use the proceeds of the "Tom Wells" dinner—that would match it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management: Is the hon. minister aware of the plan of the borough of Etobicoke

to erect an incinerator on six acres of the lands held formerly by the Mimico Reformatory; and what does he intend to do about it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, yes I do know of this. I have known about it for a few months. I understand that as far as the municipality is concerned, they feel it is an ideal location for the incinerator. This is the opinion of the local municipal council. Initially, my air management branch agreed with the council that the area does seem to be a good one for this type of disposal site; however, because of the hon. member's interest in this particular matter a few months ago, and also as a result of some correspondence that I have received from residents in Etobicoke, I have asked for a report from the air management branch and I do not believe that any decision has been made as yet.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. Gaunt: A question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management: Has the minister made any decision as to whether merchants or people who had DDT seized recently would be compensated for same?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, Mr. Speaker, there has been no arrangement made to compensate anybody for the loss of DDT.

Mr. Nixon: Supplementary question—I am sorry.

Mr. Gaunt: All right, go ahead.

Mr. Nixon: Has the minister considered using the DDT that has been seized to supply the needs of those farmers who will be using DDT under special permit, rather than just destroying it and using fresh supplies?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, it is something I would think the industry itself would arrange for. As the hon. member said, DDT is not completely banned in Ontario; it is still allowed under permit. I would think that the industry—either the manufacturers or the merchants themselves — would make certain arrangements to dispose of it on the market.

Mr. Gaunt: Supplementary, if I may, Mr. Speaker: In view of what the minister has said, will the department get in touch with the merchants so involved, or alternatively, will a statement come from the department indicating that this can be done?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, that is right. This is all part of our free enterprise system, Mr. Speaker. I would think that the merchants themselves would be aware of that. I am hoping, of course, that the merchants are aware of the fact that—

Mr. Nixon: They would probably sooner sell fresh supplies, would they not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well this is the problem with DDT; it remains fresh forever, apparently.

Mr. Nixon: But I am talking about the merchants.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, I am hoping that no merchants are buying stocks of DDT these days. But to get rid of what they have, Mr. Speaker, I would think that they could form some form of council, or something, to decide what to do with their stock. And I would think that in conjunction or in co-operation with the manufacturers of this pesticide, they would be able to dispose of it; if not in Ontario, then in other parts of the continent where it is legal and where there are certain problems in which this pesticide can be of some benefit.

Mr. MacDonald: As Bob Macaulay used to say: Let them show some enterprise.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Speaker, in the event that this has not already been done, and in many parts of the province it has not, what is the minister prepared to do about the stocks of DDT that have already been seized?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The member means the disposal of it?

Mr. Gaunt: Well, in some cases the DDT has been seized and it has been disposed of; but they cannot get together and decide how they are going—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would doubt, Mr. Speaker, that there would be any compensation for that supply.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: To the Minister of Energy and Resources Management: Is the temporary lifting of the ban on disposable liquid industrial waste at a dump near Stouffville, Ontario, still in effect? Is the Minister sure that it is not causing pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, the dump hear Stouffville—I have forgotten the name of the lady who runs that—

Mr. Deacon: Brebner.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Brebner, yes! That site is now in operation. It was closed until about

the end of January I believe, and as a result of analysis survey testing by the waste management branch and OWRC, it was decided that there was no danger to the Stouffville water supply. So that the dump is now open, it is receiving industrial waste, and it is being continuously monitored as far as the water supply is concerned.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough Centre.

Mrs. M. Renwick: In regard to my two-part question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food, I believe the minister answered the second part; I wonder if the minister could answer the first part of the question?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am not sure if I recall the detail of the question, Mr. Speaker, but I thought I had answered both parts. I said I was not aware that this facility was breeding dogs and I was not aware that the grant had been made.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I would be very glad to repeat the first part of the question; it is very understandable to me that the minister might not have heard it. I would like to ask if he would list all animal-breeding-for-research enterprises that there are in Ontario, or planned in Ontario; where they are located; what they will be breeding and for what purposes?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I simply could not do that, Mr. Speaker; not because I do not want to, but because I do not have the information at hand. Nor will we have that information at hand until the Act has been proclaimed and those who are operating such breeding places have to obtain registration and licensing of their facilities. I believe the hon. member realizes this will include such places as those that breed white mice, hamsters, guinea pigs—all such animals that are bred in Ontario.

There are no dog-breeding farms *per se* in Ontario that we are aware of. There may be some for research purposes that we do not know of at this time. There are some people who are discussing the possibility of establishing such firms. But at the moment we do not have that information. We will have it when the Act is proclaimed and these people will be required to be licensed.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister a supplementary question? Will the minister not begin inspecting all of these places immediately the Act is proclaimed and therefore would the minister not have prior knowledge of where these places are?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Not at this time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. In view of the ever-increasing new mode of living with mobile homes, is the minister prepared to announce a new policy concerning assessment of mobile homes?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: These matters are under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Supplementary to that question: Is the minister considering a programme which will permit people to set up lots where mobile homes can be established within the periphery of Toronto?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: That is within the jurisdiction of Metropolitan Toronto, not within my jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: A question of the Minister of Health, Mr. Speaker: Was the Pinkerton detective agency hired by the Ontario Hospital Commission to do certain investigations of the Doctors Hospital? And why was the Pinkerton agency hired, rather than using the police services, which would not have cost anything?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I understand that they were hired; I would have to get any other information from the commission.

The commission looked after this themselves, as the member is probably very well aware. They report through me, but they are not a direct branch of my department and they function in a somewhat autonomous manner.

Mr. Shulman: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker: Would the minister agree—inasmuch as this is not the first time that the commission has hired the Pinkerton detective agency to do investigations of possible wrongdoings in hospitals—that this is a bad policy and that the public services of the police should be used, rather than a private detective agency?

Mr. Ben: What makes the member think the police would agree to handle it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I would not be prepared to admit that at all.

As far as I am aware the Pinkerton agency has served us well in the kind of investigation we want. If it is necessary to hire it, I am sure the commission would feel quite free to do this.

Mr. Gisborn: Starting his own Gestapo now, eh?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Just trying to clean up a mess.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. Would the minister consider setting up a regional medical centre in the city of Windsor, so that workmen's compensation claimants could go to that centre and expedite the medical portion of the reason for the application of workmen's compensation?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the workmen's compensation board does have its offices in various places in the province, but the person uses his own doctor initially. When we have to retain a specialist frequently they are here in Toronto or at the rehabilitation hospital. However, it is a matter I will bear in mind and take under consideration.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask a supplementary of the minister? In the community now we do have a Windsor industrial medical clinic that could be made available to the workmen's compensation board immediately. The facility is there and it certainly would facilitate workmen's compensation board cases if this facility were used by the workmen's compensation board.

Mr. Speaker: That is a question?

Mr. B. Newman: I am asking if the minister would consider using that facility.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Well, Mr. Speaker, I said I would look at in it a general way.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: A question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mr. Speaker: When will the minister answer my question re plan 174 in Oakville, which has been on the order paper for one year?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, it has not been on the order paper for one year, as the member well knows. It has been on the order paper since approximately the beginning of this session.

Mr. Shulman: What about last session—all last session too?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The answer will be forthcoming in due course.

Mr. Shulman: A question of the Minister of Labour Mr. Speaker.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): That is the kind of answer that helps dig the grave!

Mr. Shulman: Will the minister consider holding a public inquiry into the Toronto area's strike-ridden construction industry, as has been recommended by the Ontario Police Commission?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I did not hear the first part of the question.

Mr. Shulman: Will the minister consider holding a wide-ranging public inquiry into the Toronto area's strike-ridden construction industry as has been recommended by the Ontario Police Commission?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, that report to which the hon. member refers is a report to the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart). I think it is a matter that has to be taken into consideration with him.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I am directing this to the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker. Will he consider, as the Minister of Labour—inasmuch as this is a labour matter—holding such an inquiry?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, this is a matter that comes primarily under the jurisdiction of the Attorney General.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): May I direct a question to the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker? Has the minister yet signed his ministerial order in the discrimination case under the human rights code involving Castlefield Apartments, about which I asked him 10 days to two weeks ago?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, this is a matter for department consideration and I have not signed the order.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary. That order has now been outstanding since June, 1969, when it was—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is entitled to ask a supplementary question.

Mr. Lewis: You are right, Mr. Speaker!

By way of a supplementary, Mr. Speaker: why has it taken since June, 1969, to decide whether or not the minister should sign an order within his own department?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member asked why I have not signed. It is a matter of ministerial consideration and that is the reason it has not been signed.

Mr. Lewis: By way of a supplementary: Is it normal for such things to take nine months of ministerial consideration—

Mr. Lawlor: Total stagnation over there.

Mr. Lewis: —when it is recommended within his own department?

Hon. Mr. Bales: The hon. member has to appreciate that the matter under the human rights commission come forward to the minister for consideration. It is up to the minister to consider as to what steps are to be taken.

Mr. Speaker: The oral question period has now expired and I would just like to draw to the attention of the members, and the member for High Park, something which has been brought to my attention again by the clerk. That is, that if questions are left on the order paper at the end of the session, the member should always ensure, if they have not been answered, to have them on at the beginning of the next session.

Mr. Speaker: Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, on a point of order, if I may. I am—

Mr. Speaker: It has only been on the order paper, as far as this session is concerned, since the beginning of the session.

Mr. J. Renwick: So far as this Parliament is concerned it has been on the order paper for over a year.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson begs leave to present the report of the standing orders and procedures committee dealing with parts I to V inclusive of the proposed standing orders of the House and moves that it be printed in today's votes and proceedings.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. McKeough begs leave to present the report of the minister's municipal elections committee.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

THE LABOUR RELATIONS ACT

Hon. Mr. Bales moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Labour Relations Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, this bill will restore to the certification process of The Labour Relations Act the principles applied by the labour relations board in determining trade union membership prior to a recent decision of the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Act has always required that a trade union show that a proportion of employees within a proposed bargaining unit are members of the union before either a certification vote, or outright certification, can take place. Obviously it has been necessary for the board to give a certain basic meaning to the term "member" and "membership" for the purposes of the Act. This it did unanimously, some 20 years ago, when it determined that they meant, in effect, the signing of an application card and its acceptance by a union representative, coupled with the payment of at least a $1 fee.

This minimum requirement was a reasonable alternative to an otherwise tremendous administrative task of taking every application and checking to ensure that it met the particular and specific membership requirement of more than 100 trade unions.

The board's policy was adopted and maintained throughout, with the full support of labour, management and neutral members. However, as a result of the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the case of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 796, the policy has been cast into doubt. It appears that the board may be under an obligation to interpret the term "member" and "membership" in the strictest sense.

In my view, the commonsense approach at this time is to go back as far as possible to the position that was in effect before the supreme court decision and to do so expeditiously, in order that labour and management will be able to function under the certification provisions on a basis that is familiar to them.

Mr. Lewis: Our Act is better than that, but the minister has come a long way.

THE MUNICIPAL ACT

Mr. Gisborn moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Municipal Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, section 260 of The Municipal Act now provides a restriction of the right to vote on a money bylaw to

homeowners and to certain others, depending on tenure of lease. The amendment will lift the restrictions and extend the franchise to tenants and others.

Mr. Speaker: Before the orders of the day, I would like to advise the members that I would hope tomorrow we will have the appearance of the first instant *Hansard*. The situation, if I may say so, is briefly this. The transcripts will come to the members, as in the past, for correction and will form the basis of the printed *Hansard*, which will appear, as it still does, a day or two, or three, in arrears of the actual sitting.

The master transcription—direct from the tapes, without correction or editing—will go to the Queen's Printer and Publisher on a trial basis, beginning tonight with this afternoon's session. Tomorrow morning there will be available to each member a copy of the proceedings, uncorrected, as we have them here today. These are for the purpose of allowing members to keep up-to-date with what has gone on in the House.

We anticipate that the evening session instant *Hansard* will be available before noon of the following day. It all depends on the printing facilities, because the *Hansard* will go over tonight and we are advised that it takes nine hours for it to be printed, collated, stapled and what-not.

This is going to cost several tens of thousands of dollars to provide daily *Hansard* to the members. After a bit, when we get it running, I will ask for the opinion of the members as to whether the advantages to be derived from this particular system, which has been advocated in this House and which I promised we would try, equal the financial burden which it causes to the House and the Treasury and the people of Ontario.

So tomorrow morning, if all goes well in the Queen's Printer and Publisher's Office, there will be instant *Hansard*.

If any of the members feel they would like to have their *Hansard*, either for correction or their instant *Hansard*, delivered by other than the manner in which their *Hansards* for correction are delivered to them now, they might please advise either my office, or the editor of *Hansard*, and we will endeavour to meet all reasonable requirements for seeing each member has his copy as quickly as possible.

The hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Before the orders of the day. I was reading *Hansard* over the weekend and I find there is a typing error on page 379. It says, "In 1951 a committee was appointed." It should have been "1955".

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The third order; resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, when the House adjourned on Friday, I was addressing some remarks in connection with the white paper. I intend to pick up those remarks in a little while.

But, as I said on Friday, I wanted to deal at some length with the question of Dunlop Canada Limited and the impending shutdown of the Queen Street plant and the loss of employment by upward of some 600 to 700 persons.

It is now, Mr. Speaker, 10 days since the announcement was made, by the president of the company and by the general manager of the plant, in a very arbitrary way, that the plant was going to be shut down permanently over the next little while. And, so far as I can tell, Mr. Speaker, unless the company reconsiders, on its own volition, or is persuaded by this government to reconsider, its decision, the deadline that they are in fact talking about is May 1. It would be a two-month period from the time the announcement was made, approximately.

Mr. Speaker, I want to deal with this at some length and the theme and the object of the exercise of my remarks today are to persuade the government that it is essential that there be a feasibility study carried out within the next two-month period to determine the economic consequences of the proposed shutdown, to determine the economic viability of continuing the plant in operation, and to consider the wider ramifications for industries generally in the province of Ontario and elsewhere in Canada. And it has just those wide implications.

Let me lay a little bit of the background of it. Nobody knew in the plant, until a week ago Friday, March 6, that there was going to be a shutdown of the plant. So far as I can ascertain, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) had been advised, in a discussion

with the president of the company, and the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) had been advised some time in the neighbourhood of two, three or four weeks prior to March 6. I also understand that the president of the company had similarly advised the Minister of Manpower and Immigration in Ottawa and the Minister of Industry.

I do not know anything about the extent of the communications or the details which were provided to the government, but certainly I have every reason to believe that it was conveyed as a matter of information only. I believe that there was no substantial justification given as to the reasons why the proposed action would be taken and that the government at both levels accepted it as a matter of information, and not as a matter requiring any action or initiative on their part. I say I am not privy to any of that information, but that is the conclusion that one must draw from the events which have taken place.

Because, Mr. Speaker, certainly not at the level of this government was there any consideration of the question given in cabinet. I consider the remarks of the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), when he used the subterfuge of the privity of cabinet matters, that, in fact, he was saying categorically, that, no, there had been no such discussion in cabinet about the shutdown of this plant.

The Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence says it is supposition. I am prepared to stand by it.

I am not suggesting for one single moment that until the lapse of some 25 years will I know the answer to that question—unless, of course, there is a change of government. If the records are still available in 1971 I may then have an opportunity to confirm publicly just what is in those minutes.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me say in the face of that lack of initiative by the governments at both levels, let me tell you what the local, the union, has done since that time—since March 6.

The union is Local 132 of the United Rubber Workers of America. It has been in that plant for many years. It has a membership of the total plant. It has a collective agreement under the laws of this province with that company. On their own initiative, from the time that this information came to them on Friday, they have recovered from the stunning news which was administered to them in the closed confines of the plant, where communications had been severed on the Friday morning. They have organized and arranged effective meetings at Queen's Park and at Ottawa; the one here on Wednesday of last week and the one in Ottawa on Thursday of last week.

They have had any number of meetings with their own people. They have had meetings, which I attended, with the Minister of Labour on Monday of last week. They had a meeting yesterday—and I wish, Mr. Speaker, that every member of this assembly and, indeed, of the public of Ontario, had had an opportunity to be present at that time.

There were something over 300 members of the union attending this meeting. There were representatives of all levels of government; why we were on the platform I will never know, but we were. And I just want to say as an aside to the Speaker that I, as a politician, do not intend to be sort of, what shall we say, the olive oil, or the lubricant by which this plant is going to be shut down.

It is all very nice for politicians to appear at meetings and express their concern, but I can assure the House that I am certain that those of us who appeared yesterday not only because we were obligated to, but because we chose to, have a determination that we will achieve our objective in the short term of the feasibility study. I think that goes for the members of the federal government that were present, the members of the provincial government that were present and the members of the council of the city of Toronto who were present.

We are not going to be, if I may use the term, patsies—to allow time to go by which will make this arbitrary decision irreversible. Mr. Speaker, every single minute of every single hour of every day that passes without decisive decision by this government means that the process becomes more and more irreversible.

The company is now affected in the orders which are being placed with it, in contracts which are going to be let by other companies, and, if there is going to be any way in which we can restore and stabilize this situation, it has got to be done immediately. I want, Mr. Speaker, to pay my particular tribute to the members of that trade union local. I want to pay my tribute on the record of this House to the members of the executive board of that local, who, in an entirely novel situation, an entirely drastic situation, took hold of it and have coped with it in what can only be an exemplary manner—a manner which, I think, would do credit to any organization anywhere trying to cope with this kind of a problem.

And I am speaking, Mr. Speaker, about the president of the local, Mr. Philip Japp; about the vice president of the local, Mr. Bruce Heughan; about the secretary of the local, Mr. Edwin Maher; and about the treasurer of the local, Mr. John Stewart. And I am speaking of the other members of the executive board—Mr. C. Mortenson, Mr. H. Pasiak, Mr. J. Wolstenholme, Mr. J. Smillie, Mr. J. Hambleton, Mr. G. Coombes, Mr. N. Grisold, and, in addition to the members of the board of trustees of that local, Mr. Valiquette, Mr. Parker and Mr. Hisson.

Mr. Speaker, those men are a cross-section of the labour force that makes the country go. We hear quite a bit and we have heard quite a lot in the last while, that, somehow or other, it is the small businessman who is the sole repository of the initiative of this country. We have heard also that it is really the industrial leaders that make the country go and nobody else really does, and that we all must wait upon them.

Well, I am saying to you, Mr. Speaker and to this House, that it is men and women such as the men and women in Local 132, and the other members of the employee force at that plant, who are the ones who make the country operate.

These men, Mr. Speaker, whose names I have just read, are a cross-section of the length of service which is embodied in that plant. I have not made a statistical study of it, but it is my inference, from the information which I have, that the average age of the employees of that plant, is between 45 and 50. I would ask anyone in this House what they would consider their relationship to the economic life of this society was, if at that age, on a Friday morning they received the kind of notice that these men received.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Japp has had 26 years of service at Dunlop. Mr. Bruce Heughan has had 17 years; Mr. Edwin Maher has had 19 years; Mr. John Stewart has had 19 years. Mr. Mortenson is a recent newcomer, two and a half years; Mr. Pasiak, eight years, Mr. Wolstenholme, 29 years; Mr. J. Smillie, five and a half years; Mr. J. Hambleton, 30 years; Mr. G. Coombes, 24 years; Mr. Grisold, 24 years; Mr. Valiquette, 18 years; Mr. Parker, 30 years, Mr. Hisson, nine years.

Let me move on, Mr. Speaker, to the next point which I want to make. You may believe, or you may have heard, that in some way or other the wages in this plant are one of the reasons why the company cannot compete. Because in the murky atmosphere, in which the various reasons have not been given, there seems to come through the suggestion that this plant cannot compete in the domestic, or in the foreign market. The inference, therefore, always is that, somehow or other, the wages are too high. Let me tell you that in this heartland of Canada, in this great industrial treasure house of wealth in the province of Ontario, at this time, these men of whom I spoke are not getting this kind of money.

Basically the wages in that plant fall into about three or four categories. The great bulk of the men in that plant earn $3 to $3.44 an hour after that length of service that I have indicated.

There are certain persons who, if they happen to combine a wage rate as hourly-rated employees plus an incentive piece work operation, can earn up to as much as $4 an hour. The skilled tradesmen in that plant—the steamfitters, the millwrights, the electricians, the instrument men, the carpenters, the painters, the tinsmiths and the welders—they are pretty well stabilized at $3.82 an hour. And as is always or usually the case, many of the female staff are earning between $2.70 and $2.80 an hour, along with the cleaners and the watchmen.

I am going to come back to this point when I urge the government to take the initiative about this feasibility study to say to you that if companies paying those wages are not able to compete in the foreign market, then there is a serious problem of government study and intervention required to find out, really, what the problem is. Because those are not adequate wages, in my thinking, for people in this province. I press that upon the government as one of the things which is going to be required.

Mr. Speaker, another point I want to get on to the record: The president of the local sent a telegram to Sir Ray Geddes, chairman of the board of the Dunlop Tire Company, the parent company in England, about this decision to shut down the plant, and he received a reply from Sir Ray Geddes which in substance said that with regret the board of the parent company did not consider that it would reconsider the decision of the Canadian board of the company. Therefore, the inference is that in this enterprise, it is not the parent company but it is the board of the Canadian company that is responsible.

Mr. Speaker, I had an opportunity to ascertain the names and the countries of residence of the directors of Dunlop Canada, Limited, because if this is a decision of the Canadian board, then I think we have to

give serious consideration as to whether or not these decisions are made in Canadian interest.

The directors of the company are Mr. A. N. Procter, of 76 York Road in Willowdale—I do not really need to worry about street addresses. Mr. A. N. Procter, who is resident in Ontario and who is president of the company, has been in Canada for something over a year. He came here to take over the presidency of the company.

The other directors are Mr. C. L. G. Baker, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, England; Mr. M. L. Bexson, of London, England; Mr. W. H. McKay, of Kenmore, New York; Mr. J. M. Billane, of East Aurora, New York; Mr. F. J. Hall, of Agincourt; Mr. S. B. Kerr, of Toronto; Mr. T. C. Norwood, of Whitby; Mr. G. S. Plummer, of Toronto; and as I have said, Mr. Procter; so of the nine directors of the company four of them have their residence addresses outside the country, and as I stated, Mr. Procter making a fifth member of the board of directors, is himself a person who came here from the parent company a little over a year ago to take charge of the company.

So we are faced again with a decision basically being made by a multi-national corporation about a plant on Queen Street, which in turn is one part of the overall Dunlop operation in Canada.

Let me just talk a little bit about what I have been able to find out—and it is very sketchy—about the Dunlop operation in Canada. The government is not unaware of it because you see part of the Dunlop operation was moved to Centralia, which is the industrial park the government of Ontario owns, and in Centralia, Dunlop is a lessee of the Ontario Development Corporation, and if one reads with any care the announcement which was made at the time of this impending shutdown, you certainly do get the impression that the whole decision with respect to Centralia is still up in the air and I quote from the statement made by Mr. Procter on March 6, after having dealt with the shutdown at Dunlop:

> Our operations at Centralia and Algoma, where 112 are employed in the production of bicycle tires and rubber linings, are not presently affected.

And, of course, to anyone with the modicum of legal training which I have had, the word "presently" is always an ominous one.

So the government has some knowledge of this operation because it was involved in moving that portion of the Dunlop operation to Centralia and my understanding is that there is also a loan from the Ontario Development Corporation to Dunlop for the purchase of the machinery which is installed in the Centralia plant.

The other item which is interesting, and I do not know what the implications are, what the ramifications of it are, is that the former president of the company was Mr. George Plummer, who received a great deal of credit some years ago for having decided to stay in Toronto rather than move Dunlop Canada Limited out of Toronto.

Mr. Plummer is now chairman of the board. He is also interested in—and I am not certain what his office is—in a company called the Trent Rubber Company, which has been established on a very small basis in the old Firestone plant at Lindsay, Ontario, as part of the designated area programme of EIO. I understand that it is in receipt of an EIO loan and that the Trent Rubber Company has the basic ingredients—that is the machinery of mixing and the basic mixes which are required for an entry into the industrial rubber business. Again, the Ontario Development Corporation, I am quite certain, is quite familiar with that operation and its location in the old Firestone plant and therefore has some knowledge of the industrial rubber products industry in the province of Ontario.

I want now to deal with another matter related to Dunlop. I want now to move on to the question as to whether or not the company can be persuaded by the government, whether it is fair to the company—bending over backwards to be fair to the company—to permit the Ontario government to persuade the company that it can call a pause and can call a halt and can, in fact, operate for the next two to three months, which is roughly the period of time which would be required to make a feasibility study of this whole operation? I have some of the information. I do not either vouch for it or guarantee it, I believe it to be substantially accurate as to the backlog-of-order position in the Dunlop plant.

The Dunlop plant on Queen Street manufactures certain specialty types of equipment as well as being in the traditional conveyer belting field. It manufactures, for example—and I understand has, if not a monopoly, a virtual monopoly, on the manufacture of—escalator handrails with which we are all familiar.

It manufactures an item called a shrinking blanket, which is a very important quality

product used in the manufacturing of textiles, and is substantially used in the southern United States where a good part of the textile industry is located.

It manufactures conveyer belting, as I said; it manufactures a basic mix for its own use and also for sale to other companies and, for example, Polymer corporation is a customer of the Dunlop company on Queen Street for this particular basic mix, which is also part, as I understand it, of the plastics industry.

It manufactures heavy wire-braided hose, heavy duty hose; it manufactures asbestos covered hose.

Now I am told, without trying to fit what I have said into each specific product, that in the conveyer belting area there is a backlog of about 100,000 feet on order, and I understand this is the biggest backlog the company has had in a long, long time in this field and is sufficient to keep that part of its operations, which I believe is at least a third of the operation, going for a minimum period of another 12 weeks.

I am told that in the hose division there is a backlog of 157 bolsters, which can be manufactured at the rate of approximately 15 per week, so again there is a backlog for another 10 weeks. I am told that in the wire-braided hose division, there is a backlog of about 170,000 feet, which is the biggest ever and they can manufacture at the rate of about 15,000 per week.

I am told that in machine-made hose there is a 40,000-foot backlog; in the hand-built hose, which is a quality product, a 1,700-hour backlog, or some five weeks. In the braided hose there is about—and this is rather in short order—two weeks' work. For hose to be coupled—as I understand cut into seven-and-a-half foot lengths or any other appropriate length, and then coupled—there is enough work both in the industrial hose field and in the garden hose field to keep them going for well upward of a year.

As far as this primary mix or these master batches of material are concerned, I understand there is enough to keep the plant in business effectively until the end of April.

So far as membranes—the kind of plastic used now for covering irrigation ditches or man-made lakes—I understand they have a backlog of about 140,000 pounds of this kind of membrane.

In shrinking blankets, they have orders for 25 at the present time and as I understand it, this would be enough for about four weeks' work.

I am simply saying, Mr. Speaker, that with the facilities at my disposal—which are extremely limited, as anyone can well imagine—if in fact the substance of what I said is correct, then one of the first things the government must find out, is whether or not it would in fact be any hardship on this company to require it, or persuade, or urge, or cajole it, to co-operate with the government in maintaining the plant in operating condition in the ordinary course of business for the next period of two to three months?

I emphasize the phrase "ordinary course of business" because just as there must be some assurance for customers who want to repeat their orders with the company, so they will be maintained as customers, so there ought to be some assurance that sources of supply for the Dunlop plant will be maintained; that other parts of the business operation will be maintained, and its work force can be stabilized and not exacerbated further by periods of indecision.

If, Mr. Speaker, the government is prepared to move into that kind of an initiative to stabilize this operation, then I think we can overcome some, but not all, of the very disastrous results of the arbitrary announcement which was made without proper and adequate pre-planning by government in conjunction with labour and management, and at both levels of government.

Now, I want to comment as part of this that of course it raises again the whole question of the inability of this government to have even picked up the remotest part of the Freedman report and to have incorporated it into provincial law, let alone the failure of the federal government—I would guess that there are a hell of a lot of people, Mr. Speaker—excuse me—I would guess there are a lot of people, Mr. Speaker, who have not at this point the ability to recall who Mr. Justice Freedman was and what the report was all about.

It had to do with the runthrough at Nakina, of Canadian National Railways, and it had to do with Mr. Justice Freedman's remarks that in a society such as this, management does not have the prerogative or the right to cause that kind of hardship. And it is just as simple as that, and something should be done about it.

Well, this contract, the contract between the Dunlop Company and Local 132, contains the traditional management prerogative clause which means in fact that the company did not have to consult, it did not even have the courtesy, Mr. Speaker, to extend to the

workers in the plant the limited courtesy which it provided to the government at the federal and provincial levels.

I am simply saying that so far as we in this party are concerned, there will be drastic and effective changes in the kind of clauses which, if necessary, we will incorporate by statutory reference in collective agreements if, Mr. Speaker, management, the industrialists of this country are not prepared in good faith not only to bargain, but in good faith to consult with and talk with the men and women in the plants who have given their lifelong investment to the work of those plants.

This clause—and it is traditional, and anybody who has any knowledge of labour relations has seen it many times—is the one which can be used to exclude any obligation of the company to have consulted with the workers in this plant.

> Save as limited in this agreement,
>
> —it is understood that the company will continue to exercise the regular, customary functions of management, including the extension, limitation, curtailment or cessation of operations and the right to reprimand, demote or discharge an employee for cause. The company undertakes, however, not to discriminate against any employee for any reason, including race, colour, nationality, religious or political affiliation or membership in any league or organization.

Well Mr. Speaker, if the last sentence which I have read about non-discrimination required statutes of the province of Ontario and that this kind of innocuous language which is part of the law of the province of Ontario is repeated in there, it is about time that there be a statutory provision with respect to the so-called reserve managerial rights. Because we are absolutely convinced that this government, even the Tory government, is going to realize out of this Dunlop situation that this particular kind of unilateral action cannot take place again.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Why would the union agree—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): What does the minister want them to do? Strike even longer to get rid of it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Who signed an agreement with that clause?

Mr. J. Renwick: Well, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): That is typical of the Tories.

Mr. MacDonald: That is a fatuous comment.

Mr. J. Renwick: The Minister of Energy and Resources Management might as well know, if he does not know—and I am sure he does, I can almost see the tongue in his cheek. He knows exactly how long it would take a union in a particular localized plant, which is what the laws of the province require—a localized plant-union agreement—for the trade union to negotiate a larger ambit of a clause. They would not get it. It could not be extracted.

It might be possible for the union to which my colleague, the member for Oshawa belongs—and I emphasize the "might be possible"—to extract it from a company like General Motors (Canada), if it had the strength, the resources and the time to take, to force that change. But any suggestion for one single moment that any other trade union organization, apart perhaps from the United Steelworkers or perhaps the Allied Foodworkers, has the strength or the power to negotiate out of it, is whistling in the dark. The trade union movement in this country has not had one single moment of hope expressed to it from the time that Mr. Justice Freedman brought down his report.

We have heard it talked about until I personally am sick and tired of it, and you leave us with no recourse in 1971 but to introduce it by way of statute, that is the only alternative that you leave with us.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Matter of collective bargaining.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): It is not a matter of collective bargaining, we will make it a matter of statute, my friend, and then you will give notice.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I cannot see where it is a big issue—

Mr. MacDonald: Well, where has the minister been living—if he cannot see it is a big issue?

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I want to pick up what the Minister of Energy and Resources Management said. He does not think it is a big issue; it is under the cloak of that article that this company shut down this plant without any advance consultation or negotiation or discussion with the local in the plant.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Why? What advantage is it to the company to do that?

Mr. J. Renwick: Exactly!

Mr. Speaker, nothing but that minor interchange between the Minister of Resources Management and myself could illustrate more clearly the distinction of attitude between the government party and this party, because if that is the attitude of a member of the cabinet, then I am saying will he please read and reread what I have said, because I am saying to the cabinet you have got to take the initiative. It is a provincial matter, nobody else can take it, and this might be an appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, for me to read the telegram to which the leader of this party referred in his question to the Prime Minister at the opening of today's session about the willingness of the federal government to co-operate if the provincial government will take the initiative. The Hon. Mr. Allan MacEachen, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, sent this telegram to Mr. Philip Japp, the president of Local 132:

I HAVE TODAY TELEGRAPHED–

I do not know whether "today" is Monday or Friday.

I HAVE TODAY TELEGRAPHED THE ONTARIO MINISTERS OF LABOUR AND OF TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AS FOLLOWS: AT THEIR REQUEST OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF LOCAL 132, UNITED RUBBER WORKERS, REPRESENTING THE EMPLOYEES OF DUNLOP CANADA LIMITED, QUEEN STREET PLANT, MET WITH ME YESTERDAY.

Which would be Thursday, March 12.

ALL EXPRESSED DISQUIETUDE–

I take the "all" to mean not only all the members of the union, which would be natural, but everybody else at the meeting, including the Hon. Allan MacEachen.

–DISQUIETUDE WITH THE INFORMATION PROVIDED THEM BY THE COMPANY REGARDING THE ECONOMIC POSITION OF THE PLANT. THEY ARE OF THE OPINION THAT CONCESSIONS MIGHT BE MADE BY EMPLOYEES SUFFICIENT TO MAKE IT A PRACTICAL CONTINUING OPERATION. THEY REQUEST A TASK FORCE OR WORK COMMITTEE OF GOVERNMENT, MANAGEMENT AND LABOUR, TO EXAMINE THE ACTUAL POSITION OF THE PLANT IN REGARD TO FINANCES, PRODUCTIVITY, MARKETS, ETC. I POINTED OUT THIS IS A MATTER OF PROVINCIAL JURISDICTION BUT UNDERTOOK TO ASSURE FEDERAL CO-OPERATION IF YOU CONSIDER SUCH AN ANALYSIS FEASIBLE. IN THE MEANTIME MY DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ALL SERVICES. UNION REPRESENTATIVES WERE ASKED NOT TO FOREGO THESE IN HOPE SITUATION COULD BE REVERSED.

Mr. Speaker, nothing is being foregone except time. Of course Manpower have been in the plant, and of course the Minister of Labour, under the limited authority which the Legislature of this province has given to him, is endeavouring to co-operate with them, but that is in the face of the pessimistic view that in this kind of a situation nothing further can be done.

What more can we ask of government, Mr. Speaker, than that same evidence of concern, of energy, and initiative, shown on the part of the members of the plant at Dunlop; and in addition to that the same assurance of the full co-operation as given by the federal government. The missing links are what? The missing links are the company and the provincial government.

The president and the vice-president of the local met just before the House convened today with the general manager of the plant, Mr. Bullou, who, if I may interpolate, was sent from England five weeks ago to shut down the plant. He has been here for five weeks, and the union, in pursuit of the objectives which they have endeavoured to achieve –that is a sense of pause, a sense of time, during which the study could be carried out– tried to get some assurance that the May 1 deadline would be extended. And the message which I received is that they were given a unilateral "no" by the company.

Mr. Speaker, I tried this morning–and this is no criticism of him, I did not try until this morning simply for lack of time–to get in touch with Mr. Neville Procter, the president of Dunlop Canada Limited, to ask him whether or not we could get a statement of assurance of co-operation by Dunlop Canada Limited. A statement of co-operation, in broad terms, Mr. Speaker, would envisage two or three things.

It would envisage in the first place a commitment to keep the plant in operation, in the ordinary course, for a period to be decided by the joint committee as the time required to carry out the feasibility study. This, I believe for practical purposes, with the skills available to both levels of government and, indeed, to the company and the plant, would take about two months.

It would be a commitment to continue to accept orders, because I do not, for one single moment, think that orders cannot be rerouted adequately should it be finally necessary that Dunlop close down; they could be rerouted quite readily to other companies. But to give assurances that satisfactory arrangements will be given to customers' orders and to the source of supplies, and also that the company would, in addition to that

sense of co-operation, commit itself to maintaining the work force and the way in which the company is operating up to now.

Mr. Speaker, the ball is clearly with the company and with the provincial government. I believe, I am convinced, I am satisfied, that this government, if not the Minister of Labour, if not the Minister of Trade and Development, then the Prime Minister, could speak with Mr. Neville Procter, to review the background of this situation with him. And I am quite certain that a company like Dunlop, which will be maintaining substantial other operations in Ontario and in Canada, would, if for no other reason than for the public relations concerned, indicate that they could co-operate.

I would put it on a different basis. This government does not need legislation; the government has an infinite reservoir of persuasive methods by which it can persuade industry, in such situations as this, to give us the time to co-operate.

Mr. Speaker, I have not much more to say about Dunlop but I do want to say this: I do not want anybody in this House to think for one single moment that this is another opportunity where time will smooth everything out. I am convinced that, day in and day out, we are going to insist on this feasibility study; I would hope we do not have to. I would hope that within 24 hours the Prime Minister would direct the Minister of Trade and Development to meet with the appropriate federal minister; to meet at the same time with representatives from Local 132 and with representatives from the company, with instructions, if possible, to set up this task force, or work committee, to carry out the kind of study which is indicated by the impending decision to shut down this plant.

If I cannot appeal to the government because of the plant itself on Queen Street, and because of the men and women who are going to lose their jobs, and I would like clearly to put on the record the number of jobs which are involved—597 jobs—of which 336 are operative, 185 are clerical and sales staff, 38 are supervisory, and 35 management; and I am advised by the union concerned that in fact there were another 75 to 80 persons who had already been laid off, so that the figures that we are talking about are closer to 700.

But to pick up again what I was saying, if I cannot convince the government on that viewpoint to give aid and assistance in this situation as an individual and an isolated item of concern for the government, then I ask them to consider the ramifications for the Ontario economy. Consider if in fact, given modern machinery, given the kind of work force which is available, given the wage rates which are being paid in that plant, the company cannot compete in an area of relatively specialized products.

These are not just any kind of product. These are specialty products for which the men in the work force are skilled. If we cannot compete in that kind of field, then I think there is a serious economic problem affecting the potential of the province of Ontario which it is an obligation of government to study and to begin to understand. One of the implications, of course, is that it is a question of export trade and that we cannot compete in that trade.

Well, if this company cannot compete! Because after all, they completed, just a few months ago, a $1.5 million expansion and development of this plant in order to provide modern machinery and equipment—in what is admittedly an old structure on Queen Street—but to modernize it in the sense of modern machinery. In the light of all this, it would seem to me that there is, in fact, a serious government problem about what is going to happen to companies similarly located elsewhere in the province of Ontario.

I do not for one single moment believe that the work force at Dunlop, if and when we finally find out the reason for the impending shutdown, cannot compete, both in the domestic market and the world market.

I happen also to be concerned—and this, I think, Mr. Speaker, winds up the comments that I want to make about this—I also am concerned about what is the background of the Dunlop decision, really. Is it related to the acquisition of the distribution company of George Angus Limited which, I understand, is a substantial distribution outfit? Is it related to whatever the working agreement, in traditional European fashion, has been entered into between Dunlop Tire of England and the Pirelli company in Italy?

Just what part do those operations, on the multi-national scale of Dunlop Tire, mean to one plant on Queen Street in the city of Toronto? And what is the responsibility of government to know what it is all about?

Well, I just happen to think that it is a very real responsibility of government to find out. I leave it by simply saying, Mr. Speaker, that on occasion it has been known that plants fail because of poor management. I think that is also a matter which deserves very careful consideration by this government, involved as they are, in the marginal and peripheral

sense, in the operations of this company at Centralia.

This morning I convened a meeting, to which I made reference yesterday when I had the opportunity of attending the meeting, being in here on Sunday. The meeting was attended by two members of The Department of Trade and Development, who were most co-operative in coming. There was no problem about them coming. We had a discussion with them, along with a gentleman, an economic consultant, who got in touch with me about it, and indicated that it may well be that middle management at the Queen Street plant is interested in pursuing the feasibility of this matter as well. We met with other persons who are specialists in the field of law and accounting, along with the president and vice-president of the union, to have a preliminary discussion about the possibility of a task force. I think as a preliminary meeting, it served its purpose, but it will not have served its purpose unless we can continue to meet and I am available at any time, should I be included in any discussions which take place.

I am asking, very simply, in closing my remarks about Dunlop for the present, that the government consider now convening a meeting of the president of the company, a meeting of the president of Local 132; a meeting with a member of the provincial government, who, I assume, would be the hon. Minister of Trade and Development, if he is back from Japan, which I understand he will be toward the end of this week, or someone else in his place in an interim sense.

If we could meet tomorrow with an equivalent and appropriate minister or ministers at the federal level—I think a small meeting made up of five or six persons could, if this government takes the initiative, provide the direction that is required in the situation.

If the Ontario government can get this task force or work committee established promptly, can quickly get it about its work, can sort it out then we can all decide, in two months' time, or in three months' time, whether or not what we propose is economically feasible. The employee force at Dunlop might very well be interested in acquiring that particular Queen Street plant. It might be that it is available at a relatively knocked-down price, because there is a difference between a company selling off a shut-down plant and a company selling off a going business.

That is what we want to accomplish. That cannot be done unless this feasibility study is done, because nobody is going to ask anybody to participate in this kind of a venture unless there has been the kind of study which we are calling for.

Mr. Speaker, that is the name of the exercise, to persuade the government to call a pause in the game to get the co-operation of the company—and jointly with the co-operation of the company, of labour and of the federal and provincial governments—to carry out the economic feasibility study about the Dunlop plant on Queen Street. I have spoken at some length on this because of the importance that the subject and issue deserves, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I want to turn now, if I may, to pick up the remarks which I was making at the time of the adjournment on Friday, about the thrust of this party and its perspective in relation to the white paper, the Benson paper on taxation.

When I closed, I had been placing on the record—and the record of that day will show it. I need not repeat it here, except from the point of view of picking up the thread of my remarks. I was using the evidence which was before the standing senate committee on banking, trade and commerce on Wednesday, February 11, with respect to income tax returns of persons earning salary and professional incomes prior to any deductions in Canada in 1967.

I had, in summary, just stated that there were, in 1967, a total of 6,655,000 tax returns filed in that year and that 55 per cent of them, or 3,668,456, were filed by persons earning in gross $5,000 or less. I said that an additional 37.5 per cent, or 2,490,063, were filed by persons earning between $5,000 and $10,000 a year, making, Mr. Speaker, a total of 92.5 per cent of the individual tax returns filed in Canada, or 6,158,519, being filed by persons earning less than $10,000 a year.

Just to complete the figures, Mr. Speaker, for the record between $10,000 and $15,000 a year, by way of income, there are an additional five per cent, or 334,048. So we have the figure of 97.5 per cent of the people in Canada who filed income tax returns who are earning less than $15,000. The remaining 2.5 per cent were earning between $15,000 and something over $200,000 and there appear to be some 140 persons who, in 1967, were filing as being in receipt of income from salaries or professional fees of over $200,000.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Two hundred and forty people?

Mr. J. Renwick: One hundred and forty! What is the effect of those figures, Mr. Speaker, in the face of this constant barrage

in maintaining our perspective about the white paper?

Let me put it, as far as I can see it, on the record. If you are a single taxpayer, with no dependents, and with income from employment before exemptions or deductions, of $3,000 or less, the effect of the new exemptions, the new rate schedule and the new deduction from employment income will reduce the present federal and provincial tax burdens by varying amounts, depending on their income, from $7 to a maximum relief of $63. That is an individual person earning $3,000 or less, after taking into account the new exemptions, the new rate schedule and the deduction for employment.

If you are a single taxpayer with no dependents, the same person of whom I have spoken before, with a gross income of $4,000, then, after giving effect to the proposals in the white paper, that person will pay $13 more. At $5,000 he will pay $24 more. And I simply pause to say that I do not understand why a single person in this country earning $3,000, $4,000 or $5,000 should get that kind of niggardly tax relief under the so-called white paper proposals for tax reform. If you are such a person, earning $30,000, your taxes are increased by $235. If you are earning $50,000, you get a reduction of $283. And if you are one of those who gets an income of $100,000, with the flat rate proposed by the white paper the fellow at $100,000 gets a reduction of $5,470.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): They are going to be well off over there.

Mr. J. Renwick: Well my friend here says that they picked it up on capital gains.

There have been no figures other than those in the white paper that indicate for one single moment that they are going to pick it up on capital gains, particularly if the pressure from this government has the results that the government wants it to have.

If you are a married taxpayer with no dependents, with income from employment before exemption or deductions of $3,000 or less, the effect will be reductions ranging from $15 to $131. A married taxpayer with no dependents, with gross income $4,000, a reduction of $112. At $5,000, a reduction of $102; at $6,000 a reduction of $88; at $8,000 a reduction of $71; at $10,000 an increase of $56; at $30,000 an increase of $33; at $50,000 a reduction of $433; and at $100,000 a reduction of $5,517.

If you are a married taxpayer, Mr. Speaker, with two dependent children under the age of 16 with income from employment before exemptions or deductions of $3,000 or less, the effect will be reductions ranging from $15 to $44; at the level of $4,000 the reductions will be $127; at $5,000—$113; at $6,000—$96; at $8,000—$83; at $10,000 an increase of $17 in tax; at $12,000 an increase of $128; at $30,000 an increase of $35; at $50,000 a reduction of $401; and at $100,000 a reduction of $5,423.

Then if you take advantage of the husband and wife working, in that situation you have the effect of the new exemptions, the new rate schedule and the new deductions for employment expense and child care. If the husband and wife have a combined income of $3,000 there is a net reduction of $7. If their combined income is $5,000 there is a reduction of $169; if their combined income is $7,000 a reduction of $247; if their combined income is $9,000 a reduction of $235; and a combined income of $15,000 a reduction of $27.

Well Mr. Speaker, to zero in on the important chapter of the white paper, chapter two which deals with this question of individual and family income and exemptions, what do we find? We find that under the guise of tax reform—and one must admit that if you are going to have tax reform they could not possibly not have alleviated the burden of the taxation some way—but under the guise of tax reform we have what are relatively minor, insignificant changes in the burden of tax proposed under the income tax for persons earning up to $5,000 a year. Single, married without dependents, or married with dependents; and similarly a relatively marginal and peripheral reduction in taxation for those earning up to $10,000 a year, who comprise the great bulk of the population who file income tax returns.

Now if I may just digress, Mr. Speaker, in case someone were to say that in using 1967 figures, of course times have changed since 1967 and that the taxable incomes, or the gross incomes, of persons would be considerably higher, then I would like to point out to you that so far as I can gauge it, whatever mathematics one wants to go through, you would have to take into account the fact that for the fourth consecutive year Canadian consumer prices have risen by over three and a half per cent, and this implies a decline in purchasing power of over 14 per cent since the end of 1965. And the biggest elements in last year's increase continue to

be shelter costs and food prices, which of course everyone needs and must use. So I am simply saying that for practical purposes we can use the 1967 figures to see what the impact of the proposals in the white paper are.

Well all right, Mr. Speaker, what have we seen if we now look back and if, for at least one brief moment, I have been able to restore some perspective on the white paper, what have we seen since the Carter report came down?

First of all, we did not have the fortune that Mr. Carter maintained his health and remained alive and was able to do the kind of job in creating a climate of public opinion which Mr. Justice Emmett Hall was able to accomplish on the health services report. Now that is a very real loss, because Mr. Carter was a reasonable person who was quite prepared to go publicly across the country and to lay the groundwork for an informed public opinion and to answer some of the various attacks which gradually were made about the white paper. And if you will look back from the time of the Carter report and the length of time which has elapsed, you will be aware of a concerted build-up of attacks by persons who are privileged under the existing tax structure to maintain their privileges and to have people convinced that they are equitable and fair.

And that goes, Mr. Speaker, and I say this with some reluctance, that goes for the persons who have had the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) as their protagonist. Because I think it is fair to say, Mr. Speaker—and I understand with the support of the Prime Minister—that we in this party have just as much concern about the important role of small business in the province of Ontario as anyone else.

What we are saying is, that it ill behooves the Tory government of the province of Ontario to indicate some solicitude under the personal income tax scales or under the corporation tax scale for small business, because I do not know of anything in the Ontario corporations tax which has indicated any solicitude, taxwise, for the small businessman. They have simply gone along with the existing federal arrangements to provide that kind of support. It just sounds a little bit hollow for us here to hear about the plight of the small businessman as a result of corporation taxes from the government of the province of Ontario, which took absolutely no initiative over a long period of time about this problem.

Our position is quite clear. We do not happen to believe that it is necessary. At least I should say I do not happen to believe, because it is an intricate topic and I am quite certain that there may very well be other persons with a different view. I do not happen to believe, in fact, that any small business that is economic, that is sound, that is efficient, is going to go out of business because of the removal of a $10,150 in perpetuity tax privilege under the existing taxing statute.

I do not think that business works that way. And if there is any such business which is sound, economic, efficient, which is unable for any reason to continue in business—a shortage of working capital, an inability to exploit a particular product, an inability to acquire particular machines, an inability to acquire a particular trade process—then I say "All right, the government must leave itself open as an avenue to which that company can have recourse, if for some reason or other, there is no alternative available in the commercial and financial markets of the province of Ontario. And, Mr. Speaker, it is not available.

I attended a meeting, a very brief meeting to be sure, at which, it would appear to me on first blush, an economically sound proposition was put forward. The calculations were made on the basis of a 12 per cent interest table, and, in fact, the people were advised that one of the first things they should do would be to revise their projections on the basis of a 15 per cent and 18 per cent call for money.

All right, there is a role for government in the provision of economic assistance to sound viable, economic plans. But that is quite a different problem, Mr. Speaker, than to maintain the prestige and wealth of certain particular families in the province of Ontario.

That is not the purpose of the exercise. The purpose of the exercise is to maintain small business. Nothing that I have heard from the member for Eglinton—or when he was patted on the back by the Prime Minister immediately following what the member for Eglinton had to say—is going to convince me that, soundly looked at, there is any member of the government who is going to buy the proposition that it is essential to maintain, not just for small incorporated businesses, but for all corporations, a tax privilege amounting to $10,150 per year.

That is not the purpose of it. That does not need to be done. As my colleague, the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) said—to

complete what few remarks I have to say about the small businessman—there is nothing in the white paper, apart from that information which I put on the record about income tax rates and the small benefits under individual and family exemptions in chapter two, which provides any assistance for all of the small businessmen in this province who carry on business as sole proprietors, or who carry on business in partnership. And I am not talking about the professions. I am talking about small business.

Until we start to look at that kind of a problem and provide some relief for those persons—which this government could have done years ago, if it really believed in what it now puts forward to the public as a matter of great concern to them. Everyone knows that there is no method by which a sole proprietor or partnership carrying on a business can before taxes invest any of the profit of that business in the expansion of that business. Then it must all be an after-tax operation, Mr. Speaker.

I have listened a lot to it, but I do not know enough about it, so I am not going to comment about the natural resources companies, other than to say that they were the first ones that moved in on the Carter proposals. Once again, doom was going to descend on us—the wealth in the ground in this country, or in other resources in this province, is not going to be available unless certain persons are given certain tax privileges and those tax privileges are maintained.

Well, I simply say again a taxing statute should be designed to tax uniformly, equitably, and fairly for social purposes. Any other assistance which particular industries may require on an individual basis, if justification is put forward about it, should be done on an individual basis, in the light of the position of that company in the particular industry.

My colleague, the member for Lakeshore, pointed out very clearly the very significant proposal of the Benson white paper with respect to the depletion allowances. But, if my memory serves me correctly, when the hon. Mitchell Sharp was the Minister of Finance, somehow or other they felt compelled to give an assurance that even the minor eliminations of these tax privileges would have to be postponed until 1974.

One further area that I want to comment about, is this question of capital gains. Mr. Speaker, what the Benson paper proposes and what the Carter commission proposed was a tax on capital gains—capital gains included in income—and that the traditional distinction between capital and income disappear from problems and tax discussions. So it would become an item of income, and that is totally distinct from the imposition of a capital gains tax which is what is imposed in the U.S.

I think if there was ever any validity in the basic equity principles of the Carter commission, it was in the proposition that there was no distinction basically between money earned by way of wages and salaries, or fees for services provided, or for work done, and from money earned or gained through stock market transactions, or through other types of capital appreciation, particularly land appreciation. I think that that is an immutable principle of taxation which was finally stated by the Carter commission and it stated it at some length.

When the Carter commission was sorting out contradictions between objectives of taxation policies and when they came right down to it—and there had to be a resolution between conflicting objectives—they resolved it in favour of equity. The equitable principle is that capital gains, gains on the stock market, gains on the realization of real estate, are no different from and should not be taxed any differently than income which is earned by way of salary or employment.

Let me make this *caveat* on that one particular question. I do not think that the private residences of individual citizens within the scales of limitation of income that I put on the record earlier—that is, up to $5,000, up to $10,000, up to $15,000—merit any consideration at all as a question of taxable income. It may well be that you should, at some point, in the turnover of a residence, pick a few dollars of tax; maybe you should. But I leave that separate and distinct from the major core of the argument about including capital gains. I do not think anyone should be diverted from the substantial recommendation of the Carter commission carried forward into the Benson white paper by some suggestion of trying to frighten people about the taxes on their residences.

Our position is perfectly clear. Residences should not be taxed. If there is a phenomenal gain in real estate, then that is a different matter, because the accretion in value of real estate is an accretion in value because of the total activities of the community in which that land is located. It has, in most cases, little to do with the actual contribution made by any specific person who happens to hold the land at that time.

I think that bears a very careful analysis and study; that land accretions in value are

contributed to by the whole of the community and the tax benefits should accrue to the public sector.

Another area of the white paper that I want to touch on, Mr. Speaker, is the question of the integration of the corporate tax and the shareholder's tax with respect to dividends on it. I found this the most difficult part for me to accept, and anything that I say on this is a matter which I do not necessarily know whether we have resolved in our own caucus in specific detail to everyone's satisfaction.

First of all, it is a difficult problem because of corporate financing work; it is difficult in that sense. It is difficult in the sense that it is, even with the integration system, pretty complex and pretty difficult to work out. But trying to cut away the difficulties about it let me say this: my natural reaction and bias tends to be a little bit against it. Because, from the time when I started in to practice law for practical purposes, there has been a tremendous pressure—from the business community, from the tax accountants, and the tax lawyers and those interested in furthering the interests and doing the work for the business community—to persuade the people generally, and the government in particular, that there was some mythology about corporate profits called double taxation. As if, somehow or other, the corporation tax, when paid by a corporation on its income, was, in fact, taking money out of the pocket of the individual shareholder to which the individual shareholder was entitled in some way.

Well, I do not buy that analysis of the problem. Let us leave aside for the moment the vexed question which the Benson white paper tried to deal with—between closely held and widely held corporations—and which we on the select committee on corporation law tried to deal with, in eliminating the distinction between public companies and private companies, and talking about what was listed on the exchange and not listed on the exchange, and whether the T. Eaton Company fell in any hierarchy of widely held or closely held, or public companies or private companies.

Leaving aside that problem, which I can come back to in a minute or two, I happen to think that, for practical purposes, most companies of any stature and size in the economic life of the province are, in fact, separate and distinct from their shareholders. It is only a colloquial, traditional way of expressing it, to say that the shareholders own the company.

There may be, as I say, certain areas where that is true. True in the sense that they can wind it up and they can sell the thing off and nobody can say to them "yes," or "no," about it. But most companies are not that way.

The shareholder is entitled to notice of a meeting. He is entitled to a share certificate representing his interest in the company. He is entitled to get a dividend if and when the board of directors of the company declare a dividend. And he is entitled to his share if and when, for example, there is a winding up and dissolution of the company. I leave that one aside, because in most companies the winding up and dissolution of a company results in a net loss to the persons concerned and their alloted share of the assets of the company are not very great.

But those are the rights of the shareholder. If you want to call that bundle of rights "ownership," well, for convenience's sake that is fine. But let us get to the reality of the situation. I do not believe that the shareholders of Inco own Inco. They certainly do not manage it and they only have the rights that I refer to. Therefore, without labouring distinction and making it apply, as I have said, to most business enterprises using the corporation form, I am prepared to say, in any event, that the corporate profits of a company are not the profits of the shareholders who happen to own shares in that company. There is nothing which, in reality, supports the proposition that in some way an individual shareholder should get credit for it.

Approaching it from that point of view, there are all sorts of accommodations, of course, which have been made for legitimate reasons—at least in my view—in terms of dividends, tax credits and other things like that. Perhaps in certain circumstances they were justified—they, again, came back legally to this closely so-called closely-held, or widely-held company, or public company or private company.

The first one was to benefit the small business company that had invested all its retained earnings in plant and expansion during the war. They found themselves with large surpluses and the Ives commission, which also dealt with co-operatives came down with one recommendation on an interim basis. Those of us who were practising law at that time were able to go through the intricate corporate gymnastics in order to extract some money under what became known as the "Ives dividend" at a lower rate of tax than would otherwise be payable.

Then the government tried to find another solution for the smaller companies on a continuing basis. They ended up, of course, having to grant it to all companies, just for practical purposes. They had to end up allowing this lower tax rate to inure to the benefit of all companies, because they could not solve the problem of which ones should get it and which ones should not get it, and how to prevent those who should not get it from so arranging their affairs that they were going to get it.

Which allows me to make a small philosophical digression to the effect that there is no field that I know of in which it is easier to speak about general principles of taxation and more difficult when you come down to the particularities to keep the principles in mind. That is, of course, because of the rule of our law which says the taxpayer—and I think the rule is right, that the courts have no leeway—that if, in fact, you can so arrange your affairs to stickhandle through the wording of the statute and so avoid the taxes which would otherwise be payable you are totally entitled to so arrange your affairs.

That does not mean that you can evade it in the sense of not paying, or of not filing honest returns. But within that framework I think we must—to end that digression—simply recognize the extreme difficulty of framing a taxing statute to carry out even the most elementary principle without leaving it available for those who can hire tax accountants and tax lawyers to spend their time in the *minutiae* of the income tax law to find the ways in which their clients can minimize their tax obligations.

I think this is borne out, Mr. Speaker, because if anyone in fact just looks at The Income Tax Act, the basic charging sections of the taxing statute are in about four or five sections. Most of the rest of them are detailed specific treatment in jargon—language which is totally unintelligible to anybody but a person skilled in that minute field—designed either to confer specific benefits because of a meritorious position, or to close loopholes which the tax accountants or tax lawyers have found.

So, basically, I think my position is, on this particular question of integration, that for most companies I say that there is no such legitimate view that there is double taxation of corporate profits. I tend to come down on the side of not being in favour of integration.

I do, however, want to deal with the substance of the other problem; that is, that restricted group of businesses which are incorporated. I think this also applies to those which are unincorporated as sole proprietorships or partnerships. Specific study is going to have to be done to so find the essential characteristics and elements of those kinds of companies that, by way of definition they can, in fact, be given, if entitled to it, separate and distinct tax treatment. If that kind of work was done, then I think that quite likely we would be able to come to some kind of a satisfactory solution of the problem.

You see, all of us get hung up with something like the T. Eaton Company. If you talk about a widely held corporation and a closely held corporation as a distinguishing factor, somebody immediately says that only one man owns the T. Eaton Company. Everybody knows that that is a large, public corporation with a very real public interest involved in it—it is not the small, private business which Timothy Eaton started in the city of Toronto many years ago. Therefore it should not be distinguished from any other large organizations which have grown up in a different way.

On the other hand, you do have companies which quite legitimately are family owned, in the sense in which you can say about them that they have gone to a lawyer or an accountant and the lawyer or the accountant has advised them that for corporate reasons and for tax reasons, it is advisable that they go through the format of incorporation themselves.

The old distinction of private companies and public companies just was not adequate, as we found in the select committee on corporation law, but we never did get down to finding out the essential ingredient that would permit, quite legitimately and properly, that area to be dealt with.

I want to make one specific proposal about the small businessman—whether incorporated, whether sole proprietor, or whether a partnership—and it is not a proposal other than to ask the government to take under consideration that specific problem. Just when is a small business a small business? Just what kind of treatment should they get from the tax point of view? Should there be this continuing gobbledy-gook of whether a small business is incorporated or not?

I think that we could provide a very useful and valuable contribution to the assistance of small businesses if that isolated problem was referred by the government for study—for example, I do not know but maybe the securities commission is the place; however, I am not talking about a select committee, it is not that kind of a problem. But it should

be referred to somebody, maybe to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence), to retain who he wants to try to go into the problem, because it bedevils the whole of this problem about taxation.

Even if they go through with the integration, they have had to make a distinction between widely held and closely held. If they do not go through with the integration, then you do have the question of the removal of the low tax rate from the small businessman for reasons which I have indicated. And you do have the problem as to why a small businessman carrying on business as a sole proprietor should be treated any differently from a person who does not carry on that business in that way.

That is the comment that I want to make in those fields. I want to ask the House to forget the kind of doomsdaying indulged in, if I can find the report among my papers, by the chairman of the board of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, with respect to the ultimate effects of the white paper. These were the remarks made by Mr. N. J. McKinnon, as chairman of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, on Tuesday, December 9 at the annual meeting of the shareholders, and in summary form it was a doomsdaying statement. It synopsized all of the things which were going to happen to the country if, in fact, the white paper was implemented in its present form.

Because somebody had mentioned to me about Lloyd George and the peoples' budget of 1909, I asked the legislative librarian if he would be good enough to pick out any references to it. When in 1909, Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer in Great Britain, brought down what has become known in history as the people's budget, it is interesting to note that the bankers of the city of London got together and they made a similar presentation to the government of Great Britain at that time about all the dire things that were going to happen if Lloyd George's very minimal tax relief and tax changes were carried into effect.

Mr. McKinnon had this to say, to summarize, and I quote:

> If the white paper is accepted, it will convert the savers of the nation into spenders, and consumption will increase over the years. As the incentives and attractions to investment from external sources diminish, and as the white paper makes it impossible for the private sector to accumulate private capital of consequence, production and employment over the years will be less fruitful. There are obvious conclusions to be drawn:
>
> (a) Under these circumstances, interest rates will not fall, but will likely continue to rise to levels much higher than they would otherwise be.
>
> (b) Failure to increase production and export, combined with the emphasis on domestic consumption instead of on saving, will have an adverse affect on the Canadian balance of payments and on Canada's ability to service foreign investment. Over a period of time this could lead to a further devaluation of the Canadian dollar.
>
> (c) The economic consequences of all these factors over a period of time will tend to depress the general standard of living, particularly for the lower income groups as compared to what would otherwise have been achieved.
>
> (d) These conditions encourage an exodus of the better educated, more able and more mobile young Canadians to other countries with greater promise for them. As the vitality of the nation in every field of endeavour depends on the quality of the people within it, there could develop a debility of the entire economy.
>
> These will likely be the economic consequences of the white paper if the proposals are enacted into law. Both the economic consequences of the proposals of the white paper and the principles that underline them constitute a threat to the Canadian economy and to the people of this nation.

Mr. Speaker, to that I say, hogwash. I say, balderdash. It just will not happen. If these minimal changes take effect, they are only the start of what must be done if we, Mr. Speaker, are sincere and concerned about the impact of the taxation system on the people who are earning up to $5,000 a year or up to $10,000 a year. And that is the area of concern.

My principal concern, Mr. Speaker, has been and will be that the government of Ontario appears to have quietly, surreptitiously, without any statement from the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), forsworn the white paper. I think there were real elements, of course, with which I disagree, but there were real elements of possible means by which people in the range up to $5,000, the range up to $10,000 in income scale, were going to have some opportunity to get relief from the burden of the regressive nature of the property tax—which everybody tells us is regressive and to which the only solution so far is the residential tax reduction—and those areas

in the sales tax field which are also regressive. That means of relief was by a system of credits.

In summary, by way of criticism, by way of comment on the white paper, I just happen to be a person who does not believe for one moment that the other side of production is not consumption; neither does Neil McKinnon because his bank is engaged daily in persuading people to consume more. They are not in opposition. Consumption and production are the reverse sides of the same coin and I suppose that J. M. Keynes taught us all this in the depression.

I also do not make the distinction between something called business investment or private investment and government spending—as though government spending in some form is not investment but is spending in a wasteful and inefficient way, and that private use of capital is investment in some wise and beneficial way. In our society, there just is no opposition between public spending or public investment, between corporate or private spending or investment—there again, both sides of the same coin, they are inevitably and inextricably interwound. In my view, until the specific realization of that comes through to everyone in the country, we are going to have a constant and continuous pressure that the first thing which must be done is to cut back on government spending.

That is not what the problem is with which we are faced. Our basic problem is to use intelligently, efficiently and economically the overall resources of the country for private and social purposes. Each have a role, each have a place, but not for the public and private aggrandisement of any one particular section of the community, and, Mr. Speaker, I want to say in closing my remarks about the white paper that somehow or other we have got to make certain that the net effect of the capital gains tax—if the proposal to eliminate the tax on unrealized gains is eliminated—is maintained on death or shortly after death, in order to tax inherited wealth, and that is the distinction we have got to make.

The death tax and the succession duty have always been a tax on unrealized gain, and the proposal to eliminate the succession duty, or estate taxes, and to tax on realized gains periodically over a period of time, may be a more equitable way to deal with it despite the problems of valuation which may be involved.

I think I state clearly the position of this party, that somehow or other in the mixture, we are not going to end up with a system by which there is no tax on inherited wealth passing from one generation to another.

We do not happen, in this party, to believe in the accumulation of private fortunes to be transmitted from one generation to another disguised under the proposition that it is only that kind of capital that will save this country from rack and ruin, because we all know very well that that is not what makes the country go around.

Mr. Speaker, I have gone on much too long; I have said what I wanted to say about four or five topics. I have in my pocket, should any of the members want me to continue, a list of half a dozen other topics but perhaps I will leave those until the budget comes in which we await with great expectation on March 31. I am glad the Treasurer avoided April 1 for his budget.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Mr. Speaker, I understand there will be a private members' hour at 5 o'clock so I will have just a few minutes to say a few things before I get into the main text of what I would like to say.

There were two areas about which I would like to speak. One deals with the unnecessary and wasteful duplication of services in the province, the lack of co-ordination among the various departments; and then after the supper hour I would like to get into in some detail the matter of the anomalies in our new Assessment Act, what I think should be done and what is cropping up. But for the time at hand I would like to say just a few things on the same subject as the previous speaker has been speaking on for the last hour. This is the matter of the white paper and specifically I would like to point out a few things which were overlooked by the previous speaker in dealing with the small businessman.

I do not suppose there is any one in that party who has ever been a small businessman; I do not think there is anyone there that has ever started, we will say, from scratch in an enterprise and who by his own sweat has worked himself into a position where he is beginning to see some fruits of his labours.

The difference, I think, that must be distinguished between a small businessman and those of a widely held corporation are the lack of availability of capital for a man starting into business or in the first five or 10 years in which he has been there.

The hon. member made mention of inefficient or efficient small businesses. Well, a small businessman in the views of many is

inefficient if he starts with insufficient capital. He perhaps has his wife and family working for him without pay. He has limited sources from which he can borrow. He works 12, 14 or 18 hours a day, and takes nothing but bread and butter out of his business for the first five years he is there. Perhaps that is being inefficient, and if that is inefficiency, many small businessmen have to plead guilty to the fact. But we must remember that profit from that business is practically the only source that businessman has to build his business.

Granted, the retained earnings of many small corporations become very large and they do throw a heavy burden on the value of the common shares of that business, but the small man in business, showing a small profit, has only one source from which he can expand his business, and that is out of profits.

Has anyone in that party ever gone to a bank and tried to borrow money for the expansion of a small, closely held corporation?

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Hundreds of times.

Mr. Good: Hundreds of time; I will bet you have not. All right, a widely held corporation has so many avenues from which it can raise capital for expansion and if a business does not keep up with the times, it will naturally go behind and will completely go out of business. I was glad to hear the hon. member in his final analysis recommend some concession to a man in a small corporate company so that he can be given some break to make up for the fact that the limited amount of credit available to him, if he does not have a rich father-in-law or a rich uncle, is only what he can get from the bank.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): We look after anybody in trouble.

Mr. Good: All right. If there is some concession to be made, if the tax structure is not maintained with some differential which would differentiate between those corporations on a progressive amount of profit, then I think some other concession would have to be made, whether it is in increased write-offs on depreciation or not—I do not know what the best point would be—but I think that we must recognize this one point which was not mentioned by the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. J. Renwick), that of the limited amount of capital available to a small businessman.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to start on just a few areas of the things which I would like to discuss this evening after the recess—

Mr. Gisborn: Is the member for or against?

Mr. Good: Pardon?

Mr. Gisborn: Is the member for or against?

Mr. Good: I would first like to say that more and more in the past two years since I have been here I have begun to realize the lack of co-ordination, the lack of co-operation, and the individual way the various departments of this government seem to be conducting their affairs across the province.

We had so many instances where one, two, three, four, up to a half a dozen, departments of government were involved in a certain project and finally it comes to light when one department made a particular announcement which, in fact, affected all the departments involved. It was unknown previously to the other departments that were considering the proposals of that particular scheme, so before we get into this, Mr. Speaker, I would move adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Good moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

NOTICE OF MOTION No. 4

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 4, by Mr. Paterson.

Resolution: That this government should initiate studies concerning the transportation of petroleum products by bulk tankers on the Great Lakes as a potential catastrophic pollution hazard, and as to whether it is feasible and economic and a safer method to transport petroleum products via a network of pipelines. Aud further that this programme be drawn to the attention of those states bordering on the Great Lakes and the senior levels of government of our countries, in order to formulate an international policy in this regard.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, I move Resolution No. 4 standing in my name, which has just been read.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is a request to this government to initiate studies into the Great Lakes tank vessel movement of petroleum products. Because of the disasters of the Torrey Canyon off England, and more recently the Arrow off our coast of Nova Scotia,

and as well the lesser accidents that have occurred in Florida and off the coast of Alaska. Our federal government apparently is going to make regulations regarding the transportation of petroleum products in the area of our tidal waters but to date, sir, I have heard no mention that these regulations will apply to vessels plying the world's greatest supply of fresh water, our Great Lakes system.

The history of the Great Lakes, and I might say we have a Great Lakes museum in my riding at Amhersburg, is one of many accidents and sinkings. Fortunately, for us, no tankers have been involved to date to my knowledge and only a small proportion of those ships which have been in accidents or which have been sunk, have used oil as their fuel. They have been coal burners.

But today, we have more and more ships of all types, all carrying large quantities of fuel oil for their own consumption. Now, "Greenwood's Guide"—quite a thick book, the bible of the shipping industry—last year recorded that there are 38 tankers under Canadian registry with the capacity of 1.5 million barrels of petroleum products. Multiply it out on the basis of 45 gallons to a barrel, that is 67,500 million gallons of petroleum.

In addition, another 22 tankers under U.S. registry transporting another .5 million barrels of petroleum. Canada is dominant in the Great Lakes shipping on the movement of petroleum products.

Now, our great province of Ontario borders the Great Lakes system, and as such must be vitally concerned with keeping this water clean and our beaches and wildlife habitats from being despoiled. Also reported in the press of December 3, at the International Joint Commission hearings, Mr. J. H. Birtwhistle, a superintendent of ships, machinery inspection for the federal Department of Transport stated:

> A mid-lake collision involving a large oil tanker would produce an oil spill no greater than 2,000 tons.

However, Mr. Boyce of the Canada Centre for Inland Waters states:

> A 1,000-ton spill would blanket 20 miles of beach with a slick six feet wide and a half-inch thick.

The figure for that is half of what Mr. Birtwhistle had suggested and, personally, I disagree with Mr. Birtwhistle that only 2,000 tons of petroleum would escape in a shipping accident.

Mr. Speaker, some of these ships, according to the records in Greenwood's book, transport up to 120,000 barrels of petroleum products, that is over 5,000,000 gallons. Personally, I do not see how only one bulkhead or compartment on one ship would be damaged in an accident.

I feel this resolution should be given very careful consideration, that if the study can be made, the facts that are presented should be weighed and that a rational programme should be developed before any irrational pollution hysteria takes over from common sense, and I hope this resolution does not create that impression.

In this resolution, I think the government should take into consideration all economic aspects and considerations and weigh these against the possible effect a disaster would have on our environment.

The Great Lakes basin is the home of 25,000,000 people and countless flora and fauna. These are some of the points I feel should be studied by such a group:

Will phasing out tankers on the Great adversely affect our shipbuilding industry?

How many tankers are on the drawing board?

What age, what condition of seaworthiness are existing ships?

Greenwood's book shows that most of the tankers on the lakes are pre-World War II; some date back before the turn of the century.

How many jobs in the shipyards might be affected here in Ontario?

What will happen to the investment on existing ships if they are banned from our Great Lakes?

How many jobs on ships and shore installations will be affected?

What is the feasibility of reaching many areas in our province by pipeline now serviced by these tankers?

Will our neighbours to the south adopt such similar action? (This is crucial.)

Would Michigan allow our pipelines to cross their state to service our northwest should this be desirable?

Is it feasible to transport several types of petroleum in a few transmission lines?

And basically, what would the economics of such a pipeline be? The capital cost? The fabrication jobs created in our industries? The construction jobs and the opportunities that it may present to communities along the

route? What is the end cost to the consumer? This possibly, is most important from the economic standpoint.

These are only some of the questions, Mr. Speaker, that such a study should consider, and weigh these particular facts as to the potential hazard to our resources along the lakes, to our wildlife and to our millions of citizens.

On the Great Lakes there is no tidal action as on the ocean. However, there are strong currents, especially in the area of the St. Mary's, St. Clair, Detroit and Niagara Rivers, and these currents would move an oil slick rapidly, plus the fact that the prevailing winds are from the southwest causing much of our present flotsam and jetsam to drift and pollute our Canadian shoreline.

Possibly, members of this House will recall that back in 1960, a rapid-flowing oil slick on the Detroit River killed approximately 12,000 ducks in a matter of hours.

Also, another factor, the petroleum products carried in our tankers usually are refined. They are lighter in viscosity than the Bunker C type of petroleum that was in the Arrow and this fact alone means they expand on the surface.

This oil will expand on the surface of the water very very quickly. I am told that one gallon of petroleum products, Mr. Speaker, that is four quarts of oil such as this, can coat one square mile of water surface. When we multiply this by the many barrels of petroleum products used by vessels as fuel carried in their holds or by the huge quantities contained in the holds of tank vessels, you can readily visualize the enormity of the problem should there be an accident.

It has been suggested in the press concerning the Arrow ship disaster, that it may take months and even up to five years to clean up the mess on Nova Scotia. Even Sable Island, 175 miles away, is now getting some of this pollution on its beaches.

Last August, Mr. Speaker, you will probably recall there was an oil slick spotted near Kingston, Ontario. At that time it was approximately 500 feet long and 100 feet wide, but it spread to cover six square miles in Lake Ontario. Mr. Larry South of the Ontario Water Resources Commission is quoted as indicating that the pollution caused by this along the beaches could remain until early this coming summer.

Our Great Lakes situation is also different from that in Nova Scotia. We have millions and millions of dollars of waterfront properties that would be devalued and made useless.

Many miles of fine beaches could have an oil coating within a few hours of a disaster, much quicker than any chemicals could be brought in to the scene in an attempt to break up the petroleum.

Think of the fire hazard in our marshes along the shoreline, and the danger to shipping, the shore installations and pleasure craft. What would happen to the economy of all the resort communities should the beaches be coated from the spill for many months? What would be the effect on the water supply to many millions of people and to the industries in our communities? What would happen to these communities? What would happen to our flora and fauna and fish? What sort of a heritage would we be leaving for our children? Who would sue whom? What company or organization would have the finances to totally compensate everyone affected by such a disaster?

The state of Florida filed a $1 million suit against the owners of a freighter that rammed a barge containing only 7,000 gallons of oil this past February, and I quote from the Windsor *Daily Star*:

> The state of Florida filed a $1 million suit Saturday against the owners of a Danish freighter blamed for ramming a barge that spilled oil into the St. John's River.

Both here and in the state of Florida, a number of articles have appeared. This is one in the London *Free Press*, from Jacksonville, Florida. Just as an example, to see what could happen in our Great Lakes system, I quote:

> Oil from a damaged barge flowed down the St. John's River near here Friday, threatening one wildlife refuge, and across Florida a tar-like substance rolled along the St. Mark's River in another wildlife preserve.
>
> Oil from the barge Eastpet, gashed in a collision on the St. John's, seven miles east of Jacksonville, coated the wings of sea birds and threatened one of Florida's most unusual wildlife preserves.

The article continues about the effects on shipping in the area, which was interrupted, the effect on nature, and the total disaster for many miles along the rivers and in the Gulf of Mexico.

In February 18 the Toronto *Telegram* carried an article in relation to the Torrey Canyon disaster off England, and I would

just like to quote a couple of paragraphs from that:

> Full effects of the disaster may not be felt for at least another three years. The detergents used to break up the crude oil smashed the first links in the life chain of all sea fish. They destroyed the algae. The detergents were also found to kill off molluscs that act as scavengers to keep the beaches clean of decaying matter and control the growth of seaweed.
>
> The Torrey Canyon disaster was estimated at $12.5 million, but the owners of the vessel paid $7.5 million to the French and English governments and the English taxpayer paid another $9 million plus the cost of all the armed forces work.
>
> As a result of the Torrey Canyon wreck, the system of handling such disasters has been streamlined and negotiations took place with other governments about the routing of such tankers.

I hope members will pay particular attention to this particular paragraph:

> But officials admit that in an age of increasing traffic of giant oil carriers, it is largely a question of keeping one's fingers crossed.

I state that is not sufficient safeguard in the Great Lakes waters, Mr. Speaker. Thus my resolution.

I also have followed with interest and alarm the movements of that great tanker, the Manhattan, in our Arctic waters, and its forthcoming voyage. Personally, I do not like it, but in the press clippings relating to this matter there is one statement that lends some credence to my argument, and I quote:

> Costs of moving Alaska oil by tanker, relative to pipeline transmission, have become less favourable recently.

I think this assists in the appreciation of this resolution. Mr. Speaker, is our present system of transporting petroleum products the most efficient, the least costly, or should we alter this system even if the economics were more costly? Can we continue to take this increasing gamble? Personally, I do not think so.

As a legislator, a resident of the Great Lakes basin living in a county with Great Lakes water on three sides, and as a member of this Legislature concerned about pollution, and possibly even more concerned about potential, catastrophic pollution, I have presented this resolution. I want no negligence on my conscience should any such catastrophe occur in our Great Lakes system, and I urge this government, Mr. Speaker, to weigh these considerations in the interests of all our citizens in this province of the Dominion of Canada and of the continent of North America. I want no scenes such as appeared in the press ever to happen in relation to Ontario's waterfront along the Great Lakes system.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to rise and speak to the resolution of the member for Essex South (Mr. Paterson) because I wholeheartedly endorse any measure which prevents pollution. My riding of Fort William, like that of Essex South, borders the Great Lakes and we share a mutual concern for that great natural resource.

Already the results of the dumping of 3,000,000 gallons oil from the Arrow are apparent on the Nova Scotia coast. Fishermen are writing off this year as a total loss, at over $1 million. Other types of fishing as well will be affected, and tourists are also likely to stay away from the area.

Unfortunately, the Arrow disaster was not an isolated incident but only one of many in the past few months involving oil tankers. The ramifications of the Torrey Canyon sinking almost three years ago, for example, will not be fully felt for at least another three years. And more recently in Tampa Bay in Florida a much smaller spill than from the Arrow—approximately 20,000 gallons from a Greek tanker—has spread over 100 square miles of water befouling beaches and killing much of the wildlife.

As the hon. member has pointed out, we have been lucky to date with no major oil disasters on the Great Lakes. However, that does not mean that the Ontario Water Resources Commission is unaware of the tried and true cliché, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

That is why the Ontario Water Resources Commission is working in conjunction with The Department of Transport in developing contingency plans for the control and abatement of any major oil spill, regardless of the source. In addition, the two agencies also have a hookup with the United States federal water pollution control agency for an emergency information and notification system if there is a disastrous spill on the Great Lakes.

It should be borne in mind that the concern is ours, but the jurisdiction is federal—indeed, international, and not provincial, as the hon. member would have us believe. Any study into the potential catastrophic pollution

hazards of bulk tankers transporting petroleum products on the Great Lakes should be undertaken by either The Department of Transport or perhaps more appropriately, the International Joint Commission, since the waters involved are international and form the boundary between Canada and the United States. Indeed, the Ontario Water Resources Commission has already expressed its concern over this potential hazard to the International Joint Commission.

I would only hope, Mr. Speaker, that the federal Minister of Transport would show equal interest in as stiff anti-pollution measures for the more heavily traveled Great Lakes as he does for the Arctic waters.

I would also hope that if he should show some interest, the measures would be more successful than last year's Canada Shipping Act amendment which was extremely watered down, to the point where it merely allowed the Crown to remove and sell wrecks likely to pollute Canadian waters, or endanger waterfowl or fish, or damage coastal property.

Mr. Speaker, while I agree in theory with this resolution, I must challenge the principle in view of the jurisdiction under which this matter falls, as I pointed out earlier. The scope of such a study necessarily requires the scrutiny of such international machinery as the International Joint Commission, or at second best, The Department of Transport.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support resolution 4, which urges the government to study the hazards posed by oil tankers in the Great Lakes. This is a matter of great concern, both to the general public and especially to fishermen, conservationists and all those who live on and visit our Great Lakes on the borders of Ontario.

Just as man cannot afford to see his air supply depleted and polluted, his streams and rivers ecologically ruined, his countryside slowly turned into garbage dumps for urban waste, in the same way he cannot afford to surrender to oil pollution both the waters and the shorelines of his lakes.

Even a minor oil spill can have devastating effects on the environment, lasting for various periods of time, sometimes for decades, according to the report on oil pollution to the United States President by the Secretary of the Interior back in February, 1968. The duration depends on the type and amount of the oil spilled.

Oil spills may destroy birds, fish and other forms of life in our lakes, they may damage our beaches, and they may contaminate some of our public water supplies and cause other property damage. Oil spills create fire hazards in harbours and marinas. To all this must be added the difficulty and the great expense of cleanup, as well as the great esthetic loss that we suffer.

The hon. member has given the House an idea of the cost of cleaning up the spills, so I shall not repeat that. But the Toronto *Telegram* of August 15, 1969, reported that oil patches "like thick tar" were being scooped up on beaches near Kingston, quoting OWRC officials as follows: "That oil is going to stay on a lot of beaches even into next summer and cause problems."

Throughout the world almost every commercial boat is now powered by oil and about 20 per cent of all the vessels are oil tankers. Almost every boat, therefore, is a potential oil pollute of the seas and lakes and rivers. Most spills in the Great Lakes have resulted from deliberate dumping of waste oil and from accidental spills.

Although there are some 30 boats lying on the bottom of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, some of them time bombs for eventual oil pollution, nevertheless as far as I have been able to learn—and the other members seem to agree—no tanker has yet been wrecked on the Great Lakes and caused a major pollution problem such as that which occurs all too frequently in the ocean. But this could happen here, as it has happened elsewhere. It could happen to any one of the 1,350 oil tankers which pass through the Great Lakes every year.

Until recently, the maximum capacity was 4,100 tons of oil but many of the new tankers have a capacity of 7,000 tons, an increase of 70 per cent. Restriction of tanker size might well be one reasonable and salutary recommendation that might result in the study proposed by resolution 4.

While I share the dismay and the disgust of the hon. member for Essex South toward the damage that can be caused by oil spills, both accidental and deliberate, I am not certain that a study will conclude that it will be necessary to ban oil tankers from the Great Lakes. I am keeping an open mind on this, Mr. Speaker.

Although an economic dislocation would result from such banning, it is not on such grounds that I would anticipate their continued operation. It is because I expect that technology will come to the rescue and enable spills to be cleaned up quickly and safely, much more easily than on the ocean, that I

predict a study will not result in the banning of the tankers.

May I hasten to make it clear, Mr. Speaker, that I do favour the proposed study because the mere fact that the banning of oil tankers is being considered will spur on the many vested interests to protect their investments. The only way they could do this ethically would be to find, through intensified research, methods of reducing to nil the danger of an ecological disaster as a result of transferring oil in bulk on our lakes. A study would spur them on to greater efforts.

I have prepared a description of several procedures for cleaning up spillage, any or all of which may turn out to answer what is really today's question: "Can we continue to run the risk of an oil tanker disaster in any of the Great Lakes?" Time will not permit me to do more than list three of these developments. First, Corexit, an Esso product developed in Don Mills; second, Strickite, described in *Clean Air and Water News*, February 25, 1970; and Seadragon, described in *Clean Air and Water News*, March 4, 1970.

A few months ago Shell Oil announced a new method of cleaning up oil spillage. Shell's solution is to spray from a specially equipped barge, jets of sand over the oil-covered water. The sand, especially treated with a substance having a very low toxicity level, carries 95 per cent of the oil to the bottom where—it is claimed—it is degraded by natural action.

I submit, then, that on the Great Lakes, where the capacity of oil tankers is relatively small, we may be able to tolerate the oil tankers without damage to our ecology. I wish I were as optimistic about the future of our oceans and the Northwest Passage.

In the Atlantic Ocean, the deliberate dumping of waste oil has been going on for decades, surreptitiously in some cases, quite openly in others. Ever since 1937 hundreds of thousands of birds have perished off the coasts of Newfoundland every year. Oil pollution of the ocean has become so bad that in 1958 an international convention for the prevention of the pollution of the sea by oil was called. As a result, no oil can be dumped lawfully within 100 miles of Newfoundland.

Yet only the other day, February 20, a Canadian Press report told of a 25-mile-long oil slick, coiling along the shoreline of the Burin peninsula on the south of Newfoundland. It contains the usual report of deaths to sea birds ranging from hundreds to thousands. And the CBC reported that from 3,000 to 7,000 gallons of bunker oil had leaked from an oil barge after a plate on her hull was damaged in the St. Lawrence River. The oil slick reached from about 15 miles off St. Pierre and Miquelon to Grand Bank, and another slick reached several miles eastward along the Burin peninsula coast.

Mr. Speaker, if only 3,000 to 7,000 gallons of oil can cause a slick of that size, what will happen if disaster befalls a tanker on Lake Erie carrying not 7,000 gallons, but 7,000 tons of oil? We face a potentially serious threat.

But another reason I feel the oil tankers may win out is that the alternative—namely, an oil pipeline—poses a hazard perhaps equally frightening. Humans have a fortunate knack of laying aside the memories of disaster, so I will remind members of a couple of disasters that we have had in recent years.

In December, 1962, a pipeline from a storage facility broke, releasing 1,400,000 gallons of cutting oil, light mineral oil and xylene, into the Minnesota River. In January, 1966, a chemical company's storage tanks ruptured, discharging 50,000 gallons of ammonium hydroxide and 1,000,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer into the Missouri River. The report to the President, mentioned earlier, says on page 9:

> Our pipeline transport system involves the risk of oil pollution in our water courses, port areas and critical drinking water supply areas. There are—

Mr. Speaker: I trust the hon. member will shortly draw his remarks to a conclusion. His time is up and I have three more speakers of ten minutes each.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Speaker, I will conclude by saying that I strongly support the study suggested by the resolution, because I feel that it will draw attention to a very real danger and will thereby help to lessen that danger—either by recommending an alternative and better method for transporting oil in bulk, or by causing the industries now involved to make sufficient improvements in tanker design, size procedures and safety practices so that the public can be reassured that oil spills on the Great Lakes will soon be rarities, and that when they do happen, technology will be able to clean them up quickly and without cost to our environment.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the resolution put forth by the member for Essex South that the government should initiate studies concerning the transportation of petroleum products on the Great Lakes.

The member was quoting from an article in the *Globe and Mail* of December 3, 1969, headlined, "Ottawa and Ontario differ on oil damage". Conflicting statements were heard at a hearing in Toronto by the International Joint Commission. Perhaps the main topic at that hearing was to deal with the possible major oil well leaks pertaining to drilling operations on Lake Erie. As we all are well aware in this House, there are different types of vessels that do sail on the Great Lakes: There are the tankers, there are the barges that are being towed by tugs, and then there are the vessels for the barges that are used for drilling purposes on the Great Lakes.

The member has also spoken on the pollution of the Torrey Canyon, and that it had cost the government of England some $13 million. He has spoken on the Arrow situation at Chedebucto Bay, Nova Scotia, and the possible cost—the millions that it will cost the Canadian government. All of us here have seen on television and read in newspapers in the past few months of the other major oil spills caused by ships on the North American continent.

There was one mentioned off the coast of Florida and I believe that this alone cost the American government some $7 million. It has done damage to beaches, to waterfowl, and to the fish. Of course, these damages cannot be calculated at this time, but perhaps in two or three years' time they will know the actual damage at what cost to us by the pollution of the oil.

Mr. Speaker, my concern this afternoon in speaking on the motion—and I have already mentioned this—is about two types of water craft that are afloat on the Great Lakes. I have talked on the barges—the drilling rigs that are on Lake Erie right at the present time. These drilling barges are raised by hydraulic legs above the water level, and of course in one sense they could be a major hazard to the shipping on the Great Lakes. Perhaps in fog, freighters could run into them and cause some serious problem in this matter.

Last week I raised the question in the House with the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) dealing with the problem of oil drilling or gas drilling on Lake Erie. The question, I think, was put to him: Would the courts find any negligence on the part of the province if there was such an oil spillage on the Great Lakes due to the gas drilling or the oil drilling on the Great Lakes? I think the minister put it to me this way—he said it is a matter that is under discussion by the International Joint Commission. My purpose in asking the question was to see whether this province would be in a position to be sued by the state governments on the American side.

Again, I would have to question this a little bit further. I myself believe that we could be sued by the state governments on the other side. I have an article here from the *Courier Express*, Buffalo, New York, and this goes on to say in headlines:

> LITTLE COULD BE DONE AFTER MAJOR SPILLAGE OF OIL IN THE GREAT LAKES
>
> In case of a major marine disaster or a leaking oil well in the middle of any of the Great Lakes, federal officials said today that there is virtually nothing that could be done to either contain or pick up the spilled oil.
>
> Both the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration and the coast guard said technology or equipment does not exist to prevent its spread to the beach or the shoreline area water intakes or other vital installations. The disclosure that nothing could be done if such an accident takes place has significance in the light of pressure to permit oil and gas drilling operations on the Great Lakes.

This again, Mr. Speaker, is of concern for me because I represent a riding that continues from along the shoreline of the Niagara River almost to the mouth of the Grand River at Dunnville, Ontario. I could foresee perhaps that if there was an oil spillage within that vicinity, it could spoil all the beaches within that area, and these are some of the finest beaches to be found anywhere in Ontario. It has a certain attraction to our many tourists from the American side, and if there ever was an oil spillage there I am sure that we could not use those beaches for two or three years. The money that we would lose from the tourism alone would cost this government in millions of dollars.

I know last year that it was mentioned to me that off the breakwaters of Port Colborne, where the ships, before they enter the Welland Canal, have to moor waiting for their turn to enter the canal, there was an anchor dropped by a ship that hit one of the gas wells, and fortunately this just happened to hit the gas line. It was not too severe, but if it ever hit the head of the well, the salt with the brine that comes out of these wells, could certainly pollute that whole area. Every intake for drinking purposes along that shoreline would be lost.

Also, the minister said to me in answer to my question, that they are not drilling for oil but for gas. But in this article of December 3, it was mentioned that there were two gas wells that were capped, and they were capped for a reason. The reason was that they have no safe or sure means of transporting that oil from those wells to the shore—no sure means. Again, these oil wells out there are a risk as they are.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, we in this Legislature have had the seven warning signals. If this government allows further drilling operations in Lake Erie, it could become a cancerous disease, destroying all living matter, killing all fish life, killing perhaps all the oxygen supply, killing the use of the fresh water of Lake Erie for every municipality. I say to this government, give it a chance to recuperate, to establish itself once again as a major source of fresh water and a major source of recreation where it has some of the finest beaches to be found anywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I support the Resolution by the member from Essex South and I would suggest to the member to include a new study to include the risk of gas drilling in the lakes by the drilling barges.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, the *Globe and Mail* of February 10 carried the following editorial which I found rather alarming. It said:

> Early last year some amendments to The Canada Shipping Act were introduced in Parliament. One of them would have held vessel operators totally responsible, without the usual limitations on liability granted in most countries, for pollution caused by the ships through oil spillage or other means. Representatives of the shipping industry, both domestic and foreign, argued against this amendment and won their point. The amendment was considerably softened, to the point where it merely allowed the Crown to remove and sell wrecks likely to pollute Canadian waters or endanger waterfowl or fish or damage coastal property.

The editorial went on further to say:

> Mr. Jamieson is unlikely to find, even if he should wish to do so, that the public will permit any further concession to shipping lobbies. The people are angry about pollution and they will demand stern measures. In fact, the Arrow should prompt us to genuine measures against the possibilities of oil pollution.

Mr. Speaker, it has been interesting to listen to the debate this afternoon on this very important subject. I know that in our region, southwestern Ontario, we are very much concerned about the threat of tankers to our waterways, especially since the lakeshore area between Bronte and Toronto is ringed with some of the major oil refineries of this nation.

It is a rather interesting fact that this resolution has been proposed by the Grits of this House, when in effect the responsibilities for the Great Lakes lie within their jurisdictions, granted under our Constitution to the federal government and its Department of Transport and its allied agencies such as the International Joint Commission.

I think that one of the problems that is of concern to us all is the fact that many of the ships involved with these maritime disasters have been rather worn-out vessels of foreign registry. Perhaps one of the things the International Joint Commission might do well to consider would be a thorough check on all tankers entering the Great Lakes waterways through our system of locks on the seaway, to see that they are seaworthy, and that every precaution is taken against oil spillage—or whatever possible precautions are available to take in case of disasters on the Great Lakes.

I think, also, in our various communities, the greatest worry to us is the fact that the Great Lakes provide our source of fresh water, and, unlike the maritime disasters, we have even a greater threat to our communities and people, because if such a disaster were to occur on the Great Lakes our fresh water intake would be greatly threatened.

A great deal has been said during the recent Torrey Canyon and the Arrow disasters about federal measures to clean up after the oil spillage. However, now that an assessment has been applied to the Torrey Canyon disaster, scientists believe that it was not so much the thousands of tons of crude oil that poured out from the tanker when she came to grief, but the countless gallons of detergent used to disperse that oil that will cause the damage.

It has been estimated that perhaps three or four years will see some of the serious side effects caused by the actual cleanup of the crude oil on the salt water. Perhaps it is here that groups such as the Emergency Measures Organization in our various communities would benefit from definite instructions and cleanup proposals from either The Ontario Department of Energy and Resources Management, or from the federal Department of Transport, so that whenever such occurrences do happen, there will be a mobilized

force nearby that would know how to cope with such a problem.

Mr. Speaker, it has been alluded to by the other participants in this debate, that the federal authorities, under the leadership of Mr. Jamieson's department, are considering stern measures for the protection of shipping carrying oil in our maritime waters and also in the Arctic. I find it rather inconsistent with a total policy that they have omitted the inclusion of the Great Lakes and its allied tributaries in any such legislation. Surely, if the government of Canada is going to be responsible and execute its responsibility, any new legislation that is drafted should include provisions for stringent controls on tankers using the Great Lakes.

I think one of the serious points raised in this resolution is the fact that it suggests that perhaps a ban should be placed upon the transportation of petroleum and its products by vessels in the Great Lakes. But surely, Mr. Speaker, this could have serious economic repercussions upon our people, not only upon the motorists in this province, but those of us who heat our homes by fuel oil, and also cause increased costs to our methods of production and manufacturing.

Mr. Speaker, I have listened with great interest this afternoon to the hon. member for Essex South, however I did not detect any concrete proposals on how oil might be transported at an economic rate by pipeline through our country. All the communities along the Great Lakes—and perhaps it will not be until technology has devised a safer and more economical way of transporting petroleum products that we can look forward to the elimination of this hazard.

Mr. Speaker: The next speaker on my list is the hon. member for Yorkview (Mr. Young), but he is not present; so is there any other member of that caucus? Then the member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker in rising to support the resolution of the hon. member for Essex South, I do so most heartily. The hon. member is fully cognizant of the problem for were he not, he would not have introduced the resolution.

He comes from a riding that is practically three quarters surrounded by the Detroit River and Lake Erie, so his riding could be more affected than any other riding in the province of Ontario.

Financially, his riding, I would think, would suffer the greatest. However, he did not introduce this from an economic or selfish point of view. He was extremely altruistic and he looked at the overall good to the residents of the province of Ontario and also from the point of tremendous amount of damage that could be done by one of the types of spills that we have encountered in other parts of Canada and in the world.

Now his resolution does not encompass any specific suggestions because it would be more fitting to have some type of departmental committee study the problem in depth, look into the economic ramifications, look into the ecological ramifications of the problem, and then come down with an answer that could probably solve the problem.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Either that or he does not have any constructive suggestions.

Mr. B. Newman: He has more specifics. The thing is that if anyone has answers to the problems, I would think that The Department of Energy and Resources Management should have had them, should have been aware of the situation, and should have come up with some type of legislation to control the problem now. They always seem to act after the incident happens, rather than before and prevent the problem.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Not only that, if you quit polluting the lake, we would not have to worry about it. Just quit polluting.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, in the southwestern Ontario region we are especially in a disadvantageous position from the fact that the major portion of the shipping would go along the centre of the lake but would be doing business with our friends on the American side, and we in the province of Ontario would be the ones who would be punished as a result of the spills not only from oil tankers but also from vessels that may discharge the contents of their fuel tanks as they pass, or once they leave the Amherstburg area and enter Lake Erie.

It is very common knowledge that the tankers and vessels plying the Great Lakes clean out their bilges—I think that is the name used—once they arrive at the Boblo section of the Detroit River and enter Lake Erie.

Now, where other members, or the members whose ridings do not border the Great Lakes are not confronted with this situation—they do not pay attention to the fact that this can have such a tremendous impact. The people around the midwestern states now are

more and more concerned with the problem that oil pollution and pollution from tankers could cause.

Over the past week the University of Michigan had a teach-in and it was by far the most successful teach-in ever conducted anywhere in the United States. They had speakers of renown, pollution fighters from all over the United States, Canada and from countries in Europe. In their discussions they brought forth in no uncertain terms the problems that could be caused in waters that are especially used for sanitary purposes.

The Great Lakes, as we all know, are the source of water for most southwestern Ontario where one of the spills from any one of these tankers would occur.

As my hon. colleague from Essex South mentioned, the tankers that ply the Great Lakes carry approximately 65,000,000 gallons of oil. This capacity is calculated on just one trip. Each one of these tankers making one trip only in the Great Lakes would produce the 65,000,000 gallon figure.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the hon. member would draw his remarks to a conclusion, as we have another member who wishes to speak.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I will do that, Mr. Speaker. In concluding, Mr. Speaker, I would strongly suggest to the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management, and to the government that they take this resolution to heart and implement these studies so that the minds of the people bordering the Great Lakes could be at ease knowing that the problem of pollution by tankers would be solved once and for all.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Mr. Speaker, I could not help but marvel at the speeches made by the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. Jessiman) and the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. J. R. Smith), in fact they seemed to evade the whole issue by stating it is a federal matter.

With the greatest of respect, Mr. Speaker, pollution in Ontario today is a very critical matter and I do not think we should in this House, avoid the matter simply by sloughing it off and saying it is within federal jurisdiction.

There is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that the resolution mentions that studies should be formulated not only by the states of the United States that border our Great Lakes, but also by the provinces which border the greatest body of fresh water in the world, and certainly we should not slough off studies that might be of assistance to this province and to other provinces and states that border the Great Lakes by merely saying, Mr. Speaker, it is a question of federal jurisdiction.

Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, if the members opposite would take more cognizance of the fact that the laws of the province of Ontario relating to pollution have no teeth in them, then perhaps if the government were to put teeth in them we would solve the pollution problem in a very short time.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any other member who wishes to participate in this debate? If not, this concludes the private members' hour.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.

No. 18

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, March 16, 1970

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Monday, March 16, 1970

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Good, Mr. Pitman, Mr. H. MacKenzie 661

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. MacKenzie, agreed to 689

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Grossman, agreed to 689

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1970

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

Clerk of the House: The third order; resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue now and get into the two basic problems about which I would like to speak. First, the unnecessary waste or duplication—the lack of co-ordination and co-operation among the departments of government—and, secondly, the implications that the new Assessment Act will have, and is having, across the province.

First, I will deal with the duplication of effort which is costing the taxpayer of Ontario a staggering sum. Call it what you like —a need for rationalization, deliberation—but what we want is a co-ordination of effort in the various departments of government to ensure that the people's money is being spent wisely and not unnecessarily.

For example, at the present time, the Waterloo South-Wellington land use study is in progress in Waterloo county and the cost of this study is about $1 million. This is a co-ordinated effort among various departments—The Department of Municipal Affairs, The Department of Treasury and Economics, The Department of Highways, the Ontario Housing Corporation, The Department of Trade and Development, OWRC and The Department of Energy and Resources Management.

In spite of all this wide variety of talent and departments involved in this study, one would expect that officials would be kept fully informed and fully briefed on related developments in the public field. You can imagine the surprise of those involved in this study when they learned from the newspaper notice that the new Galt bypass had been established by The Department of Highways and was announced by the regional office. This is just a duplication of exactly what happened two years previously in the midst of the Fyfe study on Ontario Housing Corporation when they released the announcement they had assembled 3,000 acres of land.

Dr. Fyfe, in his recently released report, touches on this very point, and I think it has been summed up in the editorial in the *Globe and Mail*, of this morning, from which I would read excerpts:

> At the heart of the problem is a failure to adequately define policies and priorities. A major impediment to such definition is an administrative structure that is fragmented, shot through with conflicts of interest and gravely lacking in accountability. Similar failures at the municipal level are largely a reflection of those at Queen's Park.
>
> Dr. Fyfe's message to the province is: Physician, heal thyself. His greatest contribution is perhaps in shifting the focus to Queen's Park and, in effect, demanding a reappraisal by provincial officials of what they are doing, what they should be doing and why.

The editorial goes on to say:

> Accountability is lost in the proliferation of boards and commissions, he says. Conflicts of interest exist in bodies such as the Ontario Water Resources Commission, which functions as both a regulatory body and a merchant of services, and the Ontario Housing Corporation, which places the province in the position of being both developer and planner. His point is not lost when he notes the arrogance of Ontario Housing Corporation officials in refusing to appear before the commission, even though the corporation secretly bought 3,000 acres of land for residential development smack in the middle of the Kitchener-Waterloo area while the study was in progress.

Dr. Fyfe, also in his report, has summed up these instances where the province has been basically at fault, and has added to the problems which exist on the municipal level. I think as we go along during the year, we will find that much of Dr. Fyfe's report has great

validity on the municipal-provincial relationships as they now exist.

With the announcement of this Galt bypass, I understand that not even the director of the community planning branch of The Department of Municipal Affairs was aware that this had been planned. Further, my understanding is that we saw the lack of co-ordination between departments when The Department of Highways showed some original plans—a bypass for the village of St. Jacobs. When it was checked out, this bypass was going right over a proposed site that the Ontario Water Resources Commission had chosen for its new sewage disposal plant. This is the kind of lack of co-operation which comes to light just by digging for information.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Never did do it. Throw him out! Send him back!

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): We will have a cabinet meeting without you.

Mr. Good: I understand there is to be a resort highway built from the Niagara area through the Waterloo area up toward Owen Sound and up into the Bruce peninsula eventually. This project, I understand, will cost from $400,000 to $600,000 a mile. In the same area, partially, I understand Ontario Hydro wants a 750-foot right-of-way from its Nanticoke plant, bordering our area, down through the Brampton area and over as far as Uxbridge. On top of that, I understand the Ontario Water Resources Commission wants a $40 million right-of-way for its proposed pipeline from Lake Erie.

Even a layman armed with a map of Ontario can see that, for a good portion of their distances, many of the projects will overlap. But to my knowledge there has been no indication of co-ordinating the rights-of-way that will be required for these projects with our projects.

I am sure that between points of scenic interest on a highway, there are stretches that could best be traversed rapidly, even on resort highways. There would be considerable savings on the public purse if Hydro, Ontario Water Resources and The Department of Highways would get together and plan a common right-of-way wherever possible. Perhaps a 1,000-foot right-of-way would do the trick; maybe even less.

Members of the Legislature have probably read with interest, in the current issue of *Municipal World*, an interesting appeal from the committee of adjustment. It seems to break new ground, in that a severance of a property was refused by the Ontario Municipal Board in the light of a future straightening of Highway 7 which is not as yet on any official plan.

I was struck by the waste of public money that that particular series of hearings involved, to say nothing of the discomfiture of the private parties. All of this could have been avoided by the publication of a master plan for Ontario showing the works proposed by all the various departments in government, something we have been crying for for years. Surely the people of this province ought to be able to walk into a government office, or even a local municipal office, or even into the plazas of the province and find there a plan which would show the proposals of the various departments of government.

It seems to me that we ought to make a real effort with Highway 7 which, I understand, the highways department is planning to work into a controlled access highway in the regions north of Metro. This could funnel off a good deal of the traffic now cluttering 401 in the Metro area. If, as it seems likely, the Spadina Expressway is proceeded with, this will become an important factor, since additional traffic is likely to choose 401 over Wilson Avenue to disperse through Willowdale, Downsview, Weston and Rexdale.

Certainly, there is little consideration in the Wronski-Cass report for what will happen on 401 as a result of the completion of the Spadina expressway. All the concern, it seems to me, is with the city end of the thing because that is where all the political fuss is being made. Nobody has yet awakened to the need for making Highway 7 carry much of the Ontario east-west traffic above Metro because of the change in the nature and volume of 401 traffic in northern Metro when Spadina goes through.

The proposed right-of-way mentioned previously by Ontario Hydro I am sure could carry this new controlled access Highway 7 in most of the areas north of Metro. So surely these departments will get together and work out the rights-of-way where they have common grounds for working on the same piece of land. It seems to me that in saying that this is only a matter for Metro, the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) is painting himself into a corner.

I wanted a meeting to ask his staff to consider the traffic flow changes north of the limits in the study made by Wronski-Cass, now what patterns will emerge if Highway 7 is made control access from Green River, say, to Brampton?

This is a job the computer could figure out at the present time and save the taxpayers money. If there are to be expropriations along the route of Highway 7, let the people see the master plan ahead of time so that they are not put to the trouble and inconvenience of making private long-term arrangements, such as severances of farm houses from father to son and the like if they will all be changed later on.

Of course I think we are all aware that one of the roadblocks to progress is the fact that we have two machines grinding away at each other's power bids—the regional government structure and the regional development structure, the irresistible force and the immovable object. The provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) is about to pour more concrete and strengthen the foundation of the regional development council by means of a bill which he is doggedly determined to see into law.

I understand tomorrow night in the town of Jarvis there will be a meeting where the development strategy for southwestern Ontario will be announced, and the Treasurer and Minister of Economics is bound and bent that the regional development councils are going to be strengthened by Acts of the Legislature which will bring them back and make them vital.

I think between the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) and the provincial Treasurer a power struggle is developing which can do nothing but harm the people of the province of Ontario and the future development of our area—

Mr. Ruston: They are not saying who is going to be the next leader, are they?

Mr. Good: Meanwhile one man, Nigel Richardson, working for the Minister of Municipal Affairs, has quietly been demonstrating in the Nanticoke area that intelligence, tact and sensitivity can get a project ahead by leaps and bounds. Mr. Richardson has inadvertently exposed the regional development councils for what they are, staid institutions in my estimation, uncertain of their purposes and ridden by doubt and indecision, kept alive by committee meetings in the long hot summer days and languishing in winter for lack of interest and participation and attendance by the municipality.

Mr. Ruston: And they never did do anything.

Mr. Good: Now we have the provincial Treasurer about to introduce legislation which I understand will make it mandatory for municipalities to contribute to these organizations.

Mr. Ruston: Never, never.

Mr. Good: Well, we will wait and see. It will be very interesting.

Mr. Ruston: Throw him out. Throw him out. Send him back.

Mr. Good: The Treasurer will make it all doubly official with an Act that will enshrine these unworkable regional development councils as Ontario institutions, while men like Mr. Richardson go quietly about their work of remaking the province in the image of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

If it were not all so tragic, it would be laughable. Let us bet on one approach here, the one that is working. Since the Minister of Municipal Affairs in my view has considerably softened his approach and has in some areas been nothing but sweetness and light—and the Niagara regional government wants a blank cheque, I am told, to meet its expenses this year—the proposals for Muskoka and also in the Waterloo area have been fairly well received. I mean fairly well received from the points of view of the municipal structure change and the political boundary change, but there is much more that lies beneath the proposals in these areas which is going to take a great deal of work and reshaping by the provincial government, and this, of course, deals with municipal-provincial relationship.

I would like to quote further from this morning's *Globe and Mail* in this regard:

> The Waterloo report prepared by Professor Stewart Fyfe, acting director of Queen's University Institute of Local Government, forces a re-examination of the whole approach taken by Ontario to its regional government programme.
>
> In so many words, Dr. Fyfe says the province does not know what it is doing and until it finds out it can expect only limited success with its regional government programmes. The whole system, the structure of provincial and municipal politics, is not working properly.

This is something of which we have been aware, and perhaps when someone like Dr. Fyfe, someone of his stature and capabilities,

has now brought it out in detailed form, the government will sit up and take notice.

What I say is that Ontario cannot afford both regional government and regional development establishments. This is duplication of effort gone mad.

We had the pensioners in our caucus last Wednesday—probably the rest of you did too—and as they told their stories I could not help but look down at the document in front of me, including the Waterloo study I had received the night before, and by its side was a clipping from the Kitchener-Waterloo *Record* for February 19, a story of the Treasurer's revision of Bill 89 in 1966.

What would these pensioners have thought, I wondered, had they known of the secret meetings in Brampton on February 5 and 6 as Dr. Thoman sought to consolidate his empire before the representatives of the Ontario Economic Council.

The members of the 10 economic councils are convinced that the municipalities are going to have to pay some part of a forced levy to keep them in being. I ask myself, how will these senior citizens react to that on top of the crushing burden of property tax, and particularly following the inequities in reassessment which are hitting them harder than anyone else and forcing many of them to sell their homes, after they have served Ontario so well for so long and made the province what it is today? There is only one expression that serves, and that is the whole thing is scandalously unfair, a rape of the taxpayers' money, and a perpetuation of bureaucracy.

Before I deal in greater detail with anomalies that are occurring in the administration of The Assessment Act, I want to state my point against the broader background of the quality of urban life in the province, because these matters are intimately interwoven one with the other. Mr. Speaker, there is little doubt that one of the most urgent problems facing us in the years ahead is the issue of the cities, the quality of life in the cities, where most people live and where 90 per cent will reside in the very near future. The things that affect this quality of life as our province moves from rural to city life are many.

The supply of homes at a price that people can afford to pay is a real concern, especially in the larger municipalities; the assessment and resulting taxes on the homes affect all of us; an increase of crime in our cities; the awareness of pollution, and the thoughts of what must be done about it; the availablity of health services and providing employment.

Personally, I must admit that in many areas of the province, including my own county of Waterloo, the housing situation has been fairly well looked after; by private industry, supplemented, of course, by some Ontario Housing Corporation units. Would that this were the situation in our larger municipalities! Unfortunately, the demand for housing has been nowhere near satisfied, mainly because of the high cost and the inability to provide homes at prices which people can afford to pay.

This situation has resulted mostly because of the high cost of serviced lots. If the government took a realistic approach to the assembly of land and serviced it at a price, quite apart from what is being asked for by private developers, then the housing situation in our large municipalities could be satisfied to a much greater extent.

This, of course, brings up the same age-old problem, which I cannot agree with, where the housing corporation assembles land and holds it and acts as nothing more than a speculator in this area. This drives up the price of existing land in the municipalities close by, and then, when they do try to develop the land, they want to put it on the market at a price in competition with other lots.

You will never lick the housing situation that way. If, in our area, OHC had taken its $7 million or $9 million, whatever it was, that it put into the assembly of land, and had put services in in half a dozen or eight of the surrounding communities in Waterloo county — sewers and water — serviced land would have been made available and the expansion of serviced lots in the area would have brought the price of lots down to a more reasonable figure.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, to deal first with the matter of the taxes that we are paying on our homes. Much has been said and written of late about this subject and may I here and now say that I do not consider real property as the proper tax base for paying such a large share of education costs or other social benefits. I think we must move more swiftly to the concept that real property should pay for those services that pertain to it and very little else. And further, we could then reasonably expect that most, if not all of present tax-exempt property would be included in the local tax base.

Under present arrangements, education costs at the local level take about 50 per cent

of our property tax. This varies, of course, with the assessment of the property, and not with the ability of the owner to pay. The burden of education costs and real property has been made more evident since our county school board system has come into being. Of course, in my own county, the 20 per cent increase of education costs last year, while still retaining the same level of education quality, has never been explained to me or anyone else.

I am greatly concerned about the effects of the new assessment under the provincial Assessment Act—not just because they moved the assessment office to Galt and require 55 people who were previously employed in the "Twin-City" area and who now drive down 50 miles to Galt—this was, of course, of some concern—but mainly because of the effects plainly indicated by assessing at market value.

Before dealing with the matter of actual reassessment, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a wasteful practice and procedure which is used and has been used in some areas to get information of deed transfers from the registry office to the regional assessment office. This has been brought into effect since the province has taken over the provincial assessment. It was used in some areas where the registry office is not in the same locality as the regional assessment office. Fortunately, it has not been used in all areas, and I hope it will be done away with completely.

This system, as I understand it, is that at a cost of 50 cents per page, or $3 for a six-page deed, all deeds being registered are being photocopied at the registry office and sent to the assessment office in another municipality. The registry office under consideration, one of which I know, probably has about 10,000 transactions in a year, which would amount to a charge of $30,000 being paid for photocopies.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the Minister of Municipal Affairs look into this matter and, if this system is in general use, put an immediate stop to it. How much simpler and less costly would it be to send a clerk, one or two days a week, from the assessment office over to the regional or county registry office and get the information and bring it back.

As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, the new Assessment Act says that all land—and that, of course, means buildings—shall be assessed at market value. Then a companion section in The Municipal Act states that all taxes shall be levied by the municipalities on full assessment. Simply, this means that within five years, market value will be the base for all taxation and no local council will have the right to tax at any other rate except 100 per cent of assessment.

Presently, municipal leaders across the province, through assessing procedures, have seen fit to vary the rate at which classes of property are assessed. In Toronto, for instance, homes are assessed for about 22 per cent and industry at about 46 per cent of market value. Now a civic official has estimated that in the city of Toronto $20 million of assessment will shift from industry and commercial property to residential, if the reassessment is carried out without any changes in the present Act. The Smith committee on taxation recommended that industry be assessed at 100 per cent of market value, homes or residences at 60 per cent and farms at 40 per cent.

In my own riding of Waterloo we have varying rates of assessment but residential property is favoured with a lower rate than industry. The new provincial Assessment Act prohibits all this. Personally, I think that if the city of Toronto can assess industry at twice the rate of homes in relation to market value and still draw half the industry of the province to its borders, I feel there is really no reason to condemn this practice. What does concern me greatly is what is happening across the province in almost every municipality where market value assessment has already taken place. In those of which I have knowledge, with the exception of the town of Kapuskasing, there has been a shift of assessment from industry and commercial property to residential property. The shift has been of varying amounts.

In my studies I find that Guelph had a shift of only three per cent. In the town of Elmira $35,000 of taxes went from industry to homeowners this year. In Preston, homeowners will pay an additional $135,000 in taxes this year which were paid by industry. The largest shift of which I am aware was in Hespeler where 16.5 mills of taxation went from industry to residential property after reassessment. The town of Ajax is also similarly affected with a 14 per cent shift.

It would appear that the only municipalities not experiencing a shift in industrial to residential assessment are, to name two, Stoney Creek and Arthur where there is little or no industry.

I would like to relate one example of the tremendous power of big business in the realm of influencing assessment, and this deals with

an industry which has an older type of building. In a few minutes I will get on to state why this particular thing happens.

When the original market value assessment was done by the Waterloo county assessor last year in the town of Hespeler, Slater's Steel was assessed at something over $800,000. This assessment was appealed and reduced by the court of revision. It was further reduced by the county court judge to $180,000. This decision was appealed by the company which, you can imagine, engaged a large legal staff of lawyers, and they were able to convince the Ontario Municipal Board to reduce this assessment to $60,000.

Mr. Ruston: From $800,000?

Mr. Good: From $800,000.

The town then appealed to the good graces of the companies and through negotiation with the company they arrived at an assessment of $120,000. Here is an assessment of $120,000 which had been originally set at $800,000.

Two days later, after the negotiations had been terminated, the company sold its entire business to Emco for something over $3 million. Listed in the sale were lands and buildings of $1,305,000. Emco kept the business for eight months and sold it to American Standard for $5 million—and here we have the Ontario Municipal Board upholding an assessment of $60,000 on lands and buildings which were shown in one sale to be in excess of $1,000,000.

The town is now in a position, with its 16.5 mill increase, where it can no longer operate unless The Department of Municipal Affairs acts quickly to remedy this gross blunder which was made by the Ontario Municipal Board. If this assessment is upheld, the assessment of other industrial plants in that municipality, all of which are older buildings, is upheld. One assessment appeal has been going on for a number of years. The municipality of Hespeler, as I understand it, will be obliged to refund something like $350,000, which could put the municipality right out of business.

I think now we should look at the reason for this happening. While it is relatively easy to get the market value of your home or my home, it is most difficult, if not impossible, to get the market value of the commercial or industrial buildings. Consequently, while market value is defined in our new Assessment Act as what a willing buyer will pay to a willing seller, this particular definition is impossible to apply to industrial buildings for which there has been no sale.

While the concept of market value assessment is good in theory, so far practice has proved that some safeguards must be built into the new Assessment Act to make it work. Since the market value of industrial buildings is impossible to ascertain, the best the assessor can do with industrial property is figure out the replacement cost less depreciation.

We all know more than that enters into the market value of our homes. There is, for instance, the location of the property in the city, the proximity to main traffic arteries, shopping centres and expressways, the supply of homes in the area, the demand for homes, the affluence of the municipality, the mortgage rates, and numerous other factors that have driven the market value of residential properties much beyond replacement cost less depreciation.

Now, I submit, Mr. Speaker, any industry that has a building over 25 years old will be able to go into court and probably have its assessment reduced to about one quarter of what the actual market value would be for a comparable type of building if it were residential, simply because they had to use this formula of replacement cost less depreciation for industry.

The homeowner is not getting this break at all, for the simple reason the regional areas of the assessment departments in the regionalization procedure have all the information on sales of residences in all the municipalities across the province. This has all been compiled and tabulated by them so they can immediately find out the market value of the most comparable house in size and type to your home and my home. So we are being used differently. One is fish and the other is fowl.

I have suggested on various occasions that certain safeguards must be built into the new Assessment Act to make it workable. Along with the problems previously mentioned, many individuals are, and will be, adversely affected. There can be the case of the elderly couple living on the fringe of a downtown area; perhaps their home has or will have some potential commercial value. The market value assessment, of course, will reflect this. To this couple, this is just their home—nothing more—it is where they have lived for many years. To them it is not a potential commercial development, but instead it is where they would like to spend their remaining days. Should they be forced out of their home by high taxes?

Personally, I think not; I think the present use must enter into the manner in which

property of this nature is assessed. Perhaps the best example of hardship brought about in this regard is that of the widow, Mrs. Basilewski of Mississauga, whose property tax jumped 500 per cent under Ontario's plan for reassessment at market value.

Because her home is situated on a six-acre parcel of land, her assessment at market value has jumped a tremendous amount. The land to her is simply used as a location for her home. Personally, I feel the present use of the property must enter into the basis of the assessment.

Many people in the Mississauga area, because of the extremely high land values, are being faced with tremendous increases of assessment because they are unable to obtain property severances to divide their lots, or get rid of portions on which they can no longer afford to pay taxes.

Here I am compelled to say something about the new procedures instituted by The Department of Municipal Affairs just this past December, I believe it was, on property severances. Under the old procedure a client could go to his lawyer, who would approach the municipality with a sketch of the parcel to be retained and sold on the severances. He would request that the council supply him with a certified copy of its motion for or against the severance.

If council were against the severance, of course, that would be the end of it. However, if the council proved the severance, and the lawyer would fill in the department's application-for-consent form and send it off with two executed copies of the deed of sale, the sketch of the lands and a certified copy of the council's motion—since each application was looked at individually—normally, they would proceed routinely.

If the application ran afoul of ministerial policy, it would quickly initiate detailed correspondence, enabling the lawyer to make the necessary corrections to put things in order and apply again.

Rarely did the procedure for a routine case take much longer than a month. An important consideration, of course, in the severance market, was speed. By bouncing the work back to the vendor's lawyer, the department really extended its work force by the number of lawyers who were serving clients. The burden was on the lawyer to come up with an acceptable severance.

In contrast, since the beginning of the year, the new procedure excludes the lawyer from active participation in the application for most of the time and leaves him frustrated and unable to serve his client. The vendor's lawyer does not contact the local council, but instead, simply sends a sketch and departmental form of consent to Toronto. Instead of all the information arriving at the community planning branch at the same time, the officials there send the information request form to the local township clerk to be completed.

As far as I can ascertain, no circular nor directive to municipalities regarding the procedure to be followed has been sent. Many township clerks have ignored the forms until reminded by letter from Toronto to complete it.

This, Mr. Speaker, is where the new procedure bogs down. Some of the questions relating to land utilization are quite detailed and the clerk cannot complete the form without placing it once more before the council for a policy decision on the planning questions. Often these new severance forms miss the council meetings by a day or two, and, of course, the indifference of The Department of Municipal Affairs to council meetings is understandable.

Long enough time has elapsed in many cases for the buyer to begin to lose interest and the sale falls through. When the department makes a decision it advises the vendor's solicitor. Progress chasing is almost impossible, because of the various civil servants looking after the various severance forms.

The department claims its methods save on unnecessary lawyers' costs in the preparation of deeds, but this is what happens: invariably, the information sheet arrives back at the vendor's lawyers for completion anyway by some of the municipal or township clerks, and it would appear to me that these information requests forms could and should be in the hands of lawyers so that they can be filed at the same time as the application is sent.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to cite just two examples of these delays caused by this new bureaucratic system established in The Department of Municipal Affairs:

In a routine severance of farm residence and garden plot, both well over The Department of Health minimum size, where no services were required, the material was filed with The Department of Municipal Affairs, December 8. December 12 the lawyer received a letter stating application was under review. Early in January the lawyer called the department and was told that a new procedure had been

established and new information was now needed from the township.

The documents had been sent to the township but no reply was forthcoming. The confused township clerk brought the form to the lawyer and together they completed it in his office on January 15. Nothing has been heard of this application since. After four unsuccessful telephone calls to the department the deal has fallen through.

Another application, filed December 8, was also acknowledged December 12. On January 29 the lawyer wrote to the department: "Please forward most recent information you have on this file." February 4, a letter was received from the department: "Have not yet received back from township the questionnaire we mailed them on December 23."

There seems to be a general lack of urgency in the department and, of course, there is no motivation to act in any manner to have things speeded up.

Mr. Ruston: They have no motivation over there.

Mr. Good: A similar case has emphasized the fact that, when the form is sent out to local municipalities, especially in the case of townships, great delays have taken place. Surely this type of buck-passing is not becoming the proper handling of severances in the province of Ontario? I would urge that the department give serious consideration to permitting a questionnaire form to be completed by the vendor's lawyer and the township clerk and council, where necessary, prior to the time of the application, so that both forms can be sent to the department at the same time, thus eliminating a great deal of delay.

This matter of severances, in my view, takes on a new degree of urgency when we find that people are going to have to get rid of some of their surplus land because of this new assessment procedure. Surely, Mr. Speaker, we cannot let this new Assessment Act disrupt the normal, peaceful way of life of people in many of our communities across the province?

Should people be forced from their homes simply because they have a large garden? Should they be forced from their homes by high taxes because they have a vacant lot behind their house, or because they live close to a commercial area? Personally I think not. We must get a little compassionate of the new Assessment Act when it comes to dealing with people in special circumstances.

Strangely enough in the same municipality of which I spoke previously—Mississauga—market value assessment has reduced Bell Canada's taxes by $180,000.

Mr. Ruston: See the friends they have.

Mr. Good: Gulf Oil Company will pay $139,000 less.

Mr. Ruston: Yes, good fellows.

Mr. Good: St. Lawrence Cement's taxes went down $96,000 and Texaco got $14,000 reduction under statute.

Mr. Speaker, I submit there has to be some safeguards put into this new Act before the whole economy of the province is driven into a state of chaos. I am convinced, Mr. Speaker, that there are close to a dozen areas in the new Assessment Act in which something must be done immediately. I would just like to mention a few and comment on them briefly.

Along with the ones I have already mentioned there is the matter of cottages. We have here lands which are used for recreational purposes, but, because they happen to be situated on the edge of a piece of water, they have a large market value, and are being assessed at values away and above normal for purposes of getting taxes for education in the area.

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): The member does not really believe that, does he?

Mr. Good: We are also dealing with buildings here which many municipal health officers, or county health officers, would condemn as unfit for human habitation six months of the year. So, until we get such a large part of educational costs and other social benefits off the property tax, we are going to have trouble.

Regarding the loss of revenue received from telephone companies due to the change in the mill rate, the minister tells us there is a provincial-federal agreement which interferes with their ability to tax the telephone companies. I say, get busy and get this federal-provincial agreement done away with, or get it amended to suit our new Assessment Act.

On golf club assessment the minister has given us an undertaking that he is looking into this matter.

On the Indian-held land leased to cottagers, we now find that provisions of The Municipal Act and the new Assessment Act are that all cottage land is to be assessed at market value and the lease which the cottager has with the

Indians is also to be assessed at market value. So, while the cottager is paying taxes on the market value of his lease, a section of The Municipal Act states that anyone living on Indian land who is not a member of the band shall be liable for taxation.

So the poor cottager who happens to have rented his cottage land from an Indian band is, under the new assessment provisions, going to pay both market value assessment on his lease and also on his land, something which should have been looked into long before this legislation was ever passed.

I have dealt with industrial assessment at replacement cost less depreciation.

The high assessment placed on some conservation authorities' land and the assessment on railways are two other problem areas. Here we have in our Act railways having fixed assessment for five years—when the region is assessed at market value, the mill rate would be cut, we will say, to 25 per cent and the railway would enjoy its same assessment and tax rate for another five years, meaning a loss of 75 per cent of the revenue which that municipality would get from the railway. This all should have been looked after before this Assessment Act went into court.

Mr. Nixon: That is equality.

Mr. Good: Surely this new Assessment Act is another example of acting too swiftly without knowing the consequences of new legislation.

Reassessment was supposed to bring a fair deal for people across the province. Experience up to now has certainly not brought this into being. Reassessment across the province will not be completed until 1975 and consequently I am afraid no final reform will be introduced at the present time.

In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, taxes have to be paid. Inequities are showing up in so many municipalities, and I submit, Mr. Speaker, that something must be done immediately to remove the tremendous tax burden which is shifting onto residential property in most municipalities that have been reassessed.

I am proposing, Mr. Speaker, that since it is impossible to assess industrial and commercial property at market value, and because the method of replacement cost less depreciation is shifting ultimate tax loads on to residential property, each municipality should be given the authority to use the percentage of the market value assessment for determining the basis for taxation in the varied classes of property.

Further, I ask that the province move more swiftly to relieve real property from such a large share of education costs.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, at this time, it is deemed appropriate and traditional that those who participated in the Speech from the Throne should accord to you congratulations for the work that you have done in the past, and best wishes on your future. That is a tradition in which I participate quite enthusiastically.

It is also appropriate, I think, in these remarks on the Speech from the Throne, that we look upon ourselves a little in this chamber and consider what we are about. I would like to say just a few words on this particular topic.

I say this, realizing that there is committee of this House which is at present looking at the rules by which we operate in this chamber and considering the work we do here—the timetabling of that work. But I fear, Mr. Speaker, that we will not go far enough; that we will tinker with the machinery, but we will not really make this place a vital, alive, refreshing and, one would hope, effective place in which to carry on the business of this province.

I simply point out to you, Mr. Speaker, on the Speech from the Throne debate that I think on the whole the speeches have been very useful, very effective, on all sides. And I must say that I am somewhat amazed at the number that are here tonight. Certainly, the attendance has been somewhat missing at other points during this debate.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): Not much participation over there.

Mr. Pitman: I must say, though, that the government is not only here, but is restless, Mr. Speaker, tonight.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): The natives get restless about this time.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to point out to you, Mr. Speaker, that there is probably no more futile exercise going on in the city of Toronto than what goes on in this throne debate—nothing more useless and pointless, in spite of the speeches that are made.

The government very rarely comes to the House; it will not speak and, when it speaks, it will not defend the things that are being done by this government, mainly because it is totally incapable of defending what has been going on in the province during this last year.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: I would say, Mr. Speaker, that the debate is a misnomer. May I make a suggestion that perhaps what we really should do is gather together, listen to the remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor in an appropriate manner, disperse ourselves to our homes and send in our speeches to be read into the record, or perhaps provide a bound copy, when we arrive two or three weeks later, for some useful purpose—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: And I might also suggest—

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): We are the only ones who hear—

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, why are the natives so restless?

Not only do I concern myself about the irrelevance of this kind of debate, because surely we could do something with it, but I think in a previous speech I suggested that perhaps we might begin to use the method which is used in the American Congress—that of yielding the floor, so that all our friends over here, Mr. Speaker, will not be able to speak unless they can organize themselves so that they can speak one at a time. I would be very glad to yield the floor and let them speak for five or 10 minutes if there was some kind of organized method of doing it.

Mr. Pilkey: Oh no!

Mr. Pitman: Perhaps that is something that the committee might consider. I think it might be very useful, so that there might be an exchange, so that there might be a debate.

And may I also speak a little about the isolation of this place. After about 3 o'clock or 3.15, after the school children have been cleared from the galleries—"the captive audience", as I think my friend from Sudbury refers to these school children—we usually have very few people around here. Why do we not use this particular forum? Why do we not bring people here maybe two nights a week and let them speak to us—people from tenants' organizations; people who are unemployed; young people, and make a town hall meeting—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: My goodness, Mr. Speaker, I never realized there were so many people awake in this chamber.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, I think you are going to have to protect me from the forces on the other side, they seem to be getting very excited tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you, it may be sacrilege, but, you know, a great many things are happening in churches that never happened before either. That really is not too irrelevant in the situation. As I am sure you know, the reason for the way in which we are lined up on both of your sides is because Parliament in the English-speaking world began to meet in a church. For that reason the group divided as a government and opposition, unlike in France, where they began meeting in a theatre.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Can you not see the Peterborough *Examiner* tomorrow—"Pitman says Parliament should be town hall meeting".

Hon. Mr. Simonett: And we should bring in the natives from Peterborough to speak.

Mr. Pitman: The natives of Peterborough might have something to say, especially to that particular minister. He can learn a great deal from anybody. You could bring in anybody off the street who would have something to say to that one.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: Any idea that has any merit is socialist from that side of the House.

I am not going to arouse the natives any longer, Mr. Speaker. I am so pleased to hear they are still alive and well, even though they are not moving very much. I shall bring my comments on that point to an end.

Mr. Sopha: The member has awakened them all, except the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett).

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): And he is preparing his brief.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, if I might just transgress a bit further, if I can be allowed.

One expected, when one arrived here, Mr. Speaker, at the beginning of a decade, to hear a Speech from the Throne that one would have been presented with some of the problems which this government felt it must deal with, that would confront it during the next 10 years, and that it would present to the people of Ontario a strategy for dealing

with those kinds of problems. But what did we get?

I can remember the stunned looks from the people who sat here in front of these benches as they realized that the Speech from the Throne was over. They had tramped down from all parts of Ontario to hear what was really nothing more than a glossy overview of the 1960s, with a few very vague suggestions of what this government might do in the next 12 months.

I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that nothing could have better indicated the reason for the position this party has taken, and for the amendment that this party placed before this House that we call upon the Premier of the province (Mr. Robarts) to issue the writ and let us go to the people of this province and let them decide on just exactly what kind of government they want to go into the 1970s with. Never has there been a government or a party less likely to provide effective government in the 1970s.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): It is in total disarray.

Mr. Pilkey: Yes, sir, right before our eyes.

Mr. Pitman: The 1960s, I would suggest to you, sir, were concerned essentially with growth. We have been obsessed with economic growth.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Pitman: The hon. member would not know philosophy if he fell over it.

I want to suggest to you that during the last 10 years we have been dealing with economic growth and this government has been able at least to convince the people of Ontario that it should hold the reins of power and stay in the seat of government. The next 10 years will not be, I think, concerned with economic growth and the gross national product. They will be concerned—

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): That is the old story.

Mr. Pitman: Well, the member obviously has not heard it. If he heard it he simply did not understand it, so we will tell it to him again.

Mr. W. Hodgson: The member does not understand it yet.

Mr. Pitman: I suggest that the next 10 years will be concerned with the kind of environment we are going to have for the children who follow us, with designing the kind of environment we are going to have. Never has there been a government which could less see those kinds of problems and deal with those kinds of problems.

The other problem we are going to have to deal with is the fact—

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Worn-out phrases.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, I have not even got started yet. In a few minutes they may have something to start screaming about but, really, it is only 9 o'clock.

Mr. W. Newman: Tell us what the member is going to do.

Mr. Pitman: Well, if the hon. member will —is it proper to say "shut up" or "keep quiet," Mr. Speaker? If he did either one, he might find out what we are going to do.

Mr. W. Newman: Go ahead.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Do tell us!

Mr. Pitman: I will come to the hon. minister in a moment or two. I am sure he is expecting me to.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh, yes.

Mr. Pitman: I just do not want to keep the minister in here all day waiting, that is all.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Why does the member not get somebody from Peterborough down here?

Mr. Pitman: If I might suggest, sir, that is the reason why we believe that this political party should be over there as the 1970s arrive in the province of Ontario.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: Just look at this party, Mr. Speaker. As I say, economic growth is fine, but look at the division of that economic growth, the giving of justice. Look at The Department of Indian Affairs, was that not in great shape? Look at the problems of pollution. Look at the problems of the cities. Look at the problems of health. Look at the school board mess.

This government does not resemble anything more than a group of drunks wandering through a mine field; they have detonated every device in sight. They could not possibly create more explosions in this province than

they have over the last year, because of the way they have been fouling things up.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: When is this government at its best? When it is planning the Expo pavilion; when it is opening the pavilion down in Montreal; when it is planning this building, putting up that building; when it is providing an Expo film.

When is it worst? When it is trying to deal with people; when people have health problems; when they have welfare problems; when the Indians in the north need assistance. That is when this government utterly and completely fails—every time.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, I defy this government to go to the province. We will ask the aged and the sick. We will ask the people in nursing homes. We will ask the people who have been disrupted by the school board legislation. We will ask the people who have been concerned about humane societies and all the other explosions the government has detonated in the last while. We will ask them what kind of a government they want, and they will soon tell us.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: As I say, Mr. Speaker, this government cannot even bear the sight of taxation reform; it cannot bear the sight of it. I am not going to go through this; several colleagues have gone through this; the members for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) and Riverdale (Mr. J. Renwick) have gone through it. I can assure the members that nothing is more apparent than that this government has backed away from tax reform.

We ask you just two questions—

Mr. Yakabuski: All right, the two questions—

Mr. Pitman: That the people in the lower sections of the economy need to be helped. That does not really require very great insight, even from the provincial level or the federal level.

We would like to ask the government this: where is it going to get the money? Where is it going to place the taxes, if it is going to take them off this group? If it is going to try to protect the $10,000 to $14,000 earners—the seven per cent the Premier said he was so concerned about when he replied to the Speech from the Throne—where is it going to get the money? We simply have not heard of that particular point.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: From usual growth in the economy.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, just exactly the reaction I expected. Growth, the Minister for Energy and Resources Management suggests. I wonder if he has been reading his newspapers recently—if he has been looking at what has been going on in the United States and is going to reflect here in Canada.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We do not follow the United States.

Mr. Pitman: We do not follow the United States? Does the Minister of Energy and Resources Management really think that the economy of Canada is not a reflection of the United States? I do suggest that he go back and do some thinking on his economics for a while, because—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): He must be in communication with the Minister of Trade and Development.

Mr. Pitman: Indeed, he must be communicating too well with the minister.

Mr. Speaker, that is the one question. Where are they going to place the tax, or are they going to cut down virtually in the public sector? Well, then, whose ox is going to be gored? Is it the health programme which is going to be cut down? Are we going to cut down again on emotionally disturbed children? Are we going to cut down again the Indian people of this province? Where are we going to cut down? Until the government is ready to answer those two questions, we on this side—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): When did we cut down?

An hon. member: $13 million out of last year's budget.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): It is tough to cut when you do not give anything.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, will the hon. member tell us why he used the expression, "We again cut down on the Indian people"? When did we cut down?

Mr. Pitman: The hon. minister does not remember the debate from last year. The minister could not even tell us on what he had spent the money we had already given in this Legislature, that is the very point.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): The member said again, and then again, with regard to emotionally disturbed children; detail that.

Mr. Pitman: I would suggest that the minister read the budget from last year and see the cutbacks; in every case they were services to people. It was a disgraceful example of the lack of concern for the people who needed it most in the province.

Mr. Yakabuski: Do you call that a debate?

Mr. Pilkey: You had it in the budget and you did not spend it.

Mr. Yakabuski: Do you call that a debate, your last remarks?

Mr. Pitman: Indeed I do.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: Absolutely ridiculous.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: My goodness, I am pleased to see the minister is here. I can hardly wait.

The minister would have done himself a good deal more good by being down at the St. Lawrence Hall when Senator Croll was there and listening to what he had to say about this government's lousy system of welfare. He would have done himself a good deal more use down there than sitting in here yelling at the member for Peterborough.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What did the senator's government do?

Mr. Pitman: The senator's government, we hope, will do a good deal more—a good deal more. But that does not get this particular minister off the hook. He is a disgrace and a failure.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: You are a disgrace. I expect that language from the member for Scarborough West, but never from you.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Pitman: I am very pleased to see that the minister is alive. That is all I can say in this particular situation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to deal with one, two or perhaps three, areas where I think this government has been particularly—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Perhaps we can conclude the children's hour.

The hon. member for Peterborough has the floor.

Mr. Pitman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your efforts.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Pitman: I am very sorry that the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) is not here, because we may have been able to get him exercised too.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Let us start to debate, shall we?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough has the floor.

Mr. Pitman: One of the things that had really concerned me, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that, not only is the effectiveness of this total government beginning to wear very, very thin, but one minister that we did have some hope for, I think, was the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Here was a bright new minister. We expected that he would bring in bright new programmes, that he would try to reorganize the chaos in his department, which already existed, and that we might get something a little better. We thought his past of big noise, little brains and the Chicago gang, might have just worn off and that we might have been able to get something really useful. Because this is an area where we just really need something to happen, if we are going to live in the kind of urbanized society which my colleague has discussed already this evening.

Mr. Yakabuski: Will you be challenging the leadership next year?

Mr. Pitman: One would have hoped that he would have realized that the main thing that the municipalities of this province need is assistance to do their own planning. This government has a rather strange idea of what municipal autonomy is all about.

What you do is you undercut the municipality. You take away their functions. You load them with rising property taxes. You make the municipalities as unpopular and ineffective as possible, and then you come in and say, "Here! Here is regional government. This is the way we are going to solve your problem."

What we really want is an opportunity for the local municipality to have some kind of democratic input into the kind of society they

themselves want to create. This cannot be done as long as all the expertise, all the power which comes from that kind of information "conglomeration" is at 801 Bay Street, and very little is given to the local municipality.

One would have thought—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Give us an example. Can the member give us an example?

Mr. Pitman: Give the minister an example of what?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Of the kind of society.

Mr. Pilkey: Just listen, he will tell you.

Mr. Pitman: Well, the kind of society that I am talking about—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps if the hon. member for Peterborough would attempt to disregard the interjections and speak through the chair we would avoid a lot of this.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your advice, sir, but I must say that I have found most of their interjections very helpful. It has been, I think, rather an interesting interchange.

Mr. J. Renwick: Certainly stimulating for them.

Mr. Pitman: I want to say to the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management that the kind of society I think we are trying to create in this province of Ontario is one which will allow urban conurbations to take place in certain sections of the province—where people will be able to work, where the economy will be able to operate efficiently, particularly where there is already an economic base.

But the province has not yet made any decisions as to what kind of planning it wants across this province. A whole municipality has no planning expertise, and yet it looks at the province and it says, "What kind of a provincial plan do you have? Where are you going? Do you want to simply let the Toronto-Hamilton area extend or do you want to let some of the population and some of the economy gather in other growth points around the province?" But we cannot find out what the province wants to do.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Pitman: I simply say to the hon. minister we have been studied to death and I think he has a completely misguided idea as to what planning is all about. One does not simply gather statistics and out of these statistics expect a plan to emerge. It will not emerge. What one does is one uses a guide, you might say—a tentative plan which one can work into and one can change, one that is flexible, one that can be modified. But, one does not go along simply saying, "You wait, and in the end we will have a plan for you," and expect the local municipality to wander about in this kind of a desert of intellect and not be able to do anything with its own future.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Where do you get this tentative plan?

Mr. Pitman: That, Mr. Speaker—the tentative plan—is a political decision. It is the responsibility of this government to decide on those kinds of decisions because they will be made. They will be made by somebody else, they will be made in time by other people than those elected by the people of this province. And that is what is wrong with the whole business.

It will be made by the Minister of Trade and Development as he races around the province, mindlessly selling off the resources of the province to American corporations. It will be made by somebody, but it will be made on the least possible evidence and information, and that is the tragedy of this government as we move into the 1970s.

Mr. Sopha: Now you have turned the Minister of Energy and Resources Management off.

Mr. Pitman: Well, I am sorry for that. There were special comments to make on his behalf and I was hoping he would be around.

Of course, what has to take place while one is planning, is some kind of a foundation plan, some kind of taxation system which will, at least, make it possible for the local municipalities to have some economic viability. As it stands now, of course, with education costs, with the kind of municipal costs that are arising, they cannot be viable. Not only has the government not given them help to plan their future, it has made their future a dismal ratrace simply by not coming to grips with the obvious necessities of providing for provincial resources for those things which have to be given to urban centres if you are going to have any kind of a decent life in those centres.

I mentioned two examples of what must be done. A political decision is needed to

gather growth in certain growth points. One might even suggest that the government could use the council for the arts in this province to provide the recreational opportunities for these various growth points. One would hope, one would expect that this might be one way by which it could draw people out of these urban monstrosities which the Toronto complex is very quickly becoming. Allow us to create a decent kind of province in which people can live and breathe and, one would hope, cease polluting their entire environment. Unless this is done, unless it is coordinated at the provincial level, we have no hope whatsoever, Mr. Speaker.

I wanted to deal with that problem of the municipalities very quickly. I wanted to deal as well with the problems of pollution. Mr. Speaker, all of this is very easy; it is very easy to be against pollution. There is nothing easier in this world than to be against pollution. The problem comes when someone is polluting. What is this government going to do? The minister says: "Tell them to stop polluting." That is not very helpful, Mr. Speaker, particularly when you are in an area such as I come from with a tourist industry, where the entire region is so dependent upon the purity of water as the Kawarthas is.

I would like, you might say, to use this small section of my remarks tonight to give you the continuing saga of one man's efforts to deal with pollution in my area and the frustrations that he has had to face, the log rolling that he has had to jump in order to try to do something effective about the problem of pollution. Every time I go into that conservation office I see his pamphlet: "What the citizen could do about water pollution." It appears to me, Mr. Speaker, this pamphlet has its answer to what the citizens can do about water pollution. It really says, be a good guy but do not get in the way, do not rock the boat.

As long as you can encourage your students to write essays about pollution, or give speeches to the Kiwanis Club about pollution, or tell them a horror story about what is going to happen in 15 or 20 years if the lakes die and all the water will be virtually unable to sustain any kind of life, that is fine. That is what the rest of the government wants the citizen to do about pollution. But if the citizen becomes effective, that is when the flak starts to fly. That is when the government loses its "guts", when it becomes less effective and less able to be of any assistance to the very person who is helping it most.

I was giving a speech last fall, and I told of a young research scientist in the city of Peterborough who had spent a great deal of his own personal time going through the lakes in the Kawarthas pointing out the degree of pollution that he found there, giving this information without any obligation to this government and to the agencies of this government. He appealed for help. In fact, he even asked if he could be an agent of this government. He wanted to work entirely hand in hand with the agencies of this government in order to help.

Let me tell the members what happened to this young man and his efforts to be of some assistance to this government. He reported that there was considerable pollution emanating from the Lakefield College School in the Peterborough area. I think you should get this straight, Mr. Speaker. None of us had any desire that he would wish to cause distress to an educational institution. We were all aware of the role this school had played, not only in the Peterborough area, but in the entire province. We were also aware of the outdoor education emphasis, and the conservation efforts that had been made by this school.

But the statistical point was that there was pollution coming from this particular institution. He asked the Ontario Water Resources Commission to come in and investigate this piece of evidence that there was pollution. Mr. Speaker, finally in August—on August 13—the Ontario Water Resources Commission turned up. I want to read to you what they found. This is from an official document of the Ontario Water Resources Commission of Lakefield College's sewage disposal. This was a field inspection by Mr. R. C. Manson, an engineer and was reported by Mr. Manson, on that date. This is what he said:

> A liquid was observed discharging from a pipe approximately 500 feet east of Highway 28 to a water course draining into Lake Katchawanooka. The presence of odours and whitish bacterial growth made it evident that the liquid was untreated or inadequately treated sewage. The flow was low in volume.
>
> The presence of sewage was also noted in the area adjacent to the lake and just west of the school's main tile bed (west of Colbrook House). In this area, a stream originating near the southwest end of the tile bed and another stream flowing from the area near the northwest end of the tile bed converged at an old road and flowed to a marshy bay in Lake Katchawanooka. The former stream (from the south) had the

greatest flow although the quantity fluctuated greatly. The liquid in this stream had the odour and the visual characteristics of sewage.

Now, I might stop at that point, Mr. Speaker and remind you that The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act states, and I think I can quote it: Any impairment of any kind in the water—any kind of impairment—is pollution. There is no statement of degree or extent of pollution. Any kind of impairment of that water is obviously pollution.

Well, the Ontario Water Resources Commission came back again on September 10, and made another investigation:

The September 10 investigation revealed that the pipe 500 feet east of Highway 28 continued to discharge sewage. The volume was the same as found in August.

Near the lake, the flow of waste from the southwest end of the main tile bed was quite high in volume compared with the August flow observed. The high flow was attributed to the fact that the school term had commenced. Flow in the stream from the northwest end of the tile bed was minimal. A significant proportion of the former flow was observed coming from a pipe located at the southwest corner of the main tile bed. It appeared that raw sewage was discharging from this pipe; the presence of food indicated that kitchen wastes were being discharged.

A good portion of the tile bed area was either flooded or quite wet. An odour of sewage was detected. Some of the ponding liquid was discharging westerly toward the lake.

The Ontario Water Resources Commission came back again on December 17 and stated on that date:

The following sewage flows were observed: (a) the previously observed discharge of sewage from the pipe 500 feet east of Highway 28; the flow had the visual characteristics and the odour of sewage. (b) the previously observed flow from the direction of the southwest corner of the main tile bed toward the lake. (c) a flow of sewage from the septic tank located approximately 200 feet east of Highway 28 in the same area as (a).

And on it goes.

The presence of sewage was confirmed by laboratory analyses which are found on the appended sheet. (a) sewage surfacing in the southeast corner of the main tile bed in the area where distribution box was apparently located. The sewage flowed northwesterly and ponded on the tile bed area.

No sewage was observed discharging from the pipe in the southwest corner of the tile bed. Reportedly it had been diverted.

An inspection of the area between the main tile bed and the lake revealed that the liquid discharging into the lake originated from the school's sewage works. No flowing watercourse was seen upstream of these works.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I have read at some length from that report because I think it is important. By the time the OWRC had come back on December 17 a charge had been laid against the Lakefield College School for polluting.

May I say to you that that charge, last Thursday, was dismissed. This evidence, which comes from this report, was presented, and was not put at the disposal of those who were carrying out the charge at that time.

Could more proof be found? I could read to you the accounts in the back of this report, accounts of 3,200—as you know 2,400 coliform is the highest which is acceptable.

In other areas: 1,560,000 on September 10 in one place; on September 10, 21,600,000 the coliform count; on another date, 900,000 coliform count.

I simply say to you, Mr. Speaker, that the charge was laid, the OWRC had this report in its hands and it did not place this report in the hands of those who were carrying out that charge.

This is an interesting fact. What I would like to point out to you, and I say I think what has to be pointed out is the completely ludicrous legislation we have in this province in trying to deal with pollution. It is as though, as I have tried to point out before, when someone is speeding on the highway, a person is expected to chase that speeder, apprehend him, bring him into court and then find that the government was going to do its best to make it difficult for those who have brought an alleged offender into court.

It as though the government was log-jamming pollution rather than trying to end pollution.

Despite the expectation of those who have any faith in the OWRC, this report was not placed in the hands of those who carried that case. Well, what did happen? After the charge was laid the OWRC went to the assistance of the Lakefield College School. Obvi-

ously this is quite correct, and so it should; our main interest is to stop pollution. But what a double game we have going on here. The same time the OWRC is going to help the school they are also assisting the individual who brings the polluter into court. Just what, exactly, is the role of the OWRC in that situation?

As I said, the case was lost. Look at the history of the problem, if I might just refer to this report once again.

> As a result of the construction of new school buildings in 1965, a new septic tank tile bed, approved in principle by The Department of Health was installed. However, shortly after the bed was put into operation during the fall, ponding commenced.

Shortly after 1965—

> Subsequently, sewage began to discharge from several places in the tile bed.

In other words, the OWRC knew about this problem in 1965; it states so in its own report.

> Following a study to determine the cause of the tile bed failure the school became interested in constructing a sewage treatment plant. OWRC approval for an oxidation ditch type sewage treatment plant was given in August, 1966.
>
> When tenders were called the lowest bid was very much above the estimated cost of $63,000.

And here I have the greatest sympathy for the school. They knew a sewage plant was going to be constructed in this village of Lakefield. They knew that they could be hooked into this sewage system. Naturally they did not want to spend $100,000.

But the point that I wish to make, Mr. Speaker, is this. Why is it that the OWRC became concerned about this situation only after the charge was made in 1969? Only after the hullabaloo was created both in the press and on the radio and television. Did they come in and assist the school, and then, Mr. Speaker, fail to assist those who had carried out their citizenship duties and brought a charge of pollution against an institution which was so obviously polluting on the basis of the report which the OWRC had in its own hands? Mr. Speaker, this is the degree of seriousness with which this government approaches the problem of pollution.

I want to say to you that the final irony is that the report was not introduced, and the reason that the case was lost was because they were unable to prove continuity of evidence, a possession of evidence. What they were saying was, "We cannot prove that the OWRC did not mix the samples or lose the bottles. We have not proved in court that every person was brought in who had touched those bottles from the moment they left the watercourse at the Lakefield College School to the moment in when they reached that court." That was one of the main reasons why the judge felt that he could not accept the charge that was brought into that court.

There were one or two other reasons which involved The Department of Health, but because The Department of Health had approved in principle in 1965 a septic tank tile bed, which obviously was no longer working and was no longer acceptable and yet it was one of the reasons too, it was felt that the case should be dismissed.

That, sir, I think is the degree to which this government has failed an individual who tried to carry out his duties, and a community which is concerned about pollution—and I suggest that it has failed itself so far as the future dealings with this area of pollution are concerned. That is why I call upon this government tonight to do something about this unholy mess.

First, reorganize OWRC. One of the main reasons we cannot do anything about water pollution is that everything seems to have to happen right down here in Toronto. That is silly; it is useless; it is hopeless; and if the government really has something to say about pollution and wants to do something about pollution, it should reorganize the OWRC according to the watersheds of this province.

The second thing is that throughout the entire piece, Mr. Speaker, there seems to be some confusion as to who is responsible for laying charges. Week after week I brought this matter up in the House. I asked the minister, "Who is responsible?" He said, "The citizen goes to the crown attorney. The crown attorney makes the charges."

But the crown attorney would not lay the charge. I brought it to the attention of the minister that nobody would lay the charge except the individual who was carrying out his duties as a citizen and was concerned about water pollution. What happened in that situation? Surely we can put into the legislation the procedure by which an individual in this province brings polluters to justice.

Some hon members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Pitman: Certainly we do not want to go through this ridiculous song and dance routine that has been going on for the last three or four months in trying to find out who is responsible for dealing with pollution. It is obviously the responsibility of this government.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The government is not serious; the facts speak for themselves.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Pretty soon we will not have any—

Mr. Pitman: Is it not the responsibility of the OWRC? All right, I am willing to accept the possibility there is a third suggestion. It may be quite possible that an industry might not know it is polluting; an institution might not know it is polluting. Then why does this government not give it an ultimatum? I am willing to accept that an institution or an industry or a city sewage plant should have a period during that ultimatum when no one can bring charges against it. It is given three, four, five months—I do not care what is; a reasonable amount of time—and it is told to stop polluting. During that time, no charges should be brought against that company. But at the end of that time all hell breaks loose, as far as pollution is concerned in that area. That is the only way you are going to get tough about pollution.

Mr. Sopha: A very sensible suggestion.

Mr. Pitman: Fourthly, I find completely unacceptable the concept that whenever we have a pollution charge in the courts, we have to produce evidence of continuity of possession when you have a government body with laboratories paid for by the people of this province, and manned—one would expect—by people who have a respectable academic background and who have the expertise to carry out that work in an acceptable fashion. Surely, as every single one of these analyses is stated, we can have a signature beside that analysis. I say to you, Mr. Speaker, if you are going to bring the whole laboratory of the OWRC into court every time there is a case of water pollution, you simply are not going to get any cases of water pollution. I suspect that one of the major reasons why so few faces are brought into the court is that the Ontario Water Resources Commission simply has not the personnel to carry out those charges.

They could do it if they were trying to do it!

Mr. Sopha: The certificate would be sufficient unless the contrary be shown.

Mr. Pitman: Well, I bow to my legal friend from Sudbury and his—

Mr. Sopha: This is the way you do it with impaired drivers, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Pitman: What we are doing right now is completely lunatic. My fifth suggestion is that the report of the Ontario Water Resources Commission be opened to public scrutiny.

Mr. Sopha: Hear, hear!

Mr. Pitman: We are all sick and tired of making phone calls, writing letters, going through this routine of trying to get information from a body which has a responsibility to make its report open to everyone.

The effort that we have been making to get the reports is well known. Not just on this report of the Lakefield College School, but the previous report on Stoney and Clear Lake.

Now I want to say to you, Mr. Speaker, that this is not just one small case; it shows the utter incapability of this government dealing with this matter.

What I am afraid of, sir, is what is going to happen in the next few months.

What are the implications that can be drawn from the failure in this case of pollution, where the evidence is as massive as that which I have read to you, sir, from that document produced by the Ontario Water Resources Commission? What are the implications?

Well, I will tell you, sir. In the next few weeks we will be having a task force going into the Kawartha Lakes to deal with water pollution in those areas. We will be expected, one would hope, to have some teeth in the legislation.

And have something else, too, if I might make another suggestion. Let us get off this hopeless legislation which states that any kind of impairment of the water is water pollution. Is there anyone in this entire assembly who would not be in jail, who would be fined $1,000 if the literal translation of that legislation were put into effect?

Is there anyone here who has spilled a bit of gasoline in the water as he filled his motor boat?

Mr. W. Hodgson: Most of them could put whisky in the water.

Mr. Pitman: I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that it is ludicrous to have that kind of legislation on the books.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, if we regionalize the Ontario Water Resources Commission we can set up water standards in each section of this province. I find it a very compelling argument to suggest that you cannot have the same water standards, let us say, in Toronto Harbour or Hamilton Bay as you might expect either in Muskoka or in the Kawarthas.

If you regionalize the approach of the Ontario Water Resources Commission you can set standards, and as soon as those are exceeded you have a *bona fide* case of pollution.

All I ask, Mr. Speaker, to conclude that section of my remarks, is that we get serious. There is nothing that undermines the work of this government, this fight against pollution, as much as that kind of action which took place in the city of Peterborough over the last three or four weeks.

When you have a kind of bungling and dropping of the ball, the stumbling about which went on in the last three or four weeks on a subject which is as critical as water pollution, it does not leave one very much confidence in the future of this province with relation to this very serious problem.

If I might add a few more remarks, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a little on the subject of education before I sit down.

Mr. Speaker, I would say that in all honesty—I would like to be very candid—that probably one of the jewels in the crown of the government is The Department of Education.

You know, whenever this government wants to convince itself that it is being progressive they always bring out the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) and say: "Look, look what he has done. Look at all the technology, look at all the changes that have taken place, the large jurisdictions, ETV, and so on."

I want to suggest a thesis to you tonight, Mr. Speaker, which I should like to develop over the next few months. That is: this government has come to the end of the line so far as education reform is concerned.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Pitman: The game is over; it is all up.

Because the essential kind of reform which has been going on has been inside the department, internal; it has been related directly to education; manipulating the educational techniques. But what you have to have now, Mr. Speaker, is a commitment on the part of a government to social change; and there is nothing in the world that this government has less commitment to.

Until that commitment is made there can be no real, basic, fundamental progress in the area of education; and that I think is quite obvious.

We will continue to move the blocks around, we will continue to make changes here and there, we will continue to add people and take people away; but when it really comes down to the kind of an educational system which the 1970s will demand, and one incidentally in which the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) should have particular interest in view of his encounters in the province just a few months ago. But for that kind of educational system I am afraid we can no longer look to this government with any kind of hope.

It is not so much a failure of finance, though that was my first feeling; that where it has gone wrong is that the government simply is cutting the minister off from funds and we just cannot go any further and faster.

But it is not that at all.

It is a failure of spirit, and most of all a failure of the intellect. They just do not comprehend the kind of society which we are working towards, and therefore there is no way by which they can fashion an educational system, within this government committed to face the kind of a decade we have ahead.

Look what has happened to the Hall-Dennis report. It was brought down proudly and we all applauded and said what a great thing that was; all these great, forward-looking programmes.

And you know there have been some changes as a result of the Hall-Dennis report. There have been a few teachers who were already progressive and forward-looking, you might say, who were shored up by the sudden recognition in the Hall-Dennis report. They were encouraged that what they were doing had viability and relevance.

There has been a lot of tinkering and a lot of fooling around in the name of Hall-Dennis. Some of these open schools that I go around and see are certainly rather unusual animals. There has been a bandwagon to jump on now and people who have no commitments, no training, no real interest—certainly no skills—little equipment, are now developing open schools.

That is the latest thing, Mr. Speaker, the open schools. Carpet as far as you can see. Unfortunately, they did not realize that the teachers were not committed to that kind of a system, so what they are doing is putting up walls, bookcases, television sets – anything at all you know, building walls. Get those kids into those classrooms again somehow!

That is what I mean. We are tinkering around, we are playing about; but there is no basic change taking place in education. You cannot go any further, you cannot go any further without a real, basic commitment to social change.

I would suggest that what has happened is the Hall-Dennis report is now in limbo. Why?

Well let us take a look. What does the Hall-Dennis report mean? It means a recognition of individuality on the part of the students—an individual programme—and recognizing the hopelessness, the short-sightedness, you might say, of competition and the cut-throat kind of emphasis on examinations and grades—all the obsessions we have had in the past.

But this government, Mr. Speaker, has no commitment to a change in the value system in this province.

When the Prime Minister stood up and talked about why we could not have tax reform in the province of Ontario, what did he talk about? He talked about the fact we must have competition. We will lose the initiative; we will lose the small businessman; we will all crumple and die because they cannot keep up that kind of cut and thrust against their fellow man. There is no change in the value system of this government! How can the Hall-Dennis report be implemented?

The Hall-Dennis report, if implemented in this province would be an act of treachery to this government. Impossible!

And so, Mr. Speaker, we simply, once again, move blocks around.

In fact, I cannot help wondering if that is not why the Prime Minister wanted to get the responsibility for the education system into the counties. I think he realized that the game was up, so far as the province was concerned. It would be much better for the county boards to accept all the furor, all the unpopularity, all the teacher discontent, in view of the fact that this government had no intention of going any further in the area of educational reform.

One of the things the Hall-Dennis report suggested was a real concern for those you might call the deprived in our society. It discussed nursery school education, something like a bootstrap programme; it talked about the community schools; it talked about making the school a place where you can really have social change, where people can be helped, where the family approach—something I do not think the Minister of Social and Family Services has quite got yet—could be dealt with in the individual school. Those are the kinds of ideas that come out of the Hall-Dennis report, but do we get that from this government? No commitment, none whatsoever; therefore, there is absolutely no way by which the school system or the educational system could be driven past a government which lacks that kind of commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I say you cannot deal with education in isolation. If there is one truth which emerges, I think, out of the past 20 years, which has become a period of disillusionment about education – because we really did believe that you could end poverty with education, that you could end war with education, that you could end unemployment with education—it is that now we realize that you can have unemployment and education, education and poverty, and education and war. In other words, education is simply one of the tools of society.

This government has to have a commitment to change throughout, and until that commitment to change takes place throughout this government, the educational system cannot pick up the marbles for the rest of this government's failures. I want to say to you, Mr. Speaker, that the kind of educational change I am talking about is not simply, you might say, a playing about with schooling. It demands a whole new attitude toward our schools.

I would like to read you just a short paragraph from a speech that was made very recently. I am going to take a liberty with this speech and I will explain afterwards:

> Ontarians have been schooled—I do not say educated but rather schooled. Ontarians can no longer conceive of life without reference to school, because our education has actually given way to compulsion of schooling. Ontario has adopted a new religion. Its doctrine is that education is a product of the schools, a product which can be defined by numbers.
>
> Now the numbers must indicate how many years a student has spent under the tutelage of teachers, and others must represent the proportion of correct answers in an examination. Upon receipt of a diploma, the educational product acquires a market

value. School attendance, in itself, thus guarantees enclosure in the membership of disciplined consumers of a technocracy, just as in past times church attendance guaranteed membership in the community of the saints.

From Prime Minister to lowliest worker, Ontario now accepts the ideology of its teachers as it once accepted the theology of its priests. The school now is identified with education as the church once was with religion.

I told you, Mr. Speaker, I took liberties with that because this is a speech by Ivan Ilich, who was at one time the vice-president of the University of Ponce in Puerto Rico and he was using the name "Puerto Rico."

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Does the hon. member agree with that?

Mr. Pitman: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Does the hon. member agree with that?

Mr. Pitman: Do I agree with this? I agree with very much of what he is saying here, that we have been obsessed with schooling and we have tended to equate schooling with education. This has been the source of our problem.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member mind if I asked him a question? Was this not precisely the point that I was attempting to make the other day when we were talking about qualifications for members of the staff of my department?

Mr. Pitman: Oh, Mr. Speaker—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That was exactly my point.

Mr. Pitman: What we were trying to ask the hon. minister was whether he had lowered the academic standards. There was no value judgment in that question; we simply asked him whether he had lowered the academic standards. Previously he said they were at the Grade 10 level; he has now lowered them to Grade 8. I think that is totally what we are trying to discover.

Mr. Ruston: You do not have to defend the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman).

Mr. Pitman: Secondly, we were trying to discover whether those who were in the service of the hon. minister—who will surely be extremely important in the rehabilitation of people in this province, who are really going to more social workers than they are going to be guards over the next number of years—will be able to secure the kind of training and help which will allow them to carry that work out in an effective fashion. I think you will find that in most of the areas of services to people where you are demanding a higher degree of skill and sensitivity, a higher degree of academic competence, the tendency has been for the academic level to be set at a certain point so that they can carry on and be competent in the way in which the minister states they should be. I think that was the point that we were discussing on that particular occasion.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He is just as specious in that argument as he claimed I was when I was explaining it.

Mr. Pitman: The point is, Mr. Speaker, and I am not going to get into a dissertation, the newspapers smoked it out in the stories.

Mr. MacDonald: The newspapers smoked it out!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, Mr. Speaker, if you want to speak of what the newspapers smoked out, the hon. member is referring to the editorial, and the editorial took absolutely the opposite view from that which the hon. member for Peterborough is taking.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister does not have the floor unless the member for Peterborough wishes to yield it to him. I would make somewhat the same observation to the member for York South with whom the minister is now engaging in dialogue.

The member for Peterborough has the floor.

Mr. Pitman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker; perhaps we can find another forum in which we can continue this discussion. I think it has some relevance.

What I am simply saying, Mr. Speaker, is that we must get off the kick that schooling equals education and that education will solve all the problems.

I could continue with this same speech.

A divorce of education from schooling is in my opinion already on the way, speeded by three forces: the third world, the ghettos and the universities.

Student protest has deeper causes than the pretext enunciated by its leaders. These, although frequently political, are expressing the need for reform of the system. They would never have gained mass support if

students had not lost faith and respect in the institutions which nurtured them.

What I am suggesting to you, sir, is that many of the problems of unrest that we have in the educational system today come as a result of the fact that we have equated education and schooling.

One takes a look at the role, for example, of the professional. There is a great deal of discussion today about the school teachers in Metro Toronto demanding certain salary levels, and school teachers in other parts of the province demanding certain salary levels. I would suggest to you, sir, that one of the major problems that we face, so far as the professionals are concerned in our society, is the fact that they are becoming totally frustrated by the fact that they must know so much. They have so little help from society, and therefore they must strike out.

And as teachers they have struck out at the Hall-Dennis report; and of course they have struck out at the whole problem of student-staff relationships, and of course they have tried, with some concern, to justify the salary levels which we hear about in our daily newspapers. This is one of the causes of unrest.

We see it also among the parents. They do not know what their schools are doing. They have fears, since what goes on in the school is so very important to the future of their young people. They come to feel indeed, that if their young child does not stay in school until he is 21 years old he is some kind of a horrible failure.

And I suggest to you that this is the obsession we have created for ourselves—the idea that young people must be virtually schooled, they must be institutionalized, until they are 21 years of age. The minister himself falls into this pit when he suggests that 25 per cent of the students in Ontario from 18 to 21 will be in university until 1974; 25 per cent will be in courses of production and technology; probably 10 per cent somewhere else.

Mr. Speaker, why must we consider that the only way that we can do something with schools is through simply getting these young people into them and making them stay there until they are 21 years of age?

There are so many more exciting things that we could do with schools! As I said, if we had a commitment to schools as a factor in change, for example, as I said before, we could have these schools used by the community for community projects; for tenants' organizations, for comunity action, for youth groups, to deal with drugs—the spectrum is endless.

But it demands a commitment on the part of this government.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that we have gone to the end of the road with compulsory education. I think we should take a very close look at compulsory education.

A couple of years ago, we drove the school-leaving age up to 16 from 14. I am thinking very much that we made a mistake on that occasion. I am hearing from a great many teachers who tell me that many students would be far better off outside the school at that point of their teenage period.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Now the member is coming around to our arguments.

Mr. Pitman: If I remember, Mr. Speaker, I think that my friend to the right voted for that bill as well; but nonetheless I am not going to get into a discussion on that point.

The point is that we have no way of dealing with young people outside the school. And this is what students get so angry about; that the school is being used to keep them out of the labour market; it is being used to keep them off the streets; to keep them from all sorts of horrors which we as adults feel that they will indulge in if they are let out of the schools.

Mr. Sopha: It is being used to make them become consumers.

Mr. Pitman: I would suggest to you, sir, that the time has come when we must stop thinking of schools as a place to keep people compulsorily. At one point, compulsory education had a social advantage; it was necessary when people were sending their children to work. The only way you could make sure children did not go to work early—when they were six, seven or eight years old—was to keep them in school; force them to stay in school. This is the way that we made sure educational opportunity was given. But now, once we have made sure of that equality of opportunity by providing head-start programmes and full support in the early grades, I think it is time to consider letting kids out of school once they reach the age of 14.

A moment ago I said this could only be done when there is a commitment from the government; a commitment to organize a society in which there would be a place for young people with short-term skills. As it is now, the government cannot even cope with

the summer employment problems and one would shudder to think of letting students out of school if the total society is completely uninvolved as it is today. If we can get the educational system knit into the society, then what we can do is to provide opportunity for young people to leave school and then come back to school; they are the two things that have to happen. First we must make sure that there is a place for them to go; and there are all kinds of things that could be done with young people at that age.

The Minister of Correctional Services, I am sure, could find places where young people could be fitted in from the age of 16 to 21, with short-term skills, knowing that they would be trained for the short-term and that they would be returning to school.

Look at the report from the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells)—the council of health—if you want to read between the lines there and recognize that there must be a better use of prepared professionals; that we cannot afford to use professional people in health services at the level at which we are, with the cost of professional services in this world today.

One can look at the area of education itself —how we need teacher assistance, teacher aids, people of much lower qualifications to provide services in school, in nursery schools, in classes with emotionally disturbed children, and in classes with people with learning difficulties. We can train young people to do specific jobs and to play specific roles with short-term skills; they can move out of the school system. Make them a part of life, let them get some experience, let them feel a part of our society instead of being institutionalized, and then let them come back into the system. Now that is the flaw—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: When did the hon. member read my speech?

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, I find it very difficult to know which speech the hon. Minister is talking about.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Almost word for word.

Mr. Pitman: I am very pleased—

Mr. MacDonald: Does he flatter himself that he ever gave a speech like that.

Mr. Pitman: I can only ask the hon. minister, how far has he gone in getting his government to recognize some kind of leap forward in educational thinking?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, may I answer that question?

Mr. Pitman: I think I have made a mistake.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, the hon. member has asked for give-and-take in the debate, and I am trying to provide it.

This is precisely the point I made the other day. As a matter of fact, about five years ago I appeared before one of the standing committees, I think it was, which had before it the civil service commission, and I made precisely that point—the one the hon. member is making now—that there are a lot of young people, in fact not just young people but people in all age brackets, who could do this kind of work but who do not have the formal education requirements. That was the point I was attempting to make the other day when the hon. member, if I may quote him, stated:

> I wonder if I could ask a supplementary question. I am just wondering why at this point in time, in correctional services, the Minister would wish to lower the standards for hiring and promotion. That is essentially what all that material he read to us stated.

I was making that particular point to him at that time. I agree wholeheartedly with the latter part of the speech the hon. member has given.

Mr. T. P. Reid: He thought so much of the hon. minister, that he is giving his speech.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, may I hope that the minister will have some influence on his government, because he is going to have to do a great deal of work in order to get this kind of thinking accepted. He is going to have to get some commitment from the entire society because it will not be just in the public sector that I mentioned, that these young people must be able to move.

They are going to have to be able to move into the private sector too, and he is going to have to get industry to accept their responsibility. Unfortunately today industry wants fully trained individuals whom they can take into their shop, put them down and say to them: "Work for me for the next 40 years"; as though that will ever be the case.

Mr. MacDonald: And then fire them at the end of the 30th year.

Mr. Pitman: I suggest to the hon. minister that unless he gets a commitment from an entire society to organize the educational system in this province he will never get anywhere simply working through the educational system as it exists. We simply have to demolish a myth, this crazy myth, that education is simply something that takes place between the ages of five and 23, it is

now. It used to be five and 14; then five and 16; now it is five and 23. We have compulsory education. You might now even like to say we have social, compulsory education; because with all the signs saying stay in school, anybody who drops out of school is regarded almost as a criminal—and we simply have to end this.

What I am suggesting to you is even biologically normal. I listened in the Commons to the moderator of the United Church who recognized this very hang-up; that our educational system is totally unnatural; that the biological urges of young people in their late teens and early twenties are such that at that point in time, when they wish to marry and have children, we keep them in school and we keep them institutionalized.

I might say to the hon. minister that I would like to move now into the area of what one might call the effect of this. I was interested to see that the United Nations very recently brought out a study and said: "Worse Generation Conflict is Predicted".

The report of the United Nations says many young people are resorting to anti-social behaviour because of frustration, but concludes that in general the world's youth wants to participate in national development.

What appears to be a problem may actually be development potential.

Youth's increasing demand to participate is responsible for spreading student revolts, the study says, citing demonstrations in more than 50 countries last year. The younger generation seems by and large to have lost confidence in the capacity of the older generation to guide affairs without some assistance and planning from young people who believe their views are worth considering.

In developing countries especially, youth participation represents on the one hand a tremendous political opportunity to raise the country to new levels of achievement and national growth; and on the other hand a recurrent political threat for governments whose record of achievement may not be to the liking of its younger generation.

One of the things we have to do, Mr. Speaker, is to clean up—and here I place the main onus upon the federal government—the manpower obsession we have in this country whereby when we do bring people back into the educational system it is to train them quickly and efficiently, and in many cases for very short-term purposes, to fill a job; that is the only purpose of bringing them back.

Until we develop our potential in the area of adult education we cannot develop this kind of thrust; and I would hope that when I continue this, perhaps for a few moments tomorrow, to suggest to the hon. Speaker that we can no longer bear the cost of this kind of an educational—

Mr. Gaunt: The cut-off is 10.30!

Mr. Pitman: Is it 10.30? Oh I am sorry; fine, I shall be able to finish.

Mr. Speaker, I want to suggest that the cost of such a programme is totally beyond the resources of this province.

I was interested, for example, in the sixth annual review of the Economic Council of Canada. It suggested that education remained the largest single item of government expense to 1975.

> It is vitally important that greater attention be devoted to increasing the efficiency and productivity of our educational effort. To do this it will be necessary to acquire a better understanding of many aspects of the educational process.

That is the understanding we lack.

If you look at the minister's report on university affairs and you see the numbers of people that are being brought into the universities by the system which we are using now of not just encouraging, but virtually making it necessary for the universities to go out and bring them in from the streets in order to pay for the institution by the cost per student system, by the system of giving money per student in universities, rather than on any other basis.

If you look at the projections, the projection for 1969-70 expects an intake of 27,522; by 1974-75 of 39,114. Total, full time undergraduates in 1969-70 are estimated at 81,000. By 1974-75, it will be 117,881.

Now what does this mean in financial terms? Well it has very real meaning, Mr. Speaker. This is its meaning. These are statistics that were set out by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education a couple of years ago.

In 1966 the cost of elementary schools was $526 million; by 1978 it will be $1,234 million.

In 1966 the cost of secondary schools was $346 million; by 1978 $1,132,147,000.

In 1966 the cost of the college of applied arts and technology at Ryerson was $136 million. The percentage increase will be 1,061 per cent to $272 million.

The cost of universities in 1966 was $204 million; in 1978 it will be $1,433 million.

The total cost of education in 1978, on this projection, will be $4,073 million.

Need I remind the government that the total budget of this government last year was $3 billion odd? That is the extent to which this form of education is going in financial terms.

I was very interested in the comments of the member for Scarborough East (Mr. T. Reid) in his concern of over-building; but that is the minor part of the problem. This is a labour intensive industry, one might say. It is the cost of personnel which drives up expenses, unless we do something specific to make our school system productive. Essentially, I would say, simply by using the method of adult education. We have no way that we can continue in the system we are working today.

I conclude, Mr. Speaker, with just one or two suggestions.

First, a more effective use of human personnel, the use of teachers' aids, teachers' assistants; a more effective use of industry to allow much of the vocational training which is going on now to be done in industry on a short-term basis; the use of a community.

I would suggest we have been on an "edifice complex" period in our school system and it is time we got off the use of permanent buildings and made sure every facility we put up from now on was put up in such a way it could be both portable and disposable. And I would say finally, we must begin to place some kind of an emphasis on continuing education. As it stands now, that is the real hang-up. There is no way of getting the people back into the school system once they get out of the school system.

What do we do in the area of universities? I quote from a report of the association of part-time undergraduate degree students:

> There is no capital formula for part-time students and no student loans. It is not surprising that this second class treatment by the provincial government in turn influences the policy of the university towards its part-time students.

And when one looks at the Manpower centres, as I said before, it is essentially a method of getting them in and out, into a job, not really being concerned about what happens to those people on any effective human basis.

Mr. Speaker, I have talked about three areas which I think are of importance in the public interest. I mentioned the chaos in municipal affairs, and the lack of sensitivity and the lack of organization in dealing with urban problems. I have dealt with pollution; I used one specific instance to show a government which is both incapable of dealing with pollution, has not the tools to deal with pollution, and I would suggest in some cases, it would appear, has not the will to deal with pollution.

Finally, I have talked about education. And what I would suggest is that it is the end of the line, the end of the road, so far as any reform in this society is possible. We can no longer look at education to solve all the problems of this government and this province and this society, as we have seen this government attempting to do over the last 10 years. The alternative if it continues in this form will be simply to lower the standards for everyone. That is the only alternative, continuing on the path that we are at the present moment in 1970.

I conclude with the suggestion that the only way that we can progress at this point, the year 1970, is with a commitment to the public interest; a commitment to new thoughts, new directions; a commitment to things which will provide social justice for people and will deal with the total environment and the quality of life of people. And I suggest that this government with its obsession with growth, and as suggested with managerial skill, simply is not capable of dealing with that kind of a commitment.

So I call upon all members of this house to support the New Democratic Party amendment—that we go to the province of Ontario and we ask them to choose a government which can deal with the 1970's.

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, many things have happened and many changes have occurred since I was elected to this assembly, and the ones I think of first are all for the good.

I remember well some of the first confrontations in this House, Mr. Speaker, between yourself and one or two of the more forward members, and how difficult situations were resolved. It is different today, Mr. Speaker, and you are to be complimented on your developed ability to accept the difficult and borderline situations and bring them to an acceptable direction without serious division in the House. Your ability to stay firmly with the rules as you see them is still there and that ability, along with your patience with the members, has brought a degree of restraint and orderliness, not indicated until recently.

I suspect too, Mr. Speaker, that modifying the rules of the House to provide sensible limits on the debate, a good division of the estimates in committees, and seemingly realistic lengths of sittings for the spring session and the fall session, have gone a long way to helping patience and tempers. The change in the indemnity has, in addition, made it presently possible to regularly attend and participate. Before it was most difficult having regard to the length of sittings and the difficulties created thereby.

The foregoing, Mr. Speaker, are the changes and happenings I referred to as all for the good.

There are, of course, other things which have not changed and should have, happenings which should have occurred and have not, and, Mr. Speaker, we in Ottawa and eastern Ontario find many conditions existing which are most unsatisfactory and even some which are close to being intolerable.

The people are annoyed and are complaining and no longer will they be quieted with token recognition. The Minister for Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko), and the Minister for Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) had an indication of that rebellious spirit from one small group at a public meeting a week ago last Saturday. Other groups representing different strata and different directions are speaking out in ways I have not heard before. All of it, as near as I can assess it, indicates their patience is slowly coming to an end.

I would like to take a minute, Mr. Speaker, just to dwell on some of the things we see around the Ottawa area, and which we do find most annoying. They are things which could be cleared up and there apparently is not going to be any real effort to do it.

First, pollution. Pollution of our rivers gets a little worse each year, and this year it appears the shores of the Rideau River will, once again, be lost to recreation purposes due to overloading of the sewage plant in Smiths Falls. The minister responsible for OWRC reports that if certain changes are carried out in the next two months, pollution will not occur. The staff of OWRC claim it is not possible to get changes made in the available time. News reports indicate the plans for the sewage plant expansion required were submitted in 1967, but still have not been approved by OWRC.

The Ottawa River—in the past, one of the most beautiful in Canada—has reached that level of pollution where environment scientists believe it will be very difficult and costly to reverse the process of deterioration and bring the river back to acceptible standards.

The feelings of the people of Ottawa are reflected to some degree by the Pollution Probe group at Carleton University. Last week they sent out a notice, I believe, to all members and which for the benefit of posterity I will read into the record. It is headed: "Pollution Probe at Carleton University." It is a news release, and it is called "Pollution Rally, Saturday, March 21, 1970 at the Ottawa River", and then the notice reads as follows:

> The Canadian student liberals, jointly with Pollution Probe of Ottawa, shall sponsor a mock burial ceremony for the late Ottawa River (Rest in Peace) which recently died of chronic, long-term poisoning. Those wishing to pay their last respects to the deceased are invited to an open-air ceremony which will be held Saturday, March 21 on Parliament Hill.
>
> The procession will start from the lawn of the administration building of the University of Ottawa (Laurier at Cumberland) at 1.30 p.m., and proceed through to Parliament Hill where the eulogy and last rites shall be administered at 2 p.m. Speeches will be heard from concerned officials and members of Parliament.
>
> The remains shall then be escorted to Hull, where they shall be laid to rest in the Ottawa River by the Jacques Cartier Park.

Then below this is written:

> The Ottawa has ceased to be a river and is now nothing but a national sewer. The purpose of the ceremony is to dramatize and popularize this reality. All concerned members of the public and the national press are cordially invited to join.

A more fitting name for the river could well be the "interprovincial sewer", since it represents the inability of two provincial governments to co-operate effectively on a common problem.

Next on roads, Mr. Speaker: last session I brought to the attention of the House the real need to extend the four-lane Queensway through to Hawkesbury and thereby eliminate the killer strip section of Rockland. The traffic on this highway to Hawkesbury is, at certain hours of the day, running excessively heavy. As a result, patience becomes short, chances are taken and accidents occur.

Highawy 417 and the new four-lane highway from Ottawa to the Quebec border goes

very far south before going east and will not be of any value to the communities along the river. The severe conditions on Highway 17 will persist and grow worse.

The completion of the four-lane and re-routing of inter-city traffic is still so far off that conditions on the present highway will, at times, by then be close to downtown Toronto at rush hour.

When the commencement of Highway 417 was announced, the implication was made that it had to be routed along the way chosen, since the soil structure prohibited choosing other routes, all factors considered. The studies carried out during the location survey for 417 are probably as complete and as accurate as studies can be made, and the location chosen is probably right for the long-term needs and further development in the eastern part of the province.

However, Mr. Speaker, there is a two-lane highway serving the river communities now and carrying all the commercial traffic. Surely this is adequate reason to believe that another two-lane highway can be built alongside the existing one with confidence that the soil structure will carry it.

Highway 416 from our national capital to the border of our southern neighbour is under construction to carry the load presently on Highway 16, the well-known cowpath to Preston. This express highway has been promised for a very long time, but so far only bypasses are under construction and no projected date for completion has been set.

The lack of first-class highway in and out of our national capital is antagonizing the people. Their patience grows a little shorter.

On the subject of public transportation, the need for an expanded first-class public transit system is as great in the national capital as any other place in Ontario. Unfortunately, like other places in Ontario, except Toronto, the subsidies available to expand the system to meet the needs of the greater numbers of people are not available, and neither are funds to carry out a projected area study for present and future needs.

Additionally, it must be clear to the government that many members of this Legislature firmly believe that the time has arrived to spend large quantities of money on public transit and cut back heavily on roads if we want to improve urban transportation. Surely this is one area where the government can provide the leadership, the basic personnel and the framework to work with the regional governments which understand the areas and so determine the optimum balance between dollars spent on public transit and on roadways, and also to determine how best to provide for future growth.

If the government is not prepared to move in this direction and provide leadership, one can only assume it has not committed itself to the statements of principles and recommendations announced in the third report of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Transportation Study. May I just quote from the specific recommendations of the third report of that series of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Transportation Study, which is as follows:

> The committee recommends that the province accept responsibility for the preparation of the necessary framework and policies for growth and changes in areas such as the Metropolitan Toronto and Region area.

If this is in fact the case, that the government has not yet accepted this principle, then I suggest they have a seminar on transportation with the new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs as the guest speaker. Having regard to the minister's private members' bill on public transit last year, I am sure he should be able to re-establish leadership in a firm direction.

On the subject of social and family services. In Ottawa, our great national capitol in the province of Ontario, we presently have about 2,500 families on assistance, for a total number of adults and children of nearly 13,000. The welfare of those in this group has been downgraded so far they are now coming together in an organized way to insure they will be heard and that changes to improve their lot will occur.

At the present time many are granted an allowance for rent of $90 per month, but have to pay out $150 per month. Fuel allowance for heating amounts to $15 per month, and many have to pay out $30 per month and, in unusual cases, even more, whereas their allowance for food, clothing and other necessities is fixed. Is it any wonder our director of welfare in the city of Ottawa is fearful of malnutrition among the children of welfare recipients? Many of the recipients are employable and could find work to supplement their allowances and, hopefully, improve their lot. Unfortunately the present regulations do not permit this.

It is noteworthy that the city of Ottawa has made a formal application to the government for permission to undertake supplementing the income of those who are working and

whose earnings are below the poverty level. Additionally, the government has been asked informally to use Ottawa as an experimental area to change from unemployed recipients to employed with assistance, where that is possible.

It might be well, Mr. Speaker, if every member of the government could take the time to read, once again, the report of the Economic Council of Ontario on poverty with regard to their assessment and recommendations. I am sure all members of the government would find it good reading.

On the matter of housing, the requirement for low-income housing, or housing with rent adjusted to income, is still a very real need in the city of Ottawa and one type of housing alone will not fill the need. Regarding married couples without children on either low-income or welfare, it is quite possible the government could look after their needs by renting accommodation for them, as it becomes available, in standard apartment dwellings.

The mixing with others who are self-supporting may assist them and, if their financial position is held private, it will assist them to live in dignity. Certainly it is the opinion of many of the federal civil servants that the government can make better deals for rent than individuals in many special cases.

Adults with children are quite a different problem. There is just no substitute for a single or semi-detached home with backyard to play in to ensure the children will grow up with a sense of security and a sense of belonging. Anything less will develop a good percentage of wandering adults, with little responsibility toward property or institutions.

However, the single-family detached home by itself will not break the cycle of families on welfare. It just is not possible for the father, who is supposed to provide, to maintain his position with the family while he is tied to a welfare system that compels him to do nothing.

The supplementary income system, where he provides a part of the needs and the state the other part will go a long way to alleviate the problem. There is just no reason why the family needs to know that the state is supplementing his income. The opponents of this system argue that many will beat it and get more than their fair share. Well, maybe many will beat it and get a bit more than their share, but the cost of that excess surely cannot come near the cost of recycling families on welfare.

The requirements for housing for other groups, such as the senior citizens and so on, is proceeding at a good rate. Hopefully the backlog will soon be met and the yearly needs provided. It is interesting to note, Mr. Speaker, that very early it was recognized that housing for the senior citizens should be located close to the central areas and within walking distances of the services and store areas. Unfortunately, the same philosophy has not been applied to low-rental public housing.

As the social planning council of Ottawa and district sees it, and I quote:

> It is noteworthy that all except one are located at the outer city limits. Residents of city-owned or rent-to-income housing are people at the fringe. They are not true suburbanites, economically speaking, yet they live within or near suburbia in a belt surrounding the city.
>
> It might be hypothesized that one of the major difficulties encountered by these recipients would be transportation. Distances from places of work, shopping, recreation, working, worship, next of kin, and so on, could impose a major restriction on these people. It also poses a problem for social services in the field of welfare, health and recreation to reach the economically disadvantaged.
>
> On the one hand transportation services become difficult, lengthy and costly for the poor, and, on the other hand, developing a neighbourhood-approach to solving social problems also becomes more difficult as the number of people with social problems is spread over numerous areas. Furthermore, services in these areas are not prepared to cope with an influx of people which may be too large and too rapid.
>
> The bulk of the population which has a greater need for social services is still located within the inner city; that is Mechanicsville, Centretown, Sandy Hill, Lower Town, Vanier and Overbrook. Yet the fact is that, in the near future, approximately 20,000 people on low incomes or on public financial assistance will live in other areas, mostly at the fringe. This necessitates a fresh look at social planning in relation to the whole metro area.

These are the problems on housing we face in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, the government's housing programme is good. Whether or not it is good enough is another question.

There is ample evidence that further hard thinking and reassessment is necessary. Those in Ottawa who understand and have opinions are not satisfied with the programme.

On education: There is a large area here for debate and reporting, Mr. Speaker, primarily on the inequalities of education and the lack of opportunities for those who have gone beyond school for retraining. Our member for Scarborough East (Mr. T. Reid) is doing a rather complete job in these details and maybe they are better left to him.

One matter not yet cleared up is the grant for French high schools. Why the government accepts French high schools in principle, but is not prepared to make the necessary capital grants available is not yet clear.

I refer, Mr. Speaker, to a news article out of a recent edition of one of the Ottawa newspapers in which the chairman of the educational board there is referring to financial assistance from the provincial government for French high schools. I quote:

> The sooner we get this across to the Ontario government, the better.

And then a trustee, who was formerly on the collegiate institute board, explained that the CIB asked the government for special assistance when it took over the education of 3,500 French students in 1968, but all that was forthcoming were crumbs: $429,000 where they need millions.

With regard to jails, the Carleton county jail which serves the Ottawa area, long ago outlived its usefulness in the eyes of those with an enlightened attitude towards reform and rehabilitation. Plans for a new jail were prepared before I became a member of this Legislature, and before jails were totally taken over by this government.

Whether the provincial authorities feel the needs have changed—whether or not they have scrapped the plans, is not known. The only thing we do know for sure is that there has been no change. We still have the same old jail, with all its shortcomings.

On the matter of day care for children, like every—

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the hon. member is going to be much longer on this section. Would he find an appropriate place to adjourn the debate so that we can adjourn the House at 10.30.

Mr. MacKenzie moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Grossman moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

House adjourned at 10.30 o'clock, p.m.

No. 19

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, March 17, 1970

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, March 17, 1970

Hearings re passenger services on railway lines, statement by Mr. Haskett 693

Hearings re passenger services on railway lines, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Gisborn, Mr. Singer, Mr. Gaunt, Mr. MacDonald 693

Letter from Elizabeth Fry Society to members of the Legislature, questions to Mr. Grossman, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Nixon 695

Admissions policies of the Ontario colleges of education, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Nixon, Mr. T. Reid 699

Dunlop Rubber Company's proposed shutdown, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Nixon, Mr. J. Renwick 700

Milk sold by supermarkets in Toronto from Montreal, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. MacDonald 702

Quetico Park and International Lithium Corporation, question to Mr. A. F. Lawrence, Mr. MacDonald 702

Environmental development division, question to Mr. Gomme, Mr. MacDonald 702

Jockey Club and premium pay requirements for statutory holidays, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. MacDonald 702

York county grand jury report, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Singer 703

Statement by Mayor George Harrington re regional government for Peel-Halton, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Deans, Mr. Gisborn 703

Student-teacher ratio in secondary schools, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid, Mt. Pitman 704

Ontario Science Centre policy of renting space, question to Mr. Auld, Mr. Edighoffer 705

Transair passenger jet service between Winnipeg-Thunder Bay-Toronto, question to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Knight 706

Application of Coroners Act in death of an Indian, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Martel 706

Presenting report, Teachers' superannuation commission, Mr. Welch 707

Third report, standing private bills committee, Mr. Winkler 707

Administering of Lie Detector Tests, bill to control, Mr. Trotter, first reading 709

Public Schools Act, bill to amend, Mr. Pitman, first reading 709

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. MacKenzie, Mr. Gisborn, Mr. Jessiman, Mr. De Monte 713

Recess, 6.00 o'clock 740

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Our guests this afternoon in the east and west galleries are from the J. C. Althouse Public School in Islington; and in the west gallery will be students from the Winchester Public School in Toronto. This evening the Humber West Boy Scouts from Etobicoke will be with us.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, under the national transportation Act, railways are permitted to suspend passenger services on lines where the service is no longer required; or to be paid a subsidy of up to 80 per cent of the loss incurred on a line if the Canadian Transport Commission finds it necessary in the public interest to order that the service be continued.

For more than a year the government of Ontario has been concerned with representations to the Canadian Transport Commission, including consultations with the other provinces, in respect to the costing order establishing the methods and procedures to be followed in determining the loss sustained by the railways.

Now the railways are seeking subsidies from the government of Canada on unprofitable passenger services and are applying to the railway committee of the Canadian Transport Commission for permission to discontinue all passenger services from coast to coast. It should be recognized that these applications to discontinue are the device by which the railways are seeking federal subsidies.

One of the first of the railway hearings under the new procedures concerns rail services in the Bruce peninsula and along the Toronto-Guelph line. In anticipation of the formal hearings respecting passenger services in this area, our department has been preparing material for presentation in support of the people and communities concerned. These hearings could have been in the nature of adversary proceedings, in which case the province would have gone forward as an intervener. It has now been ascertained that the hearings will not be of such a type, and so the nature of our action has changed.

The Ontario government will be representing the interests of the people of the province in the matter of applications by the Canadian National Railways and the Canadian Pacific Railway to discontinue their services in the Bruce peninsula area and along the Toronto-Guelph line.

To this end, the province will appear as an active party at the hearings that the railway transport committee has called to consider applications to discontinue the services, by both the CNR and the CPR.

Commencing March 31, at the Grey county courthouse in Owen Sound, the application by the Canadian National Railways to discontinue passenger train services, as follows: Toronto-Palmerston, trains 670, 671 and 672; Palmerston-Owen Sound, trains 670, 671, and 672; Palmerston-Southampton, trains 656, 668, 669; Stratford-Kincardine trains 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667; Stratford-Goderich, trains 660 and 661; will be considered. The provincial government will attend to represent the interests of the citizens of this province.

Following the hearings of the Canadian National application, Canadian Pacific's application to discontinue their services, Toronto-Owen Sound, trains 302, 306 and 307, will be considered; the province will also be present.

Commencing April 8, at the Wellington county court house in Guelph, Canadian National's application to discontinue its services Toronto to Guelph, trains 986 and 987, will be heard. The provincial government will also be present at Guelph to ensure the interests of the people of this province are being represented.

This government is taking and following all the steps and actions required to protect, most adequately and fully, the interests of the people of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, further to the minister's statement: Would he clarify just how he is going

to represent the people of Ontario, unless he takes some position on the application to discontinue? Surely this government must have some policy as to whether the service should be discontinued or should not?

I would suggest that the position the government should take would be against the discontinuation of the service if, in fact, he wants to represent the interests of the people in that area.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I think I pointed out that these applications to discontinue are just a device by which the railway is seeking to obtain a subsidy on these services. If there was any clear case that the service was not required, the province would not insist on it being operated.

We took such a position with respect to an application a year or more ago. In fact, we expedited the hearing with respect to an application on the train running through Eganville, where we were satisfied, after exhaustive inquiry, that it was not necessary to serve the interests of any people along the line.

In these cases I do not anticipate there is going to be any serious consideration given to discontinuing the trains. It is largely a matter then of ascertaining the extent and the nature of the subsidy that the government will be paying, up to, as I say, some 80 per cent of the loss that may be incurred by the railway.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East, a supplementary.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): In regard to the statement by the minister, I am pleased to hear of the government's intervention in this case. Would the minister seek the briefs presented by the railway unions in this regard to bolster their case in opposition to a reduction in train service?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I am not personally aware of those particular briefs. The entire provincial position is being fed into the railway committee and has been going forward for some time.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Downsview.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Since the minister has advised us that these applications are for discontinuance of these services, how can he seriously say that the railroads do not mean it?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, this is a very natural question, because I think the feeling has been created in the minds of the people that the railways are going to discontinue these services. I say to you that it is basically a device by which both railways are seeking to get government subsidies on all passenger services on which they are losing money. They are making blanket applications for discontinuance of passenger services from coast to coast.

This group of hearings respecting service to the Bruce peninsula and on the Guelph line are the first ones coming up. We have been preparing for this from the time that the national transportation Act first made provisions for these applications. We anticipated it.

It was in that connection that we entered into discussions with representatives from all the other provinces to ascertain the basis on which costing would be done. There was no sound basis for doing that in Canada before. We made representations and I reported to this House that we had come to a mutual understanding with the other provinces with respect to costing.

We upset the order that the transport commission had made and they had to reverse their position, and the costing order procedures presented by the provinces were accepted.

We realized that this was basic to this whole matter and I would like to think that I could relieve some of the concerns the people of this part of the province have had with respect to impending discontinuances. If there is any worry that a necessary service would be discontinued to the disadvantage of our people, we will take a very strong stand against it.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a further supplementary. If the railroads are serious, as they say they are, and want to discontinue, what is the province's attitude? Are you in favour of continuing, or in favour of discontinuing?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Huron-Bruce has the floor.

Mr. Singer: He will not answer my question.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, in view of the minister's answer, is the minister aware that a very high official in the CNR has stated that they are very serious about the application and the discontinuance of service?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I think it is very obvious that if the railway is seeking to obtain the maximum subsidy it can from

the federal government, it will put forth the strongest case it can in the interests of discontinuance. So if it is compelled to continue a service in spite of an application to discontinue, it will get the maximum subsidy.

Mr. Singer: The minister is saying the railroads are liars!

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question, if I may. Does the burden of this government's representations involve an acceptance of the railway's claim on subsidies from the federal Treasury? Or is the government arguing that they have an obligation to provide service in keeping with the original granting of the railway charter with lands, moneys and so forth?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I think it would be premature at this time, before the hearings come up and before we hear the evidence the railways are going to put forward, to lay our issues on the table.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a supplementary question. Does the government accept the legitimacy of the railways' claim for subsidy? That surely, we are entitled to know?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: That Mr. Speaker, is provided for in The National Transportation Act which has set up the procedures of which the railways now seek to take advantage.

Mr. MacDonald: My final question: You do not care what the subsidy is out of the public treasury as long as they continue service?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order!

Mr. Singer: He did not say that.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not agree with that at all. The only reason that the government is intervening is because we recognize that of the subsidies paid to the railway by the government of Canada 40 or 50 per cent will come out of the pockets of the people of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition to the Minister of Correctional Services.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Correctional Services: Is the minister now in a position to reply in the House, with his opinions, based on the letter from the Elizabeth Fry Society in which they expressed their concern that a more appropriate way should be found in which the matters relating to individuals in our custodial institutions be brought to the attention of the minister, or of this House?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, I now have the letter which I did not have on the day the hon. Leader of the Opposition referred to it.

I think it probably would be better if I read the whole letter, Mr. Speaker, because—

Mr. MacDonald: Everybody has a copy.

Mr. Speaker: I think it will be unnecessary for the minister to read the letter—order!

I think it will be unnecessary for the minister to read the letter, but if he wishes to summarize its contents for the purpose of making an answer I presume it will be quite in order.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, the only thing that concerns me is that this discussion began about, what, four or five days ago? And you know, when you start to answer a question today about something that was referred to in a vague way and which was conveyed in some letters which were on the member's desk some time ago, it may be taken out of context. The hon. members would not perhaps understand what I was referring to; that is the point that I am trying to make.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister has no answer?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is the point that I am trying to make—if I read the letter, the hon. members would know. Do I have your permission, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: I would think that under the circumstances and in view of the comments from the other side as to the subject of the question, it will be quite in order to read the letter.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, the letter which was placed on the hon. member's desk the other day and which was received, I am advised, in my office yesterday, when I was away, reads as follows:

> To all members of the provincial Legislature from the board of the Elizabeth Fry Society, Toronto branch:
>
> It is with deep concern that we write to you to ask that you give serious consideration to finding more appropriate and reasonable ways of dealing with matters relating to individuals in custodial institutions and hospitals and homes for the aged and/or mentally ill, or retarded, than is presently the case.

We realize that it is of vital importance to safeguard the rights of people who are in such institutions and that the community, through you, has a special responsibility to see that institutions are administered effectively and humanely.

However, if the means of attempting to accomplish these ends should result in additional harm to the individual and institution concerned, then we believe that the means employed should be changed. Our understanding is that at present a member of the Legislature, on receiving a complaint from or about a resident or patient, may visit the person in the institution concerned, and then he may, without further investigation, introduce the story in the Legislature.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): That part is particularly insulting.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: To continue:

This method leaves the way open for many rather serious dangers, because the experience of this society is in the correctional field and we will illustrate our concern from this point of view.

1. Many people in correctional institutions are angry, unhappy people, who feel, with some justification, that society is against them. When faced by certain situations and comments they have, therefore, a tendency to see negative and derogatory implications which may, in fact, never have been there.

It is important that complaints of injustices be heard and, if found valid, corrected. But unless the complaints are seen in context and their validity confirmed, not only as to fact but also as to reason behind the fact, an elected representative may find himself involved in a situation where a resident is manipulating him to gain his or her own ends, which may be destructive.

2. One of the progressive steps taken in the correctional field has been the development of a programme in the Vanier Centre under the direction of well-trained, concerned staff members, who are trying to help residents face up to the realities of life and, in particular, come to grips with their own problems and responsibilities.

For a number of residents a way of handling pressures is to refuse to face facts and, if neecssary, to try to talk herself out of unpleasant situations, or to build an unreal dream world into which she can retreat. If one introduces into this picture a member of the Legislature who takes a single fact right out of context and, with no apparent discussion with senior staff members concerned, introduces a story into the Legislature, he may well undo months of work which has been carried on with the resident in question and, in addition, may confirm her in her antisocial patterns of behaviour.

3. This society has worked hard to encourage the employment of professional staff in correctional institutions. We are all aware of the shortage of professional staff and work and the correctional field is not one of the easiest fields for professional work. People with professional training and competence are not likely to remain in this field if, in addition to all other pressures, their integrity and confidence are publicly called into question by members of the Legislature, or give them no prior opportunity to discuss and explain other factors in a given situation.

Surely, as responsible representatives of the community, it is time that a sensitive, mature and honest means be found by you to protect the rights of all people involved in such institutions in a way that will effectively help the resident and strengthen the programme of the institution.

Mr. Sopha: That is impertinence verging on insult.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I should point out that the society is wrong, of course, in presuming that it is only on receiving a complaint from a resident, or from someone else, that he may visit the person in the institution. As everyone here knows, they may visit any one of the correctional institutions at any time at all.

I wholeheartedly agree otherwise with the contents of the letter, which I do not think anyone could find disagreement with. There has got to be a mature, responsible approach to handling these things.

When I discussed this matter with other people who have raised the contents of this letter with me since then—and I think I was interviewed that afternoon by television or radio, I cannot recall at the moment. I was asked about this and I told them precisely what I am saying now—that I did not see any need for any change. That just because there happens to be one member out of 117 who seems to be doing these things in a fashion that concerns all those people in our work—

and, of course, the Elizabeth Fry Society are very important people in—

Mr. MacDonald: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Sopha: Now we are getting to it.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, the minister is deliberately twisting this, and may I quote into the record a paragraph in the *Globe and Mail* story following the visit of the Elizabeth Fry the other day, quoting the secretary, Miss Haslam?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has stated that his point of order is that the minister is misstating.

Mr. MacDonald: Miss Haslam has denied that the letter was prompted by any particular—

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): The letter was just read.

Mr. MacDonald: Perhaps if the hon. gentleman would just listen his ignorance would not be revealed so readily.

Mr. Nixon: The member is trying to prove the letter has nothing to do with the member for High Park.

Mr. MacDonald: Miss Haslam, secretary of Elizabeth Fry, denied that the letter was prompted by any particular instance involving the discussion of inmates' cases in the Legislature.

Now if you want to call Miss Haslam a liar go ahead. But there it is in black and white.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South is quoting an official, apparently of the Elizabeth Fry Society. The hon. minister is stating his opinion and his view with respect to the matter and there is no misstatement as far as I can see, or any misquoting.

The hon. minister has the floor.

Mr. MacDonald: On a point of order! The minister's whole import is now to construe this into a personal attack and once again revive his vendetta.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): That is right!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has no point of order other than—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, it is my view and it is obvious from the letter, in paragraph two, which came to us just two or three days after the incident which happened at Vanier which was raised by the one particular hon. member, that that is what concerned the society at that time.

Mr. MacDonald: In other words, Miss Haslam is wrong.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: In any case—well all right, that is the member's opinion.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the system in effect now is one which has all the protection which is needed both for the members of this Legislature and the people in our institutions all over this province. In any case, the Elizabeth Fry Society itself is in fact supposed to be, and have been, acting as sort of ombudsman. Certainly in the female field in our work. Anything that might be going wrong at the Vanier Centre or any other correctional institution so far as females are concerned, they would be raising themselves publicly, because they consider this, quite properly, as one of their duties.

However I have no objection at all, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. members feel that another system might be better. We in our department have been thinking about this for three or four years. Perhaps we should have some special committee to go into each institution or make it their responsibility. But then the Elizabeth Fry Society, of course, would find part of its work negated or replaced by someone else. Presumably, perhaps, the Elizabeth Fry Society means, in this letter, that they would give up this work, or that if we were to have another committee this would replace the present method that the members of the Legislature take it as their responsibility; and I think quite properly their responsibility.

I repeat, sir, that as far as I am concerned, and I am sure as far as the public is concerned, the vast majority of the members of this Legislature have been carrying out their duties in a very responsible fashion.

I get dozens of letters and requests from many members in the Legislature who have had correspondence with inmates of our institutions. They have handled them in a responsible fashion, having regard for the needs of the inmates with whom they are corresponding and the programmes we have in our institutions. I do not see, really, any need to set up an elaborate system which would bypass the members of this Legislature just because one member of the Legislature handles these things in an irresponsible fashion.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: would the minister not agree that the responsible position that he must take is that when these matters are raised in the House, he immediately give his facts and refer the matter to the appropriate standing committee, rather than have some sort of court in here in which the two sides are yelling at each other with no finality nor judgment being given? Now surely the standing committee is what should be used.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, all I can do is ask the hon. member to go over the *Hansard* and see the kind of questions which have engaged us in this kind of—

Mr. MacDonald: The minister revealed the facts in the Vanier case.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: —in this kind of debate. That hon. member will get up and ask: "Why was C.H. transferred from Guelph Reformatory to such and such county jail?" Now, does the hon. Leader of the Opposition really feel that every time those questions are raised we shall take it—

Mr. Nixon: Of course not, that is a frivolous answer.

Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question: I would say, in matters of—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member does not say, he asks a question.

Mr. Nixon: Would the minister agree that on matters of broad provincial concern—and surely he knows the type of case to which I am referring, we have had two this session already—when the people of the province and the opposition are not prepared to accept the supposedly factual information that is put forward from either side, would he not think that is the type of case where, on the motion of the minister himself, the matter should go to the appropriate standing committee for review?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, as far as I am concerned, and as far as my department is concerned, I find it hard to remember a case of such broad implications which has been raised on the floor of this House. Because if there is anything of that broad nature, I think I am prepared to debate it right on the floor of this House, during my estimates, or during any part of the session.

Mr. Nixon: That is six months later! Why not clear it up before a standing committee now?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Take what to a committee? Mr. Speaker, that is why I asked the hon. Leader of the Opposition to go through *Hansard*. He will find these are not the kind of questions which have caused this kind of debate; they are not.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I want to rise on a matter affecting the privileges of the House. I want to say to you, Mr. Speaker, most respectfully, having such a love for parliament, that the Elizabeth Fry Society in this case breached the privileges of the House in that the tone, context, the phraseology, they adopt in the letter they wrote to each and every one of us was, to say the least, impertinent and presumptuous. I wrote to them to that effect this morning.

I take great exception to any society, or pluralistic group outside this chamber, attempting to stigmatize all of us, collectively, in blanket fashion, by bringing the umbrella, the cloud over all of us when they are really complaining about the conduct of one member. And when I say "one member," I invite you, sir, or any other member of the House to give the name of any other member that has breached that code that the Elizabeth Fry Society lays down, other than the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman).

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on that point of order—

Mr. Speaker: It was a point of privilege.

Mr. MacDonald: On that point of privilege, then, Mr. Speaker, call it what you will.

This case, if discussion is going to be centred on it—though Miss Haslam says it is not centred on it—but if it is going to be centred there by the Leader of the Opposition and the minister—this case was originally raised in the House by the member for High Park in terms of his privileges having been breached. Mr. Speaker, you will recall that the minister arose and indulged in a 20-minute reply. I will not describe it as anything more than that because it would be provocative. And, at the end of the 20 minutes, he confirmed that there had been a breach of the privileges.

It was this minister who revealed the details of that case, as you know very well. It is the minister who is responsible.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South is now endeavouring to convert the point of privilege raised by the member for Sudbury into a debate, which is quite improper. He has now spoken to the point of privilege.

I may say that I, myself, read the letter, because as a member I received a copy. I do not look upon it in the way either the member for Sudbury or the member for York South have done. I think it is open to every member of the House to receive these representations from the public and to consider them as he or she wishes.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition has the floor.

Mr. Nixon: A question of the Minister of Education, Mr. Speaker.

Is the minister prepared to continue the admissions policies of the colleges of education which are apparently set at the colleges themselves and based on the frequency and the occurrence of the advertisements in the *Globe and Mail* for teacher positions, the result of which being the exclusion of four out of five applicants for the colleges in the coming term?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, I do not quite understand the question of advertisements in the *Globe and Mail* being related to the admission policies of the OCEs. The admission policies of the OCEs relate to the number of students that they can effectively handle. They also relate, of course, to the total need in the province and in this year the—

Mr. Nixon: A point of order, if I may, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister unaware that the admissions officers in the colleges have indicated that they relate—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is not on a point of order; he is asking another question.

Mr. Nixon: —to the demand for teachers?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister will answer the first question and then, if the leader wishes to ask a further one, he is entitled to do so.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, the actual admission policy, of course, is set by the colleges; this is what we are attempting to explain. It relates basically to the number of students the colleges can deal with or educate effectively.

I am sure the hon. Leader of the Opposition will recall this from some very few years ago. The admission policies this year are such, because of the number of applicants, as I read it in the press and from the information I have received, that the deans and the registrars at the colleges believe, Mr. Speaker, that because of the numbers they can more effectively screen, we will perhaps have more qualified people entering the teaching profession in this province.

There is no question that the number of applicants will far exceed the number of student places. Our own estimate is that we will be accommodating, on a full basis, somewhere between 2,800 and 2,900 fulltime students, which is very close to the 2,874 that were accommodated in this current academic year.

While I am sure there are some who would express regret that we cannot accommodate the many students who will be applying, at the same time I think we can take some encouragement from the fact that there are now a number of young people who are entering the teaching profession, not as a matter of second choice, or because they just do not know what else to do. I think we should be very encouraged by the response that the teachers' colleges and the OCEs are receiving this year.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the minister not believe that, since he has the overall responsibility for education and, in fact, has retained the power to certificate teachers, that the teacher/student relationship ratio, which is essentially established by his policy, should be at least a part of the admissions concept and therefore he would have to play a part in the decisions associated with the number of teachers available?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I think our responsibility is, of course, to do whatever we can to encourage, or to increase, the supply particularly of secondary school teachers. Yet we face this contradiction: it was the members opposite, in both parties, just some few months ago who were questioning this policy as it related to the intake into the teachers' colleges—

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): You will note that this party is not involved.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —and I recall very clearly, Mr. Speaker, very good discussions in that the education committee suggested some more selective process for admission into the teachers' colleges. This to a degree, is what the colleges of education are going to be able to do this year because of the number of applicants.

Mr. Nixon: A final supplementary: Is the minister aware that the admissions officers in the colleges, who have this individual right, are basing their requirements and their

admissions on the need as expressed through the advertisements that are normally available at this time? And is the minister further aware, for reasons that he is well acquainted with, there are now no advertisements? In that situation, what are they basing their assessment of the need on?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I do not know where the hon. member gets the information that the admissions officers or the registrars of the colleges relate the admissions policy to the number of ads they see in any particular newspaper. The—

Mr. Nixon: They are generally reported in the public press.

Hon. Mr. Davis: It is the policy of the Ontario colleges of education, including Althouse, McArthur and the new one at Ottawa, to admit on the basis of the number of students that they can effectively deal with. The Ontario college of education here in Toronto, if my memory serves me correctly, accommodated somewhere around 1,900 teachers last year—or teachers in training—which they found to be really beyond their capacity to do effectively. They are reducing this figure, I think, to 1,300 or 1,400 this year, plus 250 in the vocational section.

This is being done relative to the estimated number of teachers that will be needed, of course, but also to their capacity to effectively do the job.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary, if I might: Is the minister aware that the registrar at Althouse College of Education states that they are turning away applicants in history who have an average of 72 per cent in Grade 13, and taking other students in, say mathematics, who have an average of 62 per cent?

If the minister is aware of this, how can he stand here and say that his department has no policy on how to decide whether or not there is a shortage of teachers in the teaching of history, or a shortage of teachers in the teaching of mathematics?

The registrars are telling us that they make their admissions policy among the various courses on the basis of advertisements in the newspapers. Is not the minister going to help them—the registrars and the admissions officers at the colleges – at least study the newspaper ads so they can have some rational basis to make admissions?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, if members are getting into the types of courses, or the types of specialization, it is different from the total admissions policy. I would explain to the hon. members that the, shall we say specialized courses, relate to what is, shall we say, the "no-needs" for teachers in this province. They do not relate to and they do not use just the ads that appear during the current year.

There is, I think, some fairly good understanding of the areas of shortage and those areas of oversupply. I think—and I have not read the statement from the registrar at Althouse college—but I would assume that this reflects the need as the college understands them, which I think will be reasonably accurate to the types of professional people they will require in the fall of 1971.

Mr. Speaker: There has been sufficient discussion on this matter.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I do not think there has been.

Mr. Speaker: There has been.

Mr. T. Reid: There has not been.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will resume his seat.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition has the floor to continue his questions. We have had sufficient supplementary questions.

Mr. MacDonald: My first question is to the Prime Minister. Has the government made approaches to Dunlop management since yesterday seeking their co-operation in the review of the economics of the proposed shutdown of the plant? And if so, with what result?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker we have been in touch with the company. I have no report to make at this time as to the result of those discussions.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a supplementary question: Is the Prime Minister aware that the company is reported, according to the media, to be making a statement this afternoon? Is this a parallel action, or is it in co-operation with the government?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I was not aware of that. Perhaps I just have not had time to read the paper yet today.

I would say, in my own review of all the material that I have available to me, I rather doubt that the company is going to agree to participate in any feasibility study. I believe the hon. member for Riverdale made this statement in his remarks yesterday.

I read his comments, although I was not in the House at the time he delivered his remarks. I can only say that he seemed to me to be dealing with—I do not want to get into a debate in this matter—but he seemed to be dealing with a very broad economic point that is some distance from the actual fact of the closing of this plant.

Mr. J. Renwick: Ridiculous!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Since the question was asked yesterday, I have gone over the material that I have—and it is quite extensive—dealing with the matter. I have come to the conclusion that the company itself has done some very broad and very deep feasibility studies about the operation of the plant and they have come to the conclusion that it should close, in their point of view.

That is what leads me to say—although I have not a final statement to the problem—that I rather doubt that they will be agreeing to the conduct of a feasibility study as suggested.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might ask the Prime Minister: have those feasibility studies been made available to the government; and if so will they make them available to the Legislature?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I rather doubt that I would make them available to this Legislature, Mr. Speaker. There have been several meetings over a considerable period of time between people from The Department of Trade and Development and people from The Department of Labour. I would like, Mr. Speaker, to refer this question to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales), so that he might tell the House exactly what has been done to date in order to provide some assistance to those people who are going to be put out of work because of these events.

It seems to me we stand here and discuss only what somebody is not going to do. Now I think, perhaps, the House would like to have a full statement from the Minister of Labour on just exactly what—

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. If the minister wants to make that statement I suggest it is a ministerial statement for tomorrow. That question was not asked.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh, the member does not want the facts.

Mr. MacDonald: We have had answers to that question about five times already.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question of the Premier on this matter: has he received communications or offers of assistance from the federal government with regard to the closing of the Dunlop plant?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I should arrange to table the telegram that Mr. MacEachen sent—I am sorry I do not have it with me.

Mr. MacDonald: It was read into the record yesterday.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well all right, it is in the record. That is the communication I have had from the federal government in which they have offered their assistance and co-operation. If this was read in yesterday I will not bother to read it into the record again.

Mr. MacDonald: The member for Riverdale read it in yesterday.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He deals here with the fact that some concessions might be made by the employees sufficient to make it practical to continue operation and so on.

Now he says—and I might emphasize this point—and this is MacEachen's telegram:

I POINTED OUT THAT THIS IS A MATTER OF PROVINCIAL JURISDICTION BUT UNDERTOOK TO ASSURE FEDERAL CO-OPERATION IF YOU CONSIDERED SUCH AN ANALYSIS FEASIBLE.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary question; has the Prime Minister or any member of the government been in communication yesterday or today with Mr. Neville Procter, the president of Dunlop Canada Limited, to discuss the question of a feasibility study?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not really think that I need to answer these questions as to the exact particulars. I have told the hon. member that we have been in touch with him. Now whether there has been a telephone call directly to the president of the company or not I am not in a position to say; I do not really think it is a proper question. I do not think I should be required to answer it.

Sufficient it is for me to stand in my place as the head of the government and say that

we are in touch and are attempting to deal with this problem.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question: Is the Prime Minister aware that the president of the company has not been available to anyone in the course of the last 48 hours for any discussions of any kind?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I am not aware of that.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my next question is to the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Can the Minister of Agriculture and Food confirm the fact that milk is being sold by supermarkets in Toronto from Montreal? And if so, is this in violation of the law?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Yes, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member asked this question yesterday and I took it as notice.

It is in violation. A meeting was called this morning with the milk commission and three dairies at least, and they were ordered to cease and desist from the importation of any milk from outside of the province at the present time.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, would the minister explain why, when news of this became available last Friday and representations were made to the marketing board, they could not get an answer from the board with regard to whether it was or was not? Is this a new law or has it always been the law?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I was not aware it had been made available to anybody until the hon. member raised it yesterday. I was not aware that it had been brought in. If the member made inquiries to the milk commission—or was it to the milk board, now which one?

Mr. MacDonald: People in the media, who were aware of it, approached the milk marketing board last Friday and could not get any response. Why was a response not available then if the law is clear?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I have no idea why the milk board did not make it known to them. As soon as I learned about it we took effective action, as of this morning at 10 o'clock.

Mr. MacDonald: It is unfortunate that we informed the minister then.

My next question is to the Minister of Mines. What conceivable explanation is there for the fact that International Lithium Corporation has applied for 17 claims of licence of occupation as recently as October 3, 1969, in Quetico Park, if the policy of the government is clear that there can be no development of claims?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, I believe under the rights given to the predecessor in title to these mineral claims many years ago, they have the right to what is known as a perpetual renewal right to these claims.

However, that is merely my belief. I will check on the matter this afternoon and either give the hon. member a more definite answer tomorrow morning or in the House tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. MacDonald: My next question is to the Minister of Highways.

Has the government given any consideration to establishing within The Department of Highways an environmental development division to guarantee full consideration of environmental factors in the location, design and construction of freeways, as has been done in other jurisdictions, including the U.S. federal government?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, we are just examining what has been done in the U.S. federal government and seeing how our programme fits in with that and I will report later.

Mr. MacDonald: My final question is to the Minister of Labour, in two parts:

1. How long is the government going to tolerate a breach of the premium pay requirements for statutory holidays under The Employment Standards Act by the Jockey Club, by indulging in the subterfuge of short term charter employees?

2. Is the minister aware of the fact that the Jockey Club is flying in personnel from Winnipeg, housing them in the Royal York, paying all their expenses, including free tickets to hockey games, in addition to $20 a day, to replace the regular work force?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member—

Mr. MacDonald: —to replace the work force which is legally out on strike? Is the minister aware of that?

Hon. D. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I almost thought the hon. member

for York South did not want to ask any questions of me today; he seemed to reject the earlier opportunity.

With reference to the Jockey Club, the member has asked two questions. The first one, in reference to The Employment Standards Act, concerns a matter that was before the Industry and Labour board last summer wherein a decision was given that these people were employed by different racing associations.

At that time the employees were told if they wanted to appeal that situation they should do so through the courts. They have not taken the action that was suggested to them.

In reference to the other matter, that is under conciliation and in negotiations at the present time and I am not aware of any such situation as the member describes.

Mr. MacDonald: Will the minister investigate it? If they are flying in strikebreakers from other parts of the country would the minister investigate it?

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member can only ask questions.

Hon. Mr. Bales: The member has asked the question.

Mr. Singer: Yes, and are they coming Air Canada?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Dovercourt has the floor. His question was asked. Then the member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General.

In view of the report of the grand jury of the county of York to his Honour Chief Judge Martin of the county to the effect that the crown attorney's office in the county of York is in a shambles, and asking for permission to extend their sittings until next October; could the Attorney General advise us what, if anything, he is prepared to do in connection with their request:

1. To extend the sitting until next October;

2. In connection with their retaining, apparently, counsel, is the province of Ontario prepared to subsidize the retention of counsel by the grand jury?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the grand jury's report arrived on my desk today. When I have read it I may have some comments, perhaps, to make to the House, possibly a statement. But until I have read it I am not prepared to make any statement of policy with regard to it.

Mr. Singer: By way of supplementary question: in view of the fact that I have been trying to obtain from the Attorney General's office for two days a copy of the grand jury's report, could the Attorney General advise whether or not that public document is going to be made available to the members of the House?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, as I stated in the answer to the previous question, the report arrived on my desk today. I anticipated that the hon. member would be asking for a copy, I have one here for him.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Can the minister indicate whether the statement made last evening by Mayor George Harrington of Burlington, on an open line programme, that regional government for Peel-Halton would not be a reality for three years, until 1973, is accurate?

Does the minister not feel that such a statement ought to have been made to members of the House by his department?

I will ask further questions if he can answer those.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): I must say, Mr. Speaker, I was not listening to Mayor Harrington, much as I would have liked to, on an open line programme last night from Hamilton. I was otherwise engaged.

I cannot comment on statements that he has made then with any degree of intelligence because I frankly did not hear him.

All I said yesterday—and I do not think it is necessary to make this statement to the House—I said yesterday to the heads of councils of the 17 municipalities in Peel and Halton—was that I doubted very much, I did not see how it was possible—I think those were the correct words—to proceed with legislation creating the regional municipality of Peel-Halton at this session of the Legislature.

Mr. Deans: May I, by way of supplementary question, inquire from the minister whether he believes that this will have an effect on the Hamilton-Wentworth region, and can the same conclusions be drawn?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I indicated that I would be glad to send the member a copy of

the remarks which I made last night, that we have not as yet come to any conclusions about the Steele report. We had originally set a deadline of March 1 for submissions. There were a number of submissions that came in after March 1. They are still coming in and I think I indicated that the earliest possible time we could make a decision about the Steele report would probably be some time around May.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Waterloo North a supplementary?

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): A supplementary question regarding the announcement of the delay of regional government in the Peel-Halton area. What effect will this have on the Burlington area as to whether or not it will be included in the Hamilton-Wentworth regional development programme?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Well if there is no Peel-Halton region, including Burlington, being created, then it has no effect on Burlington, because Burlington is not included in it at this point in time.

What I have just replied to the member for Hamilton-Wentworth was that we have made no decision on the Steele report, and until we have made a decision on the Steele report, until the people make a decision on the Steele report, I could not answer the member's question.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East.

Mr. Gisborn: My question of the Minister, Mr. Speaker, is to clarify his answer to a previous question asked by the member for Wentworth. Was the minister aware that Mr. Harrington's statement was in fact a call-in through the open line programme some two hours previous to his speech—would the minister care to say whether or not he conveyed this information to Mr. Harrington so he could call the station and make that announcement?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: My understanding is that Mr. Harrington was on an open-line programme at 7 or 8 o'clock last night. Is that correct?

Mr. Gisborn: 6.30.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: 6.30! I met with Mayor Harrington at 4.30, along with the heads of the other councils. As a matter of fact it was at 5 o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: A question of the Minister of Education: what is the ratio of the total number of secondary school students to the total number of full-time secondary school teachers? And is it or is it not the policy of the minister to lower this student-teacher ratio? And if so, how can the minister allow highly qualified applicants for the colleges of education to be turned away?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, in that I always like to abide by your rulings and inasmuch as that question is more than somewhat related to the areas of discussion which you said we had sufficient discussion on, I would like to find out—is it all right to answer that? I think there were three questions.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister may answer, decline to answer or take it as notice; or have it put on the order paper.

Mr. Nixon: Does that answer the minister's question?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I will try to answer.

Mr. T. Reid: The minister will never be able to decide.

Hon. Mr. Davis: No, it will take me a while to make this decision.

As I recall the three questions, Mr. Speaker, the member for Scarborough East indicated it was the minister's policy to reduce the student-teacher ratio.

I think, with respect, Mr. Speaker, there has not been an enunciated policy from the department to reduce the student-teacher ratio.

The ratio has been—and I do not want this to be misunderstood—generally in the neighbourhood of 17 to one, depending on how you calculate the ratio.

Mr. T. Reid: Not so.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I do not want to get into this particular discussion at this moment.

If we get back to the other two parts of his question, why the minister is refusing, or the colleges are, to accept well qualified applicants to the colleges, Mr. Speaker, I would just go back to my original answer when I indicated that the colleges are established and set up to accommodate X number of students, which they will in this current year.

There is no question that there will be qualified people who will not be admitted. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, I must suggest there are certain limitations; (a) on the capacity to do these things, and (b) on the capacity of the system to absorb all those who may wish to become teachers.

I would remind the hon. member, Mr. Speaker, as I said just a few minutes ago, we went through this total exercise with respect to the elementary school teacher situation when I received very sincere recommendations from across the House that we should do something about enrolment so we would not have an oversupply of elementary school teachers in this province; and Mr. Speaker, with respect, we cannot have it both ways.

Mr. T. Reid: May I ask a supplementary, Mr. Speaker: does the minister not believe it is within his power to increase the capacity of the colleges of education and to increase the number of teachers of teachers; or does he believe that that is not his policy or his function?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, there is no question that the government and the department has a responsibility to provide the economic resource to increase the capacity of any secondary, post-secondary, or elementary educational institution if it is within the economic powers of this government to do so and if there is a demonstrated need for it.

The hon. member himself indicated that there is perhaps some oversupply of certain physical facilities, which we will talk about during the estimates, which I find most interesting indeed. And you know once again, Mr. Speaker, we should be somewhat consistent in these approaches.

Mr. Nixon: Be careful. There is no place where we recommended teacher training be restricted.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I did not say he did.

Mr. Nixon: Usually the minister knows what he is talking about.

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if I might ask a supplementary question? If I could have the minister's attention.

Does the minister have any policy of lowering the adult student ratio? In other words, is there a programme designed to bring teacher aids, teacher assistants, and even parents into contact within the schools so that the economic relief can take place in a form of that sort with relation to personnel of schools?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member is aware, a number of boards are in the process of, not experimenting with but developing policies with respect to teacher aids or whatever terminology one may wish to use. We have not, as a department, said yes this is, on a broad basis, a solution to some of the problems. But we are looking to the boards conducting these programmes with a great deal of interest and they may provide some of the answers. Certainly we are not discouraging them at this point.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to ask a further supplementary. Are there any courses in the colleges of applied arts and technology at the present time which would provide teacher aid for schools across Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Davis: No, Mr. Speaker. Consideration is being given by, I think, three or four colleges, to this possibiilty.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Tourism and Information has an answer to a question from the member for Perth (Mr. Edighoffer).

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Speaker, as I said yesterday in connection with the science centre policy of renting space, the board of trustees of the science centre has approved a policy which permits the rental of various assembly and auditorium facilities during hours when the centre is not open to the public.

We have instructed the centre management to be assured of the financial responsibility of those renting the hall and also to be assured that the renting organization will be responsible for the control of its members and that the facility will not be damaged in any way.

This policy is consistent with the wish of the board that the science centre should be an active part of the Ontario scene. It has been approved to provide facilities for scientific and engineering conventions, charitable cocktail parties, fashion shows and many other functions.

In the particular case of RJB Associates, the auditorium was rented on the night of February 28 for a rock music festival. This was apparently successful enough but the firm wishes to repeat the occasion and has applied to rent the great hall for the night of March 23.

The management of the centre has accepted the reservation with the proviso that attendance must be limited to the number stipulated by the bylaw of the borough of North York, which apply to areas of public assembly.

This would limit the attendance to 1,150 after provision is made to maintain clear access to emergency exits, and so on.

With this limitation, and based on the experience of the previous use of the auditorium, the centre is quite prepared to provide the accommodation for the scheduled fee.

It is not the policy of the centre to permit the sale of tickets to forthcoming events within the centre except on the day of the function and immediately prior to it.

It is felt that visitors to the centre who are members of the general public or school classes should not be distracted or subjected to any pressure to purchase tickets for a private function. RJB Associates have been informed of this policy and this policy has been in effect since the opening of the centre and it is not considered appropriate it should be changed in this special case.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Port Arthur.

Mr. R. H. Knight (Port Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Transport.

Mr. Speaker: Are there supplementary questions?

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the first part of the statement. Would the minister endeavour to see that the Ontario Science Centre follows the same procedure for children visiting the centre as does the Ontario museum and the Ontario art gallery when they visit in groups so that the—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question is not supplementary to the original question, which had to do with the facilities not the admission of members of the public or children.

The member for Port Arthur has the floor.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I beg your pardon, I thought perhaps the facility was the same for—

Mr. Speaker: Well, Mr. Speaker has ruled that it is not and it is the subject of another question, which I hope the member will have the opportunity to ask.

The member for Port Arthur has the floor.

Mr. Knight: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A question of the Minister of Transport: Would the minister indicate whether he or his department were consulted in a recent decision by the Canadian Transportation Commission to grant Transair Limited of Winnipeg a licence to operate passenger jet air service on the Winnipeg-Thunder Bay-Toronto run?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, this matter was dealt with quite fully in the House some weeks ago and I put the position of the government of Ontario on the record at that time.

Mr. Knight: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker: if the minister could just clarify whether the department plans to intercede at this point on behalf of citizens in the community who feel that Air Canada service will now be somewhat curtailed because of this decision.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, we made an intervention before the transport board in this connection.

Mr. Speaker: Are there further supplementaries? If not, the member for Sudbury East has the floor.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): A question of the Attorney General: is The Coroners' Act being enforced in northern Ontario when there is a death of an Indian?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Would it be enforced?

Mr. Martel: In the event of the death of an Indian?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It would if the hon. member is referring to The Coroners' Act.

Mr. Martel: Well I will ask another question. Are death certificates being signed by licenced physicians stating the probable cause of death in the case of all Indian deaths in all of northern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: If the hon. member is referring to The Coroners' Act, it is applied when it is considered necessary to hold an inquest by a coroner, and in such case the same proceedings apply to Indians and every other citizen. Now in respect to ordinary deaths, the Coroners' Act has no application.

Mr. Martel: Well would the minister answer the second question then, about the death certificates, or death certificates being signed by licensed physicians in all deaths of Indians in northern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well I would expect so, but I would have to check and make certain if he is asking about every single death outside of the operation of The Coroners' Act.

Mr. Martel: One final supplementary question: is the minister aware that according to the people who are working with the Indians in northern Ontario neither are inquests being held nor death certificates being issued?

I would ask the minister if he would table the death certificates for the following three people: Eileen Semple, who died December 29, 1965, at Kasabonika Lake; also in Kasabonika Lake, William Anderson, February 28, 1966; and George Anderson, a baby of a year and a half, also at Kasabonika Lake, on February 21, 1966. Would he table those death certificates?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member cares to let me have the particulars on those specific cases I will look into them; but I would point out that one of them, the first one he mentioned, is five years ago, the second one was four years ago, the third four years ago.

Now the hon. member, I would further say Mr. Speaker, was wrong in the premise with which he prefaced his question, that inquests were not being held with respect to Indians. Inquests are not held with respect to every citizens who dies, but inquests are held when the facts, in the opinion of the coroner, justify and call for the holding of an inquest.

If the hon. member will let me have those three cases—somebody seems to have gone back in time to find this situation—I will be glad to see what I can find out.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question, a final one: is the minister aware that at the present time there is a meeting going on in Ottawa over this very situation? I could provide more recent dates of deaths if he wants. It is felt that in deaths surrounded by unusual circumstances inquests still are not being called and death certificates are not being filled out by licenced doctors.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, Ottawa may have some feeling of responsibility in this matter; and perhaps they are holding a meeting which they did not inform me about because the matter of Indians, Indian lands, and Indian affairs, is generally, under The British North America Act, in the federal jurisdiction. Now they may be holding a meeting about Indian matters of which I have not been informed, so to answer the hon. member's question is the minister aware: I am not aware of that particular meeting. I do not know if that is a very important question.

If the member will let me have those three cases he has cited I will be glad to get him information.

Mr. Speaker: This completes the oral question period.

Before we proceed, perhaps in fairness to the member for Scarborough East and the Minister of Education, I should explain that at the time I ruled there had been sufficient supplementary questions more than half an hour, or half of the question period, elapsed and we were still discussing questions asked by the Leader of the Opposition. If we are to give other members of the House an opportunity to ask questions there must be some discretion, which at the moment rests with Mr. Speaker.

When we have opportunities such as were given again today, these questions can be asked at a later time. I have no objection whatsoever to them being asked at a later time, but if the ordinary members of the House are to have an opportunity to ask questions, in some way or other we must curtail the growing stream of debate on supplementary questions based on the questions by the Leader of the Opposition and the member for York South. I thought I should explain that to the hon. members of the House generally.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present to the House the annual report of the teachers' superannuation commission for the year ended October 31, 1969.

Mr. Winkler, from the standing private bills committee, presented the committee's third report which was read as follows:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr15, An Act respecting Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital.

Bill Pr24, An Act respecting Sidney Goldstone Limited.

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments:

Bill Pr8, An Act respecting the city of Orillia.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, before the motion is put, I want to inform the House that in my view and that of some of my colleagues there is a serious impairment of the efficiency of the private bills committee this year.

I want to briefly relate to you, your honour, just what that impairment implies. By its very nature, and this very morning in respect to this report, which is a good example, the committee dealt with matters and with remedies sought by municipal corporations which inhere in The Department of Municipal Affairs. And historically sir, as you are well aware, the meetings of the committee have always been attended by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and some of his senior officials. I recall that up to the end of the occupation of that portfolio by Wilfrid Spooner—

Mr. Nixon: He was always a good one.

Mr. Sopha: He was one of the most constant attenders at the meetings of the committee.

Mr. Nixon: Never failed!

Mr. Singer: Sometimes with his camera!

Mr. Sopha: Since the committee began its deliberations this year we have not seen hide nor hair of the present minister, and it is with great difficulty that the committee labours through these municipal statutes without his guidance.

Now this very morning the city of Orillia was there with a bill, sir, to make composite three separate boards operating within the municipality. And this, of course, is a very great step, a very important step. I say most seriously to you that we are entitled to have the views of the Minister of Municipal Affairs—

Mr. Singer: Right, absolutely!

Mr. Sopha: —in respect to that bill.

Here I end because I do not want to use the time of the House. In respect to that bill, it came very close to not being reported as several of the government members voted with the opposition and several of the opposition members voted with the government members to enable it to squeak through. If the Prime Minister was here I would inform him that he ought to have heard the oratory of his one-time Minister of Health this morning, the member for Ontario (Mr. Dymond).

That was quite a polemic about the deterioration in municipal government in this province. That was his theme. I wish the Prime Minister had been there to hear him.

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): On a point of privilege.

Mr. Sopha: Well that is precisely what the member said.

Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege—

Mr. Sopha: But, let me—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

The hon. member for Ontario has the floor. A point of personal privilege always takes precedence.

Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, I think I should make clear that I did not complain about the deterioration of municipal government. I expressed concern that municipal councillors over the past years had been critical of the erosion of their powers, and here was a municipal government bringing in, or proposing to the Legislature, a bill that would further erode their own powers. That was my position this morning, sir.

Mr. Sopha: That is what he said; deterioration of municipal government.

Mr. Singer: Erosion of powers!

Mr. Sopha: Erosion of powers!

Now I merely speak, through you to the minister, to have him come and sit with us in our deliberations so that we may have some rationalization of the development of municipal government. I say that in the kindliest way, because when all is said and done the Minister of Municipal Affairs is a nice fellow, I do not like to be hyper-critical.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, if you would allow me, perhaps, to explain.

I think the private bills committee has met three times. Unfortunately, private bills committee meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9.30 or 10.00 o'clock—you will also be aware that the executive council meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays . . .

Mr. Sopha: Well I have never been there!

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Well they do, and it has been impossible for me, on the three occasions that the private bills committee have met, to be there. I would have to tell members that I am not going to be able to be there next Thursday either, because I am requested by someone else to be somewhere else.

Mr. T. Reid: On higher authority?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: On higher authority, yes. I can only say to my friend from Sudbury that I appreciate the fact that I have

been missed. There are those in municipal circles in the province who sometimes say they see too much of me, and if I have been missed in the private bills committee I am touched.

Mr. T. Reid: Do not use that word too much now.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: It gives him that wanted feeling.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Really, it gives me that wanted feeling, as the Minister of Mines says.

With particular reference to the matter in question, I would also say that in examining the bills which have been referred to the private bills committee at the last three meetings I think the position of the government, in each instance where municipal affairs has been involved, was that we were not opposed to the legislation. We would not have been opposed to the legislation this morning either, had I been there, because it was similar to legislation which the private bills committee and the government have seen fit to approve earlier. I have heard about the discussions between my colleague from Ontario North and others at the private bills committee. I wish I had been there to hear it.

We have been talking a great deal in the province about single purpose bodies. We are their creation, but I understood members had a healthy discussion this morning and I can only commend the committee for discussing these things and perhaps coming to certain ideas. I would have to say to the people of Orillia that these are things which are going through the minds of the members of the House as we try, together, to strengthen local government.

Report agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

ADMINISTERING OF LIE DETECTOR TESTS

Mr. Trotter moves first reading of bill intituled An Act to control The Administering of Lie Detector Tests.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the bill is to eliminate the use of lie detector tests except with the written consent of the person to be tested and the approval of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Public Schools Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, the bill complies with the recommendation of the McKay committee on religious education in the schools of Ontario, and removes the anachronistic section of the bill which stipulates that: "Judges, members of the assembly, members of municipal councils and clergymen", are welcome as school visitors, and indicates by implication that others are not welcome. At a time when parents should be encouraged to participate in the programme of the school this section stands condemned.

Mr. Speaker: Before the orders of the day, I would like to draw to the attention of the members something which has been discussed before, and that is that the lobbies on either side of the House are for the convenience of the members and their constituents and not for the purpose of press interviews, either by radio, newspaper or television. There are proper and ample quarters for them and the attendants have instructions, which I trust we will all observe, that beyond the steps in either lobby is out of bounds to the press.

I have discussed it with the press gallery. They are quite satisfied that there should be some sancrosanct place for members, and I would ask the co-operation of the members in having their interviews in other than in the east or west lobbies.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I am sure the House would like to be fully informed and completely up-to-date about the tragedy taking place at Dunlop Tire. Since the Prime Minister replied to the questions by the leader of this party, I have spoken to the president of the company and I have his assurance that nobody, no one in the government, Mr. Speaker, has been in communication—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is entitled to the floor for purposes of privilege or purposes of announcement of important matters to his constituents perhaps, but not for the purpose, without notice to the Speaker, of indulging in a debate on an urgent matter

of urgent public importance, which I presume that he considers this to be.

If he wishes to discuss that, then he should have followed what are still the rules in this House and contacted the Speaker and arranged for a debate on it. Therefore I would rule that the hon. member is out of order.

Mr. J. Renwick: Well, Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I want to draw to the attention of the House that I am quite certain, if unintentionally, that the Prime Minister gave the impression that the government, in one way or another, had been in touch with responsible officials at the Dunlop company.

I have spoken with the president of the company. As I understand it, the government has not been in touch with anybody in a responsible position at the Dunlop company and not with the president of the company.

The company proposes, in the next few minutes, to issue a statement—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has now made his point and what the company proposes has nothing to do with his point of order. His point of order was that the Prime Minister had misled—

Mr. J. Renwick: My point of order, Mr. Speaker, was that it is urgent that this House—

Mr. Speaker: Well then if it is, then the hon. member must make his proper application, as the rules now stand, to have the matter debated if it is a matter of urgent debate. It cannot be stuck in willy nilly, here or there.

I know that the hon. member knows the rules and I realize that they perhaps do not lend themselves to the type of debate that some of us would like to have in this House, but as long as they are here I must enforce them.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member something further on the point of order?

Mr. J. Renwick: Yes Mr. Speaker. The point of order, Mr. Speaker, is that within the next half hour the question will be foreclosed unless the government makes a statement that they are going—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

There is no point of order being raised at the moment.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

There has been no point of order raised except that the Prime Minister—except that the member states that the Prime Minister—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will resume his seat. I have ruled that the hon. member is out of order.

I give the floor to the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I insist on a matter of order if I have to rephrase it for the fourth time.

Hon. Mr. Welch: The member is ruled out of order!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has made his point of order to that extent.

Mr. J. Renwick: Then Mr. Speaker, may I ask you to require the government to respond now to the question of whether or not the government is going to request Dunlop Tire—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. member resume his seat? The hon. member will resume his seat.

The hon. member will please resume his seat.

I have ruled that the hon. member is out of order. The hon. member has persisted in rising to his feet and stating the same things in different terms. I still rule that the hon. member was out of order.

I have heard him. I have heard him once; I have heard him twice; and I would continue to ask him to resume his seat and proceed to the next order of business, because the point of order which he just raised, he has raised previously.

I have no power to direct the government to do anything, my power is merely to rule in the House here. If the government wishes to take some action that is entirely up to them.

So far as I am concerned, the point of order has been raised. I have taken note of it; it will be recorded.

There has been no response from the government. For one reason or another the government leader is not here and therefore there is no power in Mr. Speaker to do anything.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to this point of order.

Mr. Speaker: On behalf of the government?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Yes.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member got up on a point of order on the basis that the government would not make its position clear.

The hon. members will recall the Prime Minister asked that the Minister of Labour be allowed to get up and make a statement on this question and the leader of the NDP refused to grant him permission—the hon. member refused to hear the Minister of Labour, so it is just a phoney ham approach.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. Renwick: On the point of order to which the Minister of Correctional Services has replied, on behalf of the government. The question is not within the jurisdiction of the Minister of Labour; it is within the jurisdiction either of the government, or of the absent Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall).

Now the point, Mr. Speaker, is perfectly clear. No one in that government has made any attempt to get a positive—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. Renwick: I do not want the people of the province of Ontario—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

I shall suspend the sitting of this House unless the hon. member will resume his seat and obey the orders and rules of this House. And I shall suspend the House immediately if there is any further—

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, you let it go on and on and on. You named the member for Grey-Bruce (Mr. Sargent) one day for—

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. member for Downsview wish to get into the discussion?

Mr. Singer: I think you should treat all members the same.

Mr. Speaker: It is very difficult.

Now that the hon. member for Downsview has mentioned it, I remember trying to do the same thing with the hon. member for Grey-Bruce, who also refused to sit down. The hon. member for Riverdale is doing the same thing.

I had thought we had gotten over these childish ways, because unless there is order in this House and we carry on in a proper responsible manner, we will never get the work of the House done.

I recognize that this is a political House and, within great limits, I allow a political play. This has to be, and I am quite prepared to allow that. But once a point of order has been made there is no point in it being reiterated once, or twice, or three times. I consider that I am perfectly proper and correct in interrupting the member when he is repeating exactly what had been ruled out of order a moment before.

That is my position. I am glad to hear the member for Scarborough West (Mr. Lewis), or the member for Riverdale, or the member for Downsview, if they wish to discuss it further with me.

The member for Wellington-Dufferin has the floor.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Speaker, this St. Patrick's day is a day that means a lot to people of Irish blood, and people who might like—

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I am not prepared to be made a person who cannot speak on a matter of urgent public importance in this House while they go on to a fatuous talk about one ethnic group in this community.

Now let us cut it out—cut out the nonsense and let us get on with the business of the people of this province. It is just a lot of goddam nonsense.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I appeal to you—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps we could have some order and hear the hon. member.

Mr. Lewis: I was about to say to you, Mr. Speaker, that I appeal to you. It was pointed out to me that I may not appeal to you at all.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Grow up—be a member of Parliament.

Mr. Lewis: You see, if the Speaker wants this House to function with any sense of importance, Mr. Speaker, then one does not rule out of order one of the most important situations that now faces the province of Ontario and rule in order some frivolity in which members of the House feel obliged to engage.

If we have time this afternoon then bring the Premier back and let us get the facts straight on the situation that remains.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, if I may speak to the point of order. I can recognize that the member for Riverdale is incensed, as members sometimes get when they feel a problem must be brought to the attention of this House as quickly as possible. But surely, as we have demonstrated many times, they have to do it within the rules that we have.

The member for Grey-Bruce was dealt with quite severely by you, sir, on one occasion when he refused to obey your instructions. I am not going to enter into the merits of that, but I am sure the member for Grey-Bruce felt equally strongly about the point he was trying to raise.

If, at any time, merely because the member for Riverdale, whether or not he is aided and abetted by the member for Scarborough West, can take over the proceedings of this House, we might just as well all walk out of here and let the proceedings go on as they want to conduct them. I say this cannot be, sir.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps at this time we could close this by my pointing out that I did say to the hon. member for Riverdale that I was sure he had a matter of great importance. I know that it is, and I pointed out to him that the rules provide how it should be dealt with, the same as the member for Grey-Bruce has had it pointed out to him.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Why did you call him childish then?

Mr. Speaker: I must say that the Speaker did not call anyone childish. The Speaker said there was childish behaviour in this House.

Just since we are in a lighter mood, I think it might be well, perhaps, to know what some of the youngsters who have visited this House have to say about what goes on in this House. I will be pleased to read it. I shall not do it but I do have it here, and sometime, if the members wish to know, I will be glad to give it to them.

I must say that I am not compromised by the remarks of the goings-on in this House; but in any event, now, the member for Riverdale has certain ways in which he can bring these matters to the attention of the House and I presume he will follow them in the future.

With respect to other matters, as far as I am concerned if the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin has something to say to the House and it is in order within our proceedings and customs here, he is entitled to have the floor. If it is not, I shall do my best to frustrate him.

The member for Wellington-Dufferin now has the floor.

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you for your indulgence on this St. Patrick's day, a day that means much to people of Irish extraction, and people who might like to be of Irish extraction. I must say—

Mr. Lewis: Nothing wrong with the Irish.

Mr. Root: —I must say that I resent the suggestion that the people in my area are not entitled to as much consideration in this House as the people who may be in the riding of Riverdale.

Mr. Speaker, the Irish people have made a great contribution to this nation, in spite of some of the comments that have just been made a few minutes ago, and I pay my tribute to them and to their patron saint, St. Patrick.

My home township carries the Irish name of Erin. It started to develop 150 years ago. We welcome within its boundary people who draw their blood lines from many racial origins and there we live together in peace and harmony. I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that the members of this Legislature would adopt the same sentiment as we carry on the debates in this House.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, as I listen to some of the comments across the way, I am reminded of something my father told me when I was a boy. He said if you kick an empty barrel you will get a lot of noise; if you kick a full one you will not get very much.

Mrs. M. Renwick: What about the boys who have no jobs after tomorrow?

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, we had a few minutes ago, a guest in this House and I wanted, on behalf of the Irish people, to welcome him. He is the former member for Grey South, Mr. Farquhar Oliver, who sat in this House for many years. I notice that he has walked out; I suppose he could not stand the confusion that developed in the last few minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in bringing you the greetings from my home township of Erin, and the village of Erin, which are so attractive that even in the set-up of a Halton-Peel regional government they even tried to draw us into that area. However, we stated

our position and all the best to you, sir, on this St. Patrick's day.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The third order; resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, last evening, before we adjourned, I was talking about the city of Ottawa. I was talking about the things that we found wrong up there, the things we should be correcting; I was saying that some very positive action should be taken.

I talked some about pollution; about the bad state of our roads; about the great need for a public transportation system; about the deficiencies in our social and family services; about housing and certain deficiencies; about education, with particular reference to our French high schools and their need of cash; and the jails, the fact that they are the same as they were several years ago. I believe I have arrived at the point, Mr. Speaker, where I must talk to you about further needs in Ottawa, and, in particular day-care for children.

This is another area of concern for many of our people and particularly for those people, where both the father and the mother must work, where, if only one worked, they are close to the poverty line. If both work then they can get up above that a little bit.

In these cases these people desperately need day-care centres and, wherever you go in the city of Ottawa, you will find today the human cry is there: "Provide us with day-care centres." In fact, Mr. Speaker, if the supplementary income welfare systems come about our need for day-care centres will be much greater. And why, at the present time, there are no day-care centres in the rent-to-income housing developments is not easily understood.

Next, regional two-tiered government. Some long time ago the government of Ottawa, the municipal government, made it very clear that they felt that two-tier government for the region was too costly. The amount they are paying out to councilmen is beyond anything that even we realize here.

The government up there, the municipal government, made representation to the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) and asked him if he would instigate single-tier government for the complete region as soon as possible. Recently the Minister of Municipal Affairs was in the area and said it would be at least 10 years before he would ever consider going back to one-tier government for the whole area.

I have discussed the project with councilmen and people at large. The only conclusion I have been able to come to is that the minister and his advisers are short on ideas.

I am very much inclined to think that if he would give the elected members for the Ottawa-Carleton region a free hand they would, by themselves, work out a system acceptable to by far the majority of the people in the area and, I believe, a system that would not cause hardship, and would not decrease the direct representation of any of the areas.

We can, in Ottawa, of course, like every other place complain about high taxes. By and large, Mr. Speaker, these foregoing problems are the things of concern in Ottawa, and I am afraid my own colleagues are not enjoying this too much because all of them are too far removed from that area, hundreds of miles, in fact, and those members who do come from that area are a little fearful to speak out on these matters.

Mr. Speaker, I might suggest the government can forget the national capital of Canada and we can forget that it should be a showcase for foreigners—as a third of real wealth comes from foreign trade—and consider it just another city in Ontario and the problems are there and the people are getting impatient.

This government adopts the philosophy, it would seem, that to provide jobs with high incomes for a large majority of our people is a requirement. Well there is no question that it is.

It is a good one and it is a right one and this government has worked hard at it and there are many of us in this province with good jobs and with high incomes but there is a further requirement, and this government would do well to keep it in mind.

The further requirement is we must not only make the money, make the people rich, but that after we have done this then we have to do the other things they want. I am sure everyone here is aware that the people, all

people, when they have high incomes, become aggressive, become impatient. And that is the state of things today.

People in Ontario, by and large, are wealthy, well off and they are feeling aggressive and impatient. These problems in Ottawa should be looked after and they are all within the provincial jurisdiction.

With respect, Mr. Speaker, I urge this government to look at them carefully and move to alleviate them with despatch.

Now, turning to matters of a more general nature and province-wide concern. First, nuclear power generation. Much has been said in this House about the Canada nuclear system and a good deal of it conflicting.

Many reports indicate that engineering problems of a magnitude of complexity beyond the capability of our design team have arisen and the project is doomed to failure in high cost in both dollars and prestige to our country and our province.

Other reports indicate it is only a matter of time before problems are cleared up and the projects well on their way—as good as any in the world. And still further reports indicate they will probably be made to operate close to capacity on the line, but the difficulties with refuelling and breakdown will greatly restrict their ability.

Right at this moment, Mr. Speaker, it is not clear to me which of these assessments is the most accurate. The nuclear generators may eventually work well and they may not.

But regardless of whether they do or do not, we in Ontario and as Canadians should carefully review this history of research and development in both our own country and in other parts of the world and especially in the able country to our south.

Anyone who reviews it in depth will find the greatest successes usually arise from accepting failure and making full use of the knowledge gained and starting again.

Time after time in the U.S. this has occurred in the development of their aeroplanes until today they are world leaders. Even their F-111, I think it is called, was one of the most controversial they ever had and one of the most expensive.

The first versions were not capable of performing as they were supposed to. The present ones do all that was ever expected of them and a bit more. And as all of this House is probably aware, the F-111 is probably the most capable combination plane in the world.

It is most unfortunate that our leaders of another time understood so little of research and development that they brought an end to one of the most capable design groups in the world, the group which at A. V. Roe, Canada Limited, spawned the CF-105, an aeroplane far ahead of its time, and the group which had a full size mockup of a jet airliner, again away ahead of its time.

If the approach used had been the same as some other nations, which have been successful with research and development, Canada could well have today an aircraft industry as capable and as profitable as any in the world.

The history is the same in all industry and all countries, as far as research and development is concerned, it amounts to failure at first followed by new attempts with the knowledge gained.

The history is there for all to assess whether it is radar, the jet engine, the nuclear bomb or the minute transistor which was developed by the Bell telephone research group in New York, but which it took the Japanese to show us how to use it.

Our Candu nuclear power stations may or may not work in the most beneficial way. It will be sad if they do not, but surely, Mr. Speaker, this is the time when our best interests lie in digging in our heels and making them work or altering course to find the next approach.

In any case let us ensure we keep together what we have and move ahead until we meet success. There is no other way to meet success in research and development.

Just one more area, Mr. Speaker, that intrigues me a bit—whether or not it is good for the province and its people only time and experience will show.

I am of the belief that what is happening should be brought continually before the people of this province so they can decide whether they want it or not.

Lately we have seen this government move firmly to shift nearly all important decision-making into its own direct or indirect control. Only this year assessments throughout Ontario were removed from municipal control and vested with provincial authorities; regional government in the Ottawa area and elsewhere is made up of elected officials of all but the top man, the chairman, who is appointed by the provincial government.

In our school systems just recently reorganized there is little doubt the most influential man in each of the school districts is the director of education, an official who meets

the requirements of The Department of Education and in most cases a former employee of the department.

Community colleges all have a president responsible to a board of governors. The boards of governors are appointed by the regents and the regents are appointed by the minister to assist him.

Not so long ago jails were taken over by the province and recently the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) indicated his department would soon direct where gravel pits and quarries can be located in the province.

Possibly one or two further items were missed in the foregoing, Mr. Speaker, but in any case all of it indicates to me that the government is bringing more areas of spending and development under direct control.

Exactly why they are bringing this direct control here is not clear to me. Maybe it is for possible savings and maybe for a more equitable distribution or maybe they found the organization before was just unmanageable.

In any case the decision making is very rapidly coming into Toronto. Whether it is good or not the people of Ontario will have to decide.

However, I would say Mr. Speaker, that if the government is looking toward savings in their expenditures throughout the province, there is probably a better way to go about it. Probably several better ways of going about it. There is one way which the government can go about it, but it would take an awful lot of courage, and whether this government has the courage at this late date, only time will tell. That way, Mr. Speaker, is to hold the line on inflation. I am not one of those who believes that the government has gone all out to hold the line on inflation in the way it can be done. I suggest that the rounds of wage and price increases which occur do nothing but increase prices, which has two very severe results. Those on fixed incomes get a little poorer, and worst of all the selling price of our goods to other nations rises to the point where they will not sell and unemployment occurs.

If prices continue to rise to the point where all employed on export goods are laid off, the end results will be disastrous. The rule is simple and easily understood by all. The time may have arrived where both management and unions are going to have to sit down and settle with the government. No longer can we stand the demands of union leaders who have reached that pinnacle of power where the construction contractors in the province must meet all their demands, whether reasonable or unreasonable, if they have not the power to bargain with them.

The end result is inflationary with only a temporary redistribution of the wealth of the province. No longer can we stand idly by while firms close down and lay off faithful workers of long standing. In both cases the end results are not more than setbacks to the welfare of the province and hardships to individuals. Surely we can provide a greater degree of social justice and maintain our standards.

It is time the government moved into partnership with unions and management to ensure stability and to ensure a favoured position in our external markets, for these are the ones which determine our living standards. This formula is the one being used by Japan and one which is very rapidly placing the Japanese in that position where they are trimming the Americans at their own game of private enterprise and have already nearly reached their standard of living.

Mr. Speaker, may I recommend to all members the special report on Japan in the March 7, 1970 issue of *Business Week*. The approach suggested is not new; it is not unusual and it is proven. It is my opinion we can learn and progress from a detailed study of Japan's new private enterprise system and maybe learn to handle some of our most difficult problems. No better approach is apparent at this time, Mr. Speaker, to control inflation, to ensure our external markets and thereby maintain our living standards and hopefully raise them.

Mr. Speaker: I might say that the next name on the list provided to Mr. Speaker was the hon. member for Brantford (Mr. Makarchuk). Is the hon. member for Hamilton East replacing?

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): That is right.

Mr. Speaker: Very good.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, in rising to take part in this traditional debate, I first want to offer my best wishes for your health, sir, in your honoured position. I want to reply to you personally, sir, in regards to a request and appeal that I made in making a few remarks during the budget debate last fall.

I appealed to your office to give some consideration to the remuneration received by the gentlemen attendants around the Legislature and I am sure that your consideration has brought theirs and my own gratitude for that consideration.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it has been 14 years that I have had the opportunity to take part in this function of the Legislature and I have found a great deal of satisfaction in the results of some of the things I requested and presented to the government that I felt should have been given consideration in the fields of workmen's compensation, labour legislation and our welfare programmes. I felt there has been a move but in most cases they have been so slow and so little that they have been in no way effective to do the job that is necessary. I remember we appealed very strongly for the government to move from their *status quo* position and outlook towards the categorized welfare programmes, when payments were based on the same rates under all the various types of disability that one could apply for. We were pleased when we moved into the unit payment basis under the new look at that time of The Social and Family Benefits Act.

This now has become a slow moving case with too little being done. I am sure a great deal has been done in regard to public housing. Since I have been in the House over the past 14 years, a great deal of money has been provided by the federal and provincial governments. But of course, we have to realize that when you start so far back from nothing, a great deal is not always enough. I have listened for the past 14 years to the glorified speeches from members across the House in regards to our great economic growths and the great prosperity provided by this government, but I think that the time has come when we have to reassess our position. After I attended the Expo of Canada last year—or the year before rather, in 1967—I read about the great emphasis we are putting on Expo Japan; the great deal of money we are spending—not just this province but all other provinces across the nation and across the world.

When we read about the presentations made to the federal commission on poverty—and I took a little while last night to read the report produced by the Hamilton Social Planning Council regarding poverty and its effect on many thousands of people in the Hamilton area—I feel it is time that we should now become a little more angry and a little ashamed of our lack of attention to those who are more unfortunate across the province.

Now, I want to deal this afternoon with the report that was tabled last December, by the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), called "The report of the mineral resources committee for the Minister of Mines." First I would refer to a press release by the minister, December 12, 1969, and I want to quote it to lay some groundwork for my remarks, and I quote:

> The intimation that the provincial government will take over jurisdiction of the pit and quarry industry to ensure that the land so used will be rehabilitated when quarrying is completed, was given in the Legislature today by the Minister of Mines. In presenting the report of a technical investigating committee, the minister pointed out that jurisdiction for regulating pit and quarry regulations is now vested in the municipality but that many of them lack facilities, staff, finance and experience to police the operation. For this reason, several of the municipalities, aggregate producers and the general public have suggested that the government take over this responsibility.

Now, I pause here, Mr. Speaker, and repeat: He says:

> For this reason, several of the municipalities and general public have suggested that the government take over this responsibility.

And I have to say that that is the understatement of the year and the most misleading. I have here two files, very thick, which are made up of press clippings—briefs from about 30 municipalities—press clippings that indicate that about 60 municipalities are so concerned about the minister's report that they are going to converge on Queen's Park with all the strength they can.

I want to quote briefly from an article from the *Globe and Mail* of January 22, 1970. Headline,

> Township Official Says Gravel Pit Operation Drives Residents Away
>
> The noise from sand and gravel operations is driving people out of their homes in Uxbridge township, Clark Muirhead, a township councillor told an Ontario Municipal Board hearing yesterday. Mr. Muirhead said that noise levels of between 50 and 60 decibels had been recorded at some gravel pits where the crushers are used to break down the stone.
>
> The noise is like a Chinese torture to people living as far as a quarter of a mile away from the pit. It dominates the surroundings and the normal person finally reaches a point where he can hardly tolerate it. Mr. Muirhead said some residents have sold their homes and moved because of the noise.

He also went on, and I quote:

> He said, "Trucks carrying 30 to 40 tons of gravel frequently pass through the village of Claremont every 30 seconds."
>
> He said, "The problem was so acute that council had approved plans to build a new bypass road around the village at a cost of $1,250,000. Economically," he said, "the industry meant nothing to the township."
>
> He said, "If the aggregate industry was allowed to go uncontrolled it would destroy the township in a few years. We realize Metropolitan Toronto needs gravel but does it have to be supplied at the expense of Uxbridge?"

Well, that just lays the basis for my further remarks, in regard to that report.

The Minister of Mines has shown an arrogant, callous disregard for the rights of the municipalities in his production of the mineral resources committee's report, which, by the way, was supported by the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) at a speech he made to the association of rural municipalities on February 9. And just last week, if members remember, those who were here, the Minister of Municipal Affairs cried to high heavens about the untouchable autonomy of local municipalities and stated that any infringement on their wishes was dictatorial and socialism.

Forgetting the contents of the report at this point, the kow-towing to the vested interest of the quarry operators by the Minister of Mines was good cause to raise the hackles of the municipal authorities. What happened?

In November, 1968, an investigating committee of government officials reviewed briefs submitted to the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) by the Aggregate Producers' Association of Ontario, and the quarry operators section of the Ontario Mining Association.

Nobody knows who signed the briefs and no one at this point, as far as I know, has read them outside of the officials they were presented to. And that is one point I wanted to make. I think those briefs should have been presented at an early date to members of the Legislature so we could have been well aware of what their position and complaint was.

The briefs requested: (a) The government to consider the principle of designating for pit and quarry use, lands at present owned for that purpose and other known deposits together with deposits that may subsequently be located and in furtherance of the foregoing; (b) Requested the introduction of provincial legislation that would regulate, in a reasonable manner, the operation of pits and quarries having regard to the after uses of such land. And this is where the insult to the municipal authorities came in.

The minister established a technical committee to investigate the situation comprised of officials from The Department of Mines, The Department of Municipal Affairs, and the Quarry Operators Association.

There were none from the municipalities who were the most concerned. There were none from the conservation authorities. There were none from the Ontario Federation of Naturalists. There was no one there that had as deep a concern for this problem and its effects upon the province of Ontario as those people.

No one yet knows what the name is of that committee, of the persons serving on that committee.

The subsequent flak and furor, of course, caused the minister to announce on February 28, the postponement of any action for four months—again a very inept handling by the government of a very serious problem.

A delay is necessary for all concerned municipal authorities to have their say as well as others who have a deep interest in the development of our resources—conservation authorities and the others I have mentioned.

The minister must remember and refer to the 1966 report on conservation authorities when lengthy recommendations were made regarding the establishment and the operation of quarries and pits.

That committee sat for two sessions and received numerous briefs by all of the people concerned in the proper development of our province, and in particular there were many pages in regard to the operation of pits and quarries. And again, the more recent Gertler report on the presevation of the Niagara escarpment, and I want to deal with that at a later time.

Until such hearings have been completed and decisions made, the minister should put a freeze on any new openings or any acquisitions of land for quarrying purposes, and this is very important because I understand that at the present time the quarry operators are scurrying around to obtain property to provide the aggegate they feel they will need in the coming year, and again, this will have a real effect upon the contents of the Gertler report. So a freeze on any acquistion or on any new openings is very important at the present time.

The report is vague, very vague, with very little detail and without signatured authorship and should be considered not just an insult to the municipalities across this province, but which should be considered an insult to the members of this Legislature.

To have a document produced, with nobody signing it, without knowledge of who drafted it or of the briefs that initiated the report is an insult to this Legislature.

The basic principle in the report, of course, is one of exploitation. They, whoever they are, who drafted the report, state right in it as a first principle:

> The committee based its deliberations on the premise that maximum utilization of all available resources is desirable.

To me, Mr. Speaker, that means that wherever there is aggregate construction materials or minerals, they shall be taken regardless of the aesthetic values or the well-being of the community.

That is one thing. And who is going to have control? We are led to believe that The Department of Mines will. Well, as one who has learned of the interest that demands the attention of this government, I have my doubts.

We know who has the interests of this government, much more than the people who are crying for more welfare assistance, and more and efficient, decent homes. We know that the private industry in this province has the ear and has demanded of this government.

My understanding of the responsibilities to The Department of Mines is to promote a thriving mining industry and it is my impression that if the report as is, is implemented, it would surely establish a healthy climate for some operators to the very detriment of other very important values.

The proposals of the committee are designed to further interest the gravel pit industries. Right through the whole piece, besides the requirements of the construction industry, complex problems involving municipal land use, pollution and recreational facilities will be dealt with by the department whose function it is to promote economic development of the province's mineral resources and the conservation, the land use planning, should not be a responsibility of the officials of a department of that type.

According to the recommendations of the report, property anywhere in Ontario can enter into the official plans as suitable for private mining industry exploitation.

No guidelines have been suggested for the preservation or development of recreational facilities. How can such a matter be separated from overall planning for industrial, residential and recreational purposes?

Why was it not dealt with by The Department of Municipal Affairs? The Minister of Mines' comments in the Toronto *Daily Star* January 17, 1970, are indicative of the degree of control envisaged. And I quote:

> We will try to keep the residential areas well separated from working pits and quarries, but there is not a heck of a lot we can do about the current conflict of homes and mines now sitting side by side.

What, in fact, do they intend to do to repair the damage already done to such areas as Uxbridge township? I am sure that I do not have to quote newspaper clippings, or read briefs and letters from the residents there to explain to the House the very serious situation that exists there.

The criteria employed by the committee provides four basic requirements. When I say the committee, I have to say the committee because I refer to the report, but I do not know who they are; I do not know what part of the branches of The Department of Mines they came from, what branch of The Department of Municipal Affairs they came from, and from what level of management of the operators, the quarry operators, they came from.

The criteria they provide for four basic requirements to properly zone a township: two geology maps, a drift-thickness map and an industrial-mineral resources survey. That is all. Very vague, without detail.

Having established thereby which areas are suitable for designation as mineral resources zones, it appears that there would be no further restrictions deciding where operators could locate other than distances from the highways, and so on. These surveys form the basis for outlining mineral resources zones in which the operation of pits and quarries would be permitted.

But what about the restrictions on the number of quarries and pits to be in operation at any given time? What about a ceiling on total area to be torn up in one municipality, and the restrictions on the amount of land each operator can hold and the length of time he can hold it while putting it to use? As I understand it, at the present time there are many thousands of acres held by the quarry operators that have not been opened yet and no one knows in whose hands

they lie. Should this not be considered? It has been suggested that the other pits have been started for commercial manoeuvring rather than for the immediate extraction of material, and that there are thousands of acres of gravel-rich land held by mining interests that have not yet opened up. And through their report, they try to emphasize the fact, Mr. Speaker, that they are running short of this very valuable material. But one remembers the report tabled called "The Industrial Mining and Mineral Resources Report". It set out very clearly that we had an abundance of areas across this province for this type of aggregate material. And I will say something about that later on.

The main aim of the report seems to be opening up the resources to operators and limitation of powers of municipalities to restrict the use of land in their own community. In the section of the utilization of mineral resources, the factors listed as being of greatest significance of all concerned with restricted supplies of gravel depleting assets and the cost of transportation, preoccupation of—

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Point of order, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Speaker. I do not think we have a quorum in the House, sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has pointed out that a quorum is not present. I would ask the clerk to cause the bells to be rung for a period of four minutes.

Mr. Speaker: It is obvious that a quorum now is present; the hon. member may proceed.

Mr. Gisborn: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I, at least, felt my effort was important enough to say in the House, and I appreciate the hon. member recognizing the need for attention to an important subject.

To continue with my criticism of the Minister of Mines' report of the mineral resources committee.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, that the main aim of the report appears to be opening up of resources to operators and the limitations on powers of municipalities to restrict the use of land.

In the section of the report on the utilization of mineral resources, the factors listed as being of greatest significance are all those concerned with the restricted supplies of gravel, depleting assets, and costs of transportation—a preoccupation with costs for the operators:

> This sterilization of resources has led to a large increase in transportation costs.

The operator is told not to be discouraged by costs involved in rehabilitation requirements: Mr. Speaker, a few operators in the United States have reported that carefully planned, progressive rehabilitation on a working site costs virtually nothing and may even more than pay for itself by facilitating easier handling of marketable material.

On the question of rehabilitation of sites, every effort has been made to accommodate operators. Progressive rehabilitation, for example, while the site is in operation, should surely be required, but operators who find it impracticable to carry out progressive rehabilitation will not be unduly penalized, if based on the feeling of the report.

The new regulations will require a detailed site plan, describing the method of operation of the site, up to and including rehabilitation. The aggregate industry will be required to make plans for rehabilitation of the property at an early stage of operation. I ask: What is the good of the plans submitted for approval at an unspecified stage when work presumably has begun?

Security deposits are to be required as safeguards that rehabilitation procedures are carried out, but as the report says:

> It was decided to recommend that requirements for site plans and the security deposit be waived in the case of wayside pits.

The reason for this was that the

> —time lag involved in the preparation of site plans and obtaining approval of them and of rehabilitation of security deposit agreements, would seriously impede the efficiency and cost of many construction and reconstruction highway projects.

Such exemptions are provided throughout the report.

It does seem silly that it would take that much time to protect the municipality in regard to pits like this, you know, just because they cannot get the agreement drafted. Surely these people know far enough ahead that they want to go into a particular area in the municipality, or alongside the highway, to get their gravel. They know certainly long enough ahead when the contract is tendered for, that they have to have the material and this is proposed policy in the report.

In the section dealing with excavation setbacks, it is recommended that no pit or quarry excavation shall be established or extended closer that 50 feet from the road allowance of any public highway.

However, the quote states:

> Where the adjoining owners agree, the setbacks may be dispensed with on the mutual property boundary

And when we get into a situation like we have in Uxbridge, then we would have nothing but chaos and no planning at all.

What about the people who live and use the area but do not own property? There is no consideration given to them in the planning.

Rehabilitation, either progressive or final, according to the preference of the operator, seems to be regarded as a cure-all for all the evils associated with the gravel pits. How can this solve the problem of dust which gets into houses, soils clothing, discolours plants, and the attending health problems of this air pollution; the noise of blasting and heavily loaded trucks on country roads; the general eye-sores provided by operating sites?

Some operators are already dealing with the problem. According to the Toronto *Daily Star* of January 17, 1970, the owners of Nelson Crushed Stone in Burlington, on their own initiative, turned a pile of earth into a ski hill for employees, and stocked a pond in the quarry floor with trout for customers and leading citizens to catch. What about the townfolk?

Should we not be looking, Mr. Speaker, for a continued future solution to this serious problem? Should we not be looking to the possibility of bringing in aggregate by rail from northern Ontario? The report estimates that the Toronto-Hamilton-Niagara area will have a population of 5,000,000 by 1980, and that it will require 90,000,000 tons of aggregate a year to supply the needs. Fifty million tons were used in 1969 so if we are going to need almost double the amount what is it going to do to the landscape? Some Toronto builders are now bringing in stone from as far away as 110 miles, using freight which favours large shipments over long distances. Should we not look at the feasibility of this alternative?

Cost of transporting stone averages five cents per ton-mile, according to some statistics given by the Toronto *Daily Star* of August 21, 1969. On a $5 million investment there is a loss of about one per cent for every mile away from market. Do we have any figures which would make allowance for total costs of continual road repairs, rehabilitation, and all of these costs? We have never dealt with that yet; we even have to consider the $1.25 million that Uxbridge township had to spend to build a bypass around the gravel pits because the roads were torn up so badly while monopolized by these trucks.

I think we have to come down somewhere in our policy, Mr. Speaker, in regard to the need for the building material and conservation. We have to add up the cost of the two serious problems and if we are going to have to increase the cost of obtaining this kind of material, the necessary kind for our economic growth, we have to consider whether we will let the other values go to pot. And I say we cannot afford to do that.

Maybe if we work the thing out with a reasonable approach we can come down somewhere in the middle.

I mentioned the Gertler report regarding the Niagara escarpment. All interested persons agree that as a scenic landmark, as a reserve of natural parkland, as a recreation asset, and as a vital water storage reservoir, it is being seriously damaged and defaced by rapidly increasing urban sprawl and industrial development along its length.

The Gertler report, as much of it as I have been able to read, is a good report, and of course the comments by those concerned with conservation and land uses have said the same, but I have some feeling, Mr. Speaker, that the powerful lobby of the aggregate producers, the sand and gravel industries, are holding this report up. It seems to me that the speed with which the Minister of Mines moved in developing the report on mineral resources in Ontario had something to do with the Gertler report and I will try to explain why.

The planning we need in Ontario, we must have if we are going to have good parklands in the future. Can we place any cost on the serious indictment placed on us, the legislators of today, by the generations of the future?

Now, I mentioned the select committee on conservation's report that was brought in in 1966 and the lengthy recommendations made by all interested regarding the operations of quarry and gravel pits.

The Gertler report I have also mentioned, and it goes to some length in regard to gravel pits and quarry operations. It would be worth while to point out the difference in the approach, the tighter controls, the necessary controls, pointed out by the Gertler report

which makes me believe that there was some attempt to preempt this report by the decisions arrived at by the mineral resources committee report to the Minister of Mines. I want to quote from this report and it is on page 90:

Special Provisions:

1. New openings in, or breaches of, the face of the escarpment are not permitted.

Absolutely contrary to the mines report.

2. New openings within one mile on both sides of the escarpment face or a line established to indicate its approximate position when it is buried by glacial debris, are not permitted.

Contrary to the mines committee report and the wishes of the aggregate industry.

3. New openings in the Milton and Georgetown outlyers are specifically not permitted.

4. Operations active at the time of passage of this enactment are in future to leave an unmined strip of 100 yards wide between the face of the escarpment or a line established to indicate its approximate position when it is buried by glacial debris, and the excavation to be made.

A complete contradiction of the looseness, the overall exploitive position of the report of the Minister of Mines.

5. Operations active at the time of passage of this enactment are permitted to extend their excavations to the limit of the mineral buried property, to which they hold title when the enactment comes into effect and which mining is taking place at that time.

The government should move in now on that situation to see that the tightness of these controls are applied across the province.

I want to quote further from the Gertler report on page 91:

Performance Standards
Site development plans

(a) Any new operations commencing in the outer zones of the study area shall be required to file a site-development plan. Extraction shall begin only after acceptance of the development plan by the appropriate authority(ies)

And they certainly do not mean the department of the Minister of Mines, but rather the municipality, unless there is in effect an agreed-upon land use plan going through the proper channels of The Department of Municipal Affairs.

(b) After due notice, a similar site development plan shall be required of operations active at the time of passage of this enactment.

(c) The purposes of site development plans shall be to detail the manner in which the performance standards prescribed below will be implemented and to show the use(s) intended for the site during and after extraction.

You see, they talk about restoration while the pit is in operation, they talk about its operations and much tighter controls, a greater degree of restriction, a mile each way from the escarpment—four miles, rather—two miles each way from the approximate centre line, four miles completely protected.

They talk about the operations while they are operating and they talk about the plan to decide the eventual use, which is highly important, whether it be converted to recreational use, to residential use, industrial use or conservation. And all of these projections would demand different planning.

(d) To ensure the undertaking and completion of site development programmes an operator shall be required to post a performance bond or to remit a similar amount to an industry controlled site development fund if such exists, the amount of the bond or remittance to be set from time to time and based on tonnages of material extracted. Any operator fulfilling the requirements of his development programme can be exempt from this provision.

These are much tighter controls than mentioned in the mines report.

Under safety:

Every extraction site shall be suitably fenced (suitable fencing will have to be defined).

Extraction sites shall be posted with signs warning of possible dangers. Size of sign, spacing of signs and possible wordings will have to be defined.

Entrances to extraction sites shall be provided with suitable gates which shall be locked when the operation is dormant.

I might refer to the safety angle with this sad comment that we lost a young chap eight years old in Dundas last week. He was able to get into the gravel yards and climb a gravel pile which collapsed and he was buried and suffocated.

Entrances shall be located so that they are clearly visible for about 500 feet to

traffic on the roadway on which they are located.

Nearby residents shall be informed of times when blasting is to occur, if blasting is necessary in the extractive process.

Passing traffic shall be warned by posted signs showing times when blasting may occur, if blasting is necessary in the extractive process.

Under miscellaneous:

The intent here is to permit or exclude such uses as locating asphalt plants, ready-mix plants or other secondary processing facilities on site, and to permit or exclude the disposal of waste material not resulting from the extraction operation.

No mention of those serious implications in the Minister of Mines report. And it goes on to talk about the necessary cost of roads damaged by the operation.

So that is why I came to the conclusion that there was a bit of deviousness in the speed in which the report was developed and presented.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the hearings will take place, that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has now announced. He stated last week he will be meeting with all of the communities concerned.

I understand now there are some 60 municipalities which have indicated their concern and their desire to be part of the development of a suitable provincial and municipal plan for the operation of aggregate quarries.

But I would think that if the minister is going to visit them all and get their thoughts, he is going to have quite a job on his hands in the next few months.

Nevertheless, I think we have to consider the impact of the need for this material on the economics of the province, but we may have to decide whether the emphasis falls on behalf of the economic growth of the "golden horseshoe", on behalf of the possible finding of these materials for the quarry operators and the construction industry, or conservation and well developed plans for the environment of the people of the province.

There has been mention that possibly there could be composite use of quarries where several operators get together on a site well developed. They could take cognizance of all the regulations and necessary protection in the Gertler report, develop a distribution centre for stockpiling and send out the materials across this province by railway into the local areas where it would be stockpiled there for the use of the construction industry and highway building.

We may even have to go further because through the hearings brought about by the report as the Minister of Mines has promised in co-operation with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, if they cannot come to suitable arrangements whereby they leave the control in the hands of the municipalities by certain impositions of the need for overall master planning and zoning, the government will have to recognize the seriousness of the situation and maybe provide the initiative to supply this important material to the province.

I suggest we go back to the north where there is this type of material in abundance, where it would be developed and stockpiled and then sent to the various areas of the province for the economic growth, rather than the haphazard pock-marked disruption of the areas of the province that are considered economically by the one group, the quarry operators.

I hope that my contribution has not fallen on too many deaf ears and that those in the cabinet who have been in attendance will relate my concerns and my opinions in regards to the minister's report and that we give more consideration to the overall conditions laid down by the Gertler report and not let anything so slipshod as the conditions laid down in the mineral resources committee report interfere, retard or hold up the implementation of the Gertler report.

Mr. Speaker: According to my list the hon. member for Fort William has the floor.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Mr. Speaker, this is the third time since being elected to this Legislature that I have had the pleasure and privilege of taking part in the throne debate. Before becoming involved in what I have to say, I would like to congratulate you, sir, on your judgment and impartiality and ability to stand up for three years under the constant strain of such a difficult and trying position.

I would like also to compliment the member for Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman) who did such a fine job of seconding the Speech from the Throne and the member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith) who moved acceptance of the throne speech. It was my privilege, Mr. Speaker, to move acceptance to the throne speech during the second session of the 28th Legislature, and I intend to make reference to some of the statements and suggestions that were made at that time.

I have expressed my thanks to His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, for the amount of interest and concern that was given to our great part of northern Ontario. Needless to say, I was most pleased to learn of the creation of the department of northern affairs. I was pleased too, that this government had the wisdom to contain this function within another department. We could have easily done what the federal government has chosen to do and raised the taxpayers' money by setting up another separate department and creating another extravagance that the people in this province or country could not afford.

The choice of the minister was an excellent one. The Minister of Mines (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence), and his department, were the obvious and logical choices, Mr. Speaker. He is our champion of the north. He also has made more trips to northern Ontario in the past year than the oft-missing free member for Port Arthur (Mr. Knight) has made to his riding since his election. The member bolted the ranks of Liberal Party because he failed to understand it.

It has been a long time, Mr. Speaker, since the blundering Liberal Hepburn government did an injustice to our northern people by wiping out, on April 1, 1931, what was then known as the northern development department.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): It was in 1931, I remember it well.

Mr. Jessiman: At his age the member should.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, I remember it well.

Mr. Jessiman: I guess even in those times the party was too riddled with too little foresight to see the possibilities of the riches of the north. This government, however, intends to right that and already has proven this. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the federal government has not shown even the slightest evidence that it shares the same enthusiastic interest in the future development in our great north. As a matter of fact, just a quick review of a few facts and figures shows that the federal authorities are persistently doing as little as possible for our northern Ontario people.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Who built the airport at Fort William?

Mr. Jessiman So far they have made no effort to provide any assistance for the development of the major segments of the economy in northern Ontario.

Certainly Ottawa has the programme under which there is available assistance, but this is only for the secondary and manufacturing industries and these, Mr. Speaker, only represent a very minute portion of our northern economy. The bulk of it is in the primary resource industries of mining and forestry, which the federal government has absolutely ignored. On the other hand, this government is doing everything possible to maintain and improve, for example, the transportation system in the north.

In recognition of the north Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme), has realigned the boundaries of responsibility in his department and also the lines of communication in his department and has divided the province into six sections. This has been accomplished in the last year and now we have cut through the red tape and have a direct line from the regional director of highways who has been appointed for northern Ontario.

He is directly responsible for decisions in the north. His first function was the appointment of Mr. Larry Forster as resident director for the district from the Manitoba boundary to Cochrane, the first new district to be created in the province. We are pleased too, that northern Ontario is honoured with having the first such district, and I might mention, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Highways is no stranger to northern Ontario. He has visited our area many times as have most of our ministers.

It would be unjust, Mr. Speaker, if I led this House to believe that we have absolutely no problems in the north. On occasion, legislation changes seriously affect our northern people and those of the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier). I find it necessary to forcibly bring it to the attention of our ministry, and sometimes to no avail, as of the case recently with overloaded wood transport trucks, where a single truck with a single load was charged with being overloaded and the owner was ordered to pay a fine of over $2,200. This must be a record, a record that I am not proud of. Not merely because the trucker, Mr. Speaker, was from my riding, but because I believe the fine to be unjust. Yet the same Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) is helping open up the north with all the vigour of a northerner in his highways-in-the-sky programme. He is making right all the wrongs foisted upon my people by the federal government which appears to be bent on wiping out our lines of communication in the north.

Now, as the hon. members are aware, both the CNR and CPR have applied to the Canadian Transport Commission for permission to discontinue all passenger services in Ontario. They have taken this drastic step in order to obtain federal subsidies which would allow them to retain at least some of their passenger trains in areas that depend on this service. Northern Ontario definitely falls into this category and that is why I am very pleased that this government has taken a firm stand against any move to discontinue passenger train service in areas where it is meaningful.

Mr. Speaker, Ottawa's meagre regional development incentives program has managed to add insult to injury in the area of the creation of new jobs. Although the need is as great in northern Ontario as in the other three regions defined by the program, the federal government apparently has not seen fit to give it an equal treatment.

While 6,400 jobs have been created in Quebec, 10,500 in the Atlantic area and 3,400 west of Ontario, only 1,800—1,800 of a total 22,000—have been created in northern Ontario, which is just as big and needful as any other area. This is a real slap in the face for an area and people which instead deserve a helping hand in their efforts to continue their economic growth.

Moreover, these are not the only areas in which Ottawa has taken a highly questionable stand. It has already withdrawn from four airport facilities in our northland, Graham, Pagua, Porquis, and Armstrong. In addition, it has indicated it also wants to pull out of Kenora, Vermillion Bay and Bonashare and leave these municipalities with the entire responsibility of running their airports. Mr. Speaker, this is a highly punitive action because in many cases Ottawa will be saddling municipalities which need airports with costs which are beyond their means.

The closing of these remote northern airports has deprived our northern Indian population of badly needed communication facilities and other essentials. In some cases, houses were abandoned, which was the situation when the Armstrong airport was shut down. Then, too, many jobs were wiped out, cutting off the Indian people without means of support.

The federal government is also hurting northern Ontario with the punitive toll charges it has imposed throughout the St. Lawrence Seaway system. As of next year lockage fees and the charge per transit will have increased five-fold since 1967—a 500 per cent increase since 1967.

If the tolls are raised again next year, I am afraid that the cost of wheat shipments from our area will spiral. This will not only further reduce the competitive advantage of Canadian export grain, but will also work to the disadvantage of the Thunder Bay region. I strongly urge Ottawa to look before it leaps into another foolish action that would strike at the economic well-being of our northland.

I was pleased, Mr. Speaker, when the leader of the NDP brought to the attention of the House the closing of the Dunlop plant, which is in the riding of the deputy NDP leader. Although his interest is rather parochial, his concern is genuine.

Ironically though, neither of these hon. members, nor the leader of the Liberal Party, registered any opposition to the federal government's announcement of intentions to raise the tolls on the St. Lawrence waterway. And this, Mr. Speaker, will affect employment throughout the whole of Ontario.

The alertness of the Ontario Economic Council's challenge of this raise in the toll rates should have been supported by both the NDP and the official opposition.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Whose fault was that?

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Speaker, would the speaker from Fort William permit a question?

Mr. Speaker: Would the member from Fort William permit a question?

Mr. Jessiman: At the end of the speech, sure.

Mr. Speaker: At the end of the speech.

Mr. Jessiman: I am against this hike in toll rates, not only because it affects every commodity that is shipped by water and will contribute severely to our cost of living, but in particular because it will increase the cost of shipping iron ore. This will endanger many hundreds of jobs in northern Ontario, as well as our timber industry.

There is yet another federal government undertaking which will have an adverse effect on our people. Coupled with the increase in the freight rates on grains is also the $100 million "give-away" programme that the federal government has embarked upon to subsidize the western farmer for not growing grain.

Mr. Speaker, what happens to the elevator employees at Thunder Bay, where we store over 117 million bushels of grain, when the

farmer is paid not to grow grain? What happens to the railroad employee when the grain does not need shipping? My friend from Thunder Bay riding (Mr. Stokes) is a railroad man and I am sure he must be concerned. What happens to the boat crews and the employees of the farm implement manufacturing companies in Ontario?

Perhaps, sir, the same thing will happen as happened with the infamous crude oil pipeline which the federal government permitted to run into the United States. As a result, all the refineries were built in Minnesota instead of Ontario. That is what happened there and the equivalent of this is going to happen here.

Mr. Haggerty: The member wants the pollution here. We have got enough of it now.

Mr. Jessiman: I would like to point out once again, sir, the silence on these very important issues from the members opposite. The people on this side of the House, however, are not afraid to state where they stand. Perhaps that is why—because of the persistent successes that we have racked up over the years.

Let us look at a very important issue of the north which Ottawa, as usual, has failed to recognize. And the area is transportation, which plays a very important role in the development of our northland. As a result, we have established, as I mentioned previously, a highly successful "Highways in the Sky" programme. Under this programme the province works under a cost-share agreement with northern communities that want to build airstrips.

In the past two years this government has given financial assistance towards the development or construction of a dozen airstrips in our northland. They are located at Big Trout Lake, Cochrane, Dryden, Elliot Lake, Fort Frances, Manitouwadge, Minaki, Moosonee, Nestor Falls, Pickle Lake and Sandy lake. Many more are in various stages of investigation and planning.

Mr. Haggerty: What they need is a northern minister.

Mr. Jessiman: These airstrips are of utmost importance. They have provided an accessibility which was not possible under other transportation systems and this accessibility has both stimulated and improved the economic activity in the northland.

And, sir, we in the north are grateful to the aircraft, which was so essential in the opening up of our northland. But we also realize that this progress has been somewhat dampened by the too-frequent crashes of light planes and it is about this problem that I want to speak now.

Private, single- or twin-engined light aircraft are more and more the magic carpet for business and pleasure trips to our northland and, by bringing in more and more people each year, they have also helped develop this area. As a matter of fact, Ontario leads Canada in the number of privately-owned aircraft, with 1,680 out of a total of 6,439.

Unfortunately, the number of fatalities in private plane accidents is increasing at an alarming rate. In 1968, the latest year for which statistics are available, there were 484 aircraft accidents in Canada, of which 129 were fatal. This compares most unfavourably to the 266 accidents just four years earlier in which 45 persons were killed.

These statistics strike me very close to home, as I am sure they do those others who have lost close friends in private plane crashes. A year ago last Christmas Eve, four residents of Thunder Bay disappeared in their plane in the north country and have not been found to this day.

Other cases are just as tragic. Last August a Mississauga family of three disappeared in a severe thunderstorm *en route* from Sault Ste. Marie to the Lakehead. The father and pilot was reported in the papers to have been a careful flier who had held his pilot's licence for many years. The search for the plane was halted after several weeks and is still missing.

Probably one of the most publicized private plane crashes was that of a light plane two years ago in the snow-smothered mountains of northern California. The occupants of the plane survived the crash, but died during the long cruel period in which they waited, without success, to be found and rescued.

A deer hunter found the bodies of the two women passengers eight weeks after the crash, as well as the diary they kept, despite being injured, freezing and hungry. The diary never mentioned food and told of drinking melted snow. The pilot and head of this family apparently died as he walked through the snow to try to find help.

In the diary, the two women continually questioned the failure of the search and rescue team to find them. Let me read just one of their ironic comments: "With a flight plan, airports, and air bases all around us, how come we did not see any planes?"

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): When is the member coming in for a landing?

Mr. Jessiman: Glad to see you back!

But perhaps one of the most appalling cases was the crash of a light plane two years ago in full view of a heavily traveled highway. It took six days to find that plane. The passenger survived the crash but, because he did not receive quick medical attention, he died shortly after the plane was discovered.

All of these cases point to the urgent need to increase the speed and efficiency of search and rescue operations, and most importantly, to improve the chances of survival of the aircraft's occupants. A recent study by the Federal Aviation Administration showed that, if there are survivors, the recovery rate is 75 per cent within 24 hours after a plane crash, while it decreases sharply afterwards. In those cases where there are no survivors, rapid location of the wrecked plane would allow a better investigation of the crash.

Furthermore, most small private planes maintain less frequent radio contact with ground communications—often due to their location—than commercial, military and our Department of Lands and Forests aircraft. Thus, their distance between ground contact centres consequently widens the search area if they crash.

In these days of electronic technology, it is absolutely ridiculous that a team of up to 50 planes often has to be deployed for a search, and that this massive search often does not find the downed plane or only finds it after it is too late to do any good. I believe we should take the "search" out of search and rescue operations, to make them simply "rescue" operations.

The downed aircraft locator device, a homing-in signal which would start immediately after a crash, is the solution to these problems. It serves the dual important purposes of cutting down on both the time and cost of a search. It takes the guesswork out of searches. Of secondary consideration and significance, but also of great importance, are such other factors as the very high cost of long-drawn-out operations and the risk to which search teams are exposed during such operations.

I have been told by Captain Sid Clements, who is in charge of the search and rescue operations at Trenton, one of the four operations in Canada, that the price of a search can and does cost the Canadian taxpayer thousands of dollars a day.

Downed aircraft locator devices already are part of the equipment on commercial and military aircraft. They are extremely versatile in that they can be either portable, fixed in the tail of the plane, or ejectable at the moment of impact.

They are also compact, light and easy to operate. They transmit to the altitude to which commercial airlines fly and have a radius of up to 200 miles in every direction. They operate on the two international distress frequencies of 121.5 and 243 megacycles, with which all pilots are familiar, and can be turned on manually by the pilot, in a near-normal landing, or triggered automatically as soon as the plane goes into a crash-dive.

No routine maintenance is required apart from the periodic battery replacement. Most are triggered at minus 3 to 3.5g, or three times, or possibly seven times, the weight of gravity. They range in price from a few hundred dollars up to $1,000, including installation, depending on whether the device is portable, fixed or ejectible.

Mr. Sargent: It should be mandatory.

Mr. Jessiman: Thank you for the support.

Our neighbours below the border have already advanced considerably in this respect. Two states in which many fatal crashes have been reported over the years, have just enacted legislation making downed aircraft devices mandatory on all aircraft. In California, the law became effective last November, while in Washington, the regulations came into effect on January the first of this year.

The United States forest service is expected to install these signals, while the air taxi association will likely make them mandatory on small charter aircraft in the very near future. In addition, the Federal Aviation Administration is now considering establishing regulations which would require a crash locator beacon on aircraft that fly over large bodies of water, mountainous terrain, or remote and sparsely populated areas similar to our northern Ontario.

In Canada, as you know, the federal government has control over aviation matters. However, the present regulations covering the type of communication equipment a plane should carry leave a great deal to be desired. While they call for a two-way radio and portable emergency transmitter, they do not spell out the condition in which the equipment should be. For example, they do not say that the radio should be serviceable, nor do they say that the transmitter should be serviceable,

that it should be capable of manual or automatic operation, have a wide transmitting radius, or that it operate specifically on the two international distress frequencies.

I understand that Ottawa is now considering—

Mr. Sargent: Point of order, Mr. Speaker, point of order. I would like to ask Mr. Speaker if the—

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): That is not a point of order.

Mr. Sargent: Is it not 271 in the rules of the House that there should always be a minister in the front row?

Mr. Jessiman: Keep your hat on; and your pants!

I understand that Ottawa is now considering a long overdue amendment to its air navigation orders which would correct this situation. It would close all the present gaps by spelling out the specifications for the radio and transmitter in precise detail, as does the present order.

It would apply to all aircraft flying in sparcely settled areas. In Ontario this would cover the area 25 miles north of the Canadian National Railways' northern line, but actually should commence at the international border of northwestern Ontario, because here is where the danger lies.

Mr. Speaker, I spoke today, not only as a member of the Thunder Bay Flying Club, but, most importantly, as one who is concerned about the flying safety of everyone in this province, including the hon. member for Grey-Bruce. That is why I strongly urge this government to use its influence to seek the needed implementation—

Mr. Sargent: Point of order!

Mr. Jessiman: —of that amendment by Ottawa, so that this costly loss of life in our skies could be stopped.

Should we not think more of installing these homing devices on all small aircraft than on wolves in Algonquin Park—to study their love life—or bullmoose in Kenora district—to find out how they wander for food? I admit, Mr. Speaker, that it disturbs me somewhat that our Department of Lands and Forests is actually doing this, when we could be performing a much more essential service with the available moneys.

Let me quote to you in part an article in volume 23, No. 6 of the Lands and Forests *Newsletter*, dated February, 1970:

Mr. Sargent: The Minister is in his seat here, the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle).

Mr. Jessiman: Good timing.

> Six Kenora district moose have worn collars around their necks since last August. The portable radio transmitter was placed there by The Department of Lands and Forest biologists, who have been able to monitor the movement of the bugged animals, locating and identifying them, even though they were not actually seen.

The article goes on to state that, however:

> —because of the extreme cold, signals from the transmitters became quite weak and only one was coming in strong. The whole purpose of the exercise was so that biologists could study differences and similarities in behaviour—

And even the writers of the article seemed to have some doubt about this because right after the phrase "throw some light on the differences and similarities in behaviour", they also put in brackets the phrase "if any."

Last year the same department had four transmitters placed on four timberwolves in northeastern Ontario. However, now that the programme has been completed, the transmitters have been removed from the animals.

My point is, Mr. Speaker, that surely the government would have performed a much more needed service by using the moneys being spent for this sort of thing to encourage owners of small aircraft to install locator devices. This would serve to save the lives of people and drastically reduce the cost now being paid by the taxpayers for searches.

I would like to conclude my remarks, Mr. Speaker, by suggesting to The Department of Lands and Forests a twofold method of preserving one of our most beautiful provincial parks—one very dear to my heart and one I visit, Quetico—before it is destroyed by people more interested in profits than beauty.

To prevent the further destruction of this magnificent Quetico forest, this government should take back the timber cutting rights of the only firm now conducting such operations —Jim Mathieu Lumber Limited, which is controlled by Domtar. This would make it impossible for the firm to renew its license in 1972 when it expires and would insure the safety of the park's forest areas.

This government can preserve Quetico by instituting a programme of buying back—and this was mentioned in the House today—the 37 patented mining claims on the parkland,

because even though no mining operations are now being conducted, it does not mean that they could not be started. In order to preserve what is a major tourist attraction to people living in Ontario, and near the Manitoba and American border, I believe this government should act now in the direction I have suggested, for, as we all know, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Mr. Speaker, as O'Monte for the Irishmen from Dovercourt rising to speak on the throne debate, I would like to make a few comments on the remarks of the member for Fort William (Mr. Jessiman). I would like to point out, Mr. Speaker, that his remarks took no cognizance of the vital provincial problems that exist in this province today. It is also very interesting to note that any time somebody opposite speaks, he seems to avoid these problems. They will not face up to them.

Mr. Speaker, they give lip service to the Dunlop affair and then go on and talk about aircraft. It is very laudable to talk about aircraft, but there are 600 men out in the east end today, Mr. Speaker, who do not know where their next dollar is going to come from—men with 30 to 40 years' experience at Dunlop and 30 to 40 years' tenure there. They are going to throw these men out on the street, Mr. Speaker, and the member for Fort William gives it a line in his speech. Perhaps if the members opposite took more interest in the human aspects of the government and the people of Ontario, we would get something done in this province.

I would just like to cite another incident, Mr. Speaker, where the government has really lost its human touch, if it ever had any. I would like to mention, Mr. Speaker, the affair of the Ontario Jockey Club and the parimutuel employees' association. The Jockey Club, in my opinion, is breaking the law and the government is doing nothing about it. It is importing strikebreakers into this province from all over Canada, and the government is doing nothing about it, Mr. Speaker. Do you know one thing, Mr. Speaker, the Ontario Jockey Club employees are asking no more, as a matter of fact, they are asking less than the parimutuel employees in Windsor, and the Jockey Club has turned them down flat and has imported strikebreakers.

That is what the member from Fort William should have been speaking about, Mr. Speaker. That is one of the crucial issues today. These are the crucial issues today, Mr. Speaker.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. G. W. Innes (Oxford): There is the racing commisisoner right over there.

Mr. De Monte: We just have to look and see what the government has just given to the Ontario Jockey Club. The government gave them $1 million more for the development of race horses, we understand.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): More than $1 million.

Mr. De Monte: Is it more than $1 million?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): One point eight.

Mr. De Monte: And they have given them another half per cent of the take which is another $1 million. And what do they give their employees? They lock them out. They do not even want to sit down and negotiate with them anymore. They bring in strikebreakers but, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Sopha: What is the member for Carleton (Mr. W. E. Johnston) doing about that?

Mr. De Monte: They will not do anything about that.

My main remarks today, Mr. Speaker, should be headed "The Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) must put his house in order." It is a very appropriate sentiment today. When we look around the area of his jurisdiction which is his special responsibility, we see that things are by no means what they should be. Certainly this has been brought into focus by the Dunlop situation.

Now if we were to look at the situation in the world today and the situation in Japan, we would find that Japan has surpassed Great Britain, Germany and France, some time ago, as the world's producer of gross national product. It is third in the world for the production of gross national product.

It is only challenging, right now, the USSR and the United States but if we were to look at *Business Week* of this week, it is not the labour costs which are under-cutting the Canadian worker in Japan, since his Japanese fellow worker is now earning very close to the Canadian wage scale. The days of cheap Oriental labour are over and the gains that are now being made in Japan are due to better management and better capitalization of new machinery by the huge government guided banks.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): And they are not government controlled either.

Mr. De Monte: That is correct. The Japanese government actually tells industry what to do in order to get development loans.

Now two lessons emerge from this experience.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Careful now; careful over there!

Mr. De Monte: The first, is that we cannot use the argument that labour is non-competitive when we should say that management is non-competitive. I think what has happened at Dunlop is an object lesson in this simple truth.

The second hard lesson is that when the Premier says that he will not interfere with industry, he is going back to the *laissez faire,* free enterprise system that was appropriate 100 years ago, but which has no relevance in today's conditions.

The prairie farmer cried: "Sell our wheat"; and actually calls upon the government to play a part in selling that wheat. At the provincial level, the equalization of industrial opportunity programme is government guidance while some would say that it is government misguidance as long as the Tories are over there.

But when it suits his purpose, Mr. Speaker, the Premier (Mr. Robarts) says hands off and let industry shut the shop without first calling for a most thorough, independent review of its management techniques.

I would like to know at this stage of the game, and for the public record, just how Dunlop has benefitted over the years through government help of one kind or another. Such an impartial documentation of the facts would show more clearly than ever that this so-called free enterprise has accumulated a great many social debts that it ought to be called upon to repay by revamping its management to secure better results in the interests of maintaining Canadians in employment.

Let us look at the cartel that famous Dunlop of England has set up in the world. Because of some of their limited resources apportioned for research, Mr. Speaker, we have met with only modest success in attempting to let Dunlop Toronto closure with the award of work to Nippon Dunlop Gomu KK, a subsidiary of the United Kingdom Dunlop operation.

Has Mitsubishi, who has been awarded the conveyor belt contract by Hydro, sublet all, or part of the contract to Nippon Dunlop? But it is also interesting to note that Dunlop has two subsidiaries in Japan. The other one is at Sime Tomo Rubber Industries Limited. I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, that when Mr. Mitsubishi gets the contract, that the contract is not going to be sublet to the Dunlop interest in Japan.

Because if it is a fact, then I call for an investigation to find why. If so, Dunlop would not seem to a very good citizen in this country, and an independent enquiry would reveal the extent to which Dunlop has reneged upon its good citizenship obligations and taken more than it has given.

Perhaps if we look to the south—turn our critical eyes always to the south—we forget that British international firms, like Dunlop and Marconi, also have Canadian citizenship obligations to fulfil. We must not let them get away with things we would not tolerate from American Motors, Ford, Chrysler or GM. They are all citizens of this country and perhaps it is about time we made them citizens of this country by insisting that 50 per cent or more of their corporations be owned by Canadians.

These decisions that are made out of the country, Mr. Speaker, and that affect Canadian workers, have to stop. Look at the board of directors of Dunlop. Just take a look at them. There are two Canadians on it. Certainly the man says the decision was made in Canada, if it was. But who made it?

We have a legitimate criticism to level against Ontario Hydro. I would fully like to analyze that more when we debate the estimates of The Department of Energy and Resources Managament. But for the record I would like to read the complete, short statement as issued to the press by Mr. George Gathercole, Ontario Hydro chairman. I think he released it today, Mr. Speaker. He is the man who sent the contract somewhere else. And you know what? He says he saved the government, or the Ontario Hydro, $73,000, or 26 per cent.

Big deal! How much is it going to cost the government opposite to reclaim those workers? How much, Mr. Speaker? One million dollars? Ten million dollars? It is not going to cost $73,000. It is probably going to end up in the coffers of Dunlop in any event, because I am still not satisfied that they are not

doing the work in Japan. Let us just see what our friend Mr. Gathercole said:

> It is completely untrue that the award of the conveyor belt contract to Mitsubishi International Corporation has anything to do with the closing of the Dunlop plant; that the decision had been made earlier. Did he know the plant was closing down?
>
> Well before the contract was awarded, Ontario Hydro's policy was to buy Canadian when prices and quality are equal but the difference in this between Mitsubishi International Corporation and Dunlop was quite significant—$73 thousand or 26 per cent.

Perhaps we might put a little footnote in there. I wonder how much it is going to cost the Ontario government and the federal government to straighten out the mess created.

The penalty costs of cancelling the Mitsubishi International Corporation contract would probably have to be determined by litigation. Well, it seems then that when it suits Ontario Hydro to put people out of work it will do so. But, if we are to believe that Hydro was totally innocent of putting people out of work; that as the chairman says, and I quote:

> —the decision had been made earlier, well before the contract was awarded.

Then the Minister of Labour is misleading the House when he implies that there was insufficient time to make the necessary transitional and retraining arrangements for the workers involved.

If George Gathercole knew, why did the Minister of Labour not know? Or if the Minister of Labour knew, why did he do nothing about it until after the meeting with management? These are questions, Mr. Speaker, which should be answered.

Since Hydro's telex award, and I understand they type an acceptance of the contract in telex, just like sending a letter, to Mitsubishi, preceded the conference of the minister with Dunlop officials by some days, and since the chairman of the Hydro says that the award was made well after the Dunlop decision to close down was made, either somebody is being less than frank, or there has been incompetence on a grand scale by The Department of Labour. I am rather inclined to think that the latter is the case; that at any rate, people on the minister's field staff knew many weeks before the minister bestirred himself to look into the situation. And why should he, given the *laissez faire* directive from no less a person than the Premier himself? It is Medicare and the private insurance companies all over again; the people of Ontario, a poor second to the vested interests and privilege in this government's eyes.

Workers will have to note, Mr. Speaker, with despair but not with surprise, that a similar reaction on the part of the Premier and his cabinet is now evident in regard to the social justice proposals embodied by the Benson white paper. You know, every so often the thin veneer of social responsibility with which the Tories cloak themselves, Mr. Speaker, is torn and underneath we see the true nature of the Conservative Party. Well, I will say this: we do not want a Bahamas situation in Ontario, nor the free-wheeling atmosphere of Rio or Mexico City. We can tolerate a little less exuberance in the economy if the benefits are more fairly shared. We are already producing more than enough for all. What is making for social unrest is the obvious discrepancy between the haves and the have-nots in this affluent society, and it is a real concern to create a just society in Canada that has prompted Mr. Benson to take the bold moves that he has to redress some of the more obvious anomalies.

When men who have served Dunlop for 30 years can be thrown out of work on short notice, then we see how far we are from a just society in Tory Ontario. Workmen, Mr. Speaker, are still chattels to this government and their humanity is denied them.

Mr. Sopha: They have got to go.

Mr. De Monte: But this is the whole point, you know. I want to get to the main thesis of my delivery today, Mr. Speaker. It is against a background of this type of attitude that I want to turn to workmen's compensation. I do not intend to go over ground that I have traversed before except where re-emphasis is necessary because the government has ignored my previous warnings. We have seen in the past days how, in its dealings with employers, yes, even in its dealings with delinquent employers, the government displays a very different attitude to that which it shows to workers.

I do not condone the action of Mr. Al Baldwin in disrupting the Speech from the Throne, but I know how he was driven to this exhibition by his desperation. I cannot agree with this method of making his case known, but I can certainly understand his motivation. The present workmen's compensation situation is something out of "Alice in Wonderland," something that has to be experienced to be believed. Today, plumbers, pipe fitters, electricians and construction workers of various trades are used to carry-

ing home pay cheques something like $12,000 a year before taxes, or more. Much of this apparent gain in earnings is a reaction to, rather than the prime cause of the inflationary spiral which profit taking has set into motion.

Let me say this, at the outset, that a skilled workman who is taking home $12,000 or $13,000 a year before taxes has earned that money and deserves every penny of it. He has been misrepresented as being the cause of inflation, but a simple sum would show that he is still not getting his share of the goods and services that form the gross provincial product.

Management is fond of saying, Mr. Speaker, labour costs are high, labour costs are high. The very phrase denies the humanity of the worker. Why are we striving, if not to make a better world for all, rather than just for a few. That is what we are striving for. That is what we are striving for, Mr. Speaker.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: All the good concepts do not sit on that little spot. You only think you have them.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Come on over here!

Mr. De Monte: You are in, boys. You can join us any time.

Mr. Pilkey: No, no. Come on over here.

Mr. De Monte: You might even get a seat in the front row.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: Now, let me say this, Mr. Speaker, we are appalled, Mr. Speaker, by the plight—

Mr. Pilkey: They are giving the member a very light hand.

Mr. De Monte: —of the pensioners and others on fixed incomes, but surely the share of these people who have made Ontario and Canada what it is today should be raised to a fair level rather than government and management using their poverty as an argument for depressing the standards of the working man.

I am therefore going to start my workmen's compensation argument with the clear assertion that in the absence of a price and income formula that would apply equally to all, a man is worth what his services will win in the open market. What is fair for management is fair for the worker, and if he has to fight for it, let him fight for it but what he gets is his. It follows that there should be no limit on earnings in the workmen's compensation formula. Only in the situation where all profits are rigidly controlled could equity sustain the argument that there should be some theoretical yet rigid limit of what is proper for a worker to earn. Even then, the maximum would have to be continually adjusted as people's standard of living advanced, but in the present circumstances, there is absolutely no justification for the maximum on the compensionable amount a man may be paid.

As members will know—

Mr. Gisborn: Everybody said that a year ago.

Mr. De Monte: Yes, but you failed to say it.

Mr. Gisborn: What is the member talking about?

An hon. member: Pull up your socks.

Mr. De Monte: As members will know—of course, you know, when you come out with some concepts, Mr. Speaker, that they think are theirs—they have been taking claim for all kinds of concepts. They have not changed their rigid social position since the days of Karl Marx, Webb and all the socialistic thinkers of the nineteenth century. I am not attacking the fact that they are socialists but because they are too rigid up here.

I am merely saying, Mr. Speaker, perhaps if their position to my left were a little less rigid, perhaps we could understand them.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Speaker, as everybody in this Legislature knows, the maximum is set ridiculously low today by any standards. Seventy-five per cent of $7,000, or $5,250 for total disablement, is ludicrous. It is nothing short of monstrous. A man can be crippled at work and crippled financially for life into the bargain. He can be making $10,000 a year but the arbitrary limit that we put on workmen's compensation would preclude him firstly from obtaining what he is earning at the time he is hurt, and secondly preclude him from gaining any advantage that he would normally have gained if he had not been hurt by way of a raise in wages.

What we are doing if a man is permanently hurt is crippling his ability to earn income. In any civil action, there is no doubt that the courts would assess a man's damage according to his income and what his future earnings would be. I am not suggesting that

workmen's compensation should ever be considered in the courts of law but I am merely using it as an illustration.

The workmen, in a system as it exists today in workmen's compensation in Ontario, is confronted with something out of the dark ages. It is almost feudal. It has not kept pace with the advance in social justice at all. It seeks to place the onus on the workman to prove his case and places every possible difficulty in the way of his doing so.

It was not always like that. In many ways, Mr. Chief Justice Meredith was more enlightened than the people who administer workmen's compensation today, even though the climate in which he conducted his enquiry was very different from what we fondly think of as this enlightened age. What we have done is not to progress, but we have slipped back, and introduced concepts into Ontario workmen's compensation that have turned into an adversary system. Whether the workmen's compensation board wants to admit it or not, it is a strict adversary system —the anathema of other jurisdictions that have examined it throughout Canada and throughout the world.

The government of British Columbia initiated a study, and the judge—I forget his name; I think he was a judge of the Supreme Court—came here to look at our adversary system. He said, "We want no part of it". That is what a justice—I forget his name—from B.C. who was commissioned by the British Columbia government to examine the adversary system, said: "British Columbia will have no part of the adversary system".

The adversary system, as I said in my resolution, is cruel and unjust and results in long delays. What purpose is there in overawing a workman? We must remember that the pertinent clause in The Workmen's Compensation Act which keeps compensation cases out of the courts of law while of practical value to those injured, is nevertheless a voluntary sacrifice on the part of the worker of some of his civil rights. He has the right to expect something in return, just as surely and quickly as it can be administered, without the flavour of a court of law or the legal atmosphere of the present system.

For this reason, I want to read into the record—and I hope that members will not only bear with me but will attend diligently to these important thoughts of a distinguished jurist—from the 1912 royal commission report on workmen's compensation and volumes of evidence: Report of Sir William Meredith on workmen's compensation to the Ontario Legislature. First interim report, 11th public sitting, legislative buildings, Toronto, Ontario, Wednesday, January 24, 1912, page 427:

In this specific phrase, he is referring to how the workman claims his rights.

> I should say, unquestionably, one person distinctly representing the employer's claims, and, if there were only three, the third would be a person whose judgment as an attorney, the administration would have confidence in.

What he is saying is that there should be three persons at a table to work out the claim.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. De Monte: That is the interest we get from the government's side, Mr. Speaker.

At the 17th public hearing, Sir William Meredith commented to Mr. Wolfe on the burden of proof:

> You say you are not a lawyer, but do you see any reason, if you use the term, "arising out of and in the course of employ ment", to make both cases ***prima facie*** in favour of the workman; if it happens during his employment, the onus is on the employer to show that it did; if arising in course of his employment, and if it arose out of employment, to have it called presumptive that it arose during the course of employment, now, if there is such a presumption as I suggest, then the burden of proof would be shared, and the employer would have to show that it did not arise out of the course of his employment.

All Mr. Justice Meredith was saying was that you give the breaks, the presumptions, to the workman, and you put the burdens of proof on the employer.

Here is another clause:

> I propose to try and blank out any difference of that kind by making it that in both cases, the presumption is to be in favour of the workman until the contrary is shown; the burden will be on the employer. Also, if a man is injured while he is working, it ought to be presumed until to the contrary, that he is injured in the course of employment; that would be my idea.

I have many phrases, Mr. Speaker, that I have taken from the royal commission in 1912. I do not want to burden the House with them, but I think that the intent of Mr. Justice Meredith was to create a system where all the presumptions were in favour of the workman and all the burdens, if there were any,

were on the part of the employer. That means what he was trying to set up was a fair, impartial system for the worker.

Today we have a top heavy organization down there on whatever street he is on, I forget—

An hon. member: Harbour Street.

Mr. De Monte: Harbour Street—from which able men have been resigning recently in great numbers or retiring before their time. It occurs to me, Mr. Speaker, that there is something very wrong. These are some of the names: Mr. J. F. Cauley, vice-chairman. Mr. John L. Johnstone, chief medical officer,

Mr. Sopha: Who was Johnstone? A lawyer?

Mr. De Monte: No, a doctor. Dr. Douglas Alexander, assistant chief medical officer. Dr. Terry Cavanagh, chief of permanent disability assessments. Dr. George M. Bastedo, chief orthopaedic consultant. Dr. Earl S. Steele, medical commissioner.

Why have these good men gone? Could it be that they are sick and disgusted by the state of affairs at the board today; by the repeated absences of chairman Legge on veterans' affairs business and world tours; by the sidelining of Jack Cauley in favour of Douglas Hamilton, secretary-treasurer of the Ontario Federation of Labour, a man who has betrayed labour's interests in the interregnum between his knowing of his appointment to the workmen's compensation board and his taking the appointment?

Mr. Sopha: Is that right?

Mr. De Monte: That is right.

Mr. Pilkey: Pretty strong words.

Mr. De Monte: Before that he was on the TTC. I am talking about these conflicts of interest that exist in some of—

Mr. Sopha: How do you like that?

Mr. Pilkey: Pretty strong words.

Mr. Sopha: Mancini to the labour relations board. Hamilton to workmen's compensation.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): You know that Jack Cauley was—

Mr. De Monte: I am not here to tell my friends opposite.

Mr. Pilkey: He was sick.

Mr. De Monte: Oh sure, sure he was sick!

Mr. Sopha: Well what are they doing? Deserting the ship?

Mr. De Monte: No, they are not. They are going into well-paid $30,000 positions where they can get them.

Mr. Lewis: It is not so.

Mr. De Monte: If you will look at my resolution on the order paper, you will see that it states that the present adversary system of workmen's compensation in Ontario is unjust. It is resulting in severe hardships and unnecessary delays in the settlement of cases, unsatisfactory outcomes and a clear bias toward the workman.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that Mr. Hamilton considers my resolution quite harsh. I want to read into the record a remarkable letter received in the opposition offices as a result of a circular sent to Ontario trade unions in anticipation of that resolution being debated in this Legislature.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Was it on Boulwerism?

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Do not interfere, just listen.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent: You may learn something.

Mr. De Monte: Because of the significance of this answer to the present argument, I feel it should not wait for the occasion. Here is what the letter says and I am quoting:

> I have received your circular letter to all labour unions in Ontario dated February 6 in which you asked for support for a resolution to be presented to the legislative assembly by Dante De Monte, QC, in regard to—

Mr. Pilkey: Watch that QC.

Mr. De Monte: Well, I do not say, "Dear Mr. De Monte," like a certain member.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: Quoting again:

> In regard to the present appeals procedure of the Workmen's Compensation Board of Ontario.

I did not write this letter, nor did Cliff Brown, it was somebody else.

> Ordinarily I would not comment on a circular letter, but the harsh language of

this resolution and the conclusions reached are at variance with our experience at the board, that I am sure the brief comments I would make may be of some assistance to your Mr. De Monte. As you know, The Workmen's Compensation Act has a privative clause—

A privative clause; big deal. And it is fantastic how he talks his way around this. You often wonder what he was trying to prove.

An hon. member: Who?

Mr. De Monte: This fellow.

Mr. Lewis: This sounds like an inspired writer, a defender of labour.

Mr. De Monte: Quoting again:

—which keeps jurisdiction of claims out of the courts.

Well, that goes without saying. Nobody has ever mentioned a thing like that. It is trite, it is small.

With this, our federation is in agreement. We have and will continue to insist that this clause remain in the legislation.

Fine, we agree. Now listen to this remarkable statement:

There was some doubt in the minds of the compensation board that their appeals procedure was such that it would not satisfy the courts—

Big deal; they cannot get before the courts but it would not satisfy the courts.

—and so the new system was introduced.

In other words, because we could not bring them to the legalistic court outside the boards, they brought the courts into the board. That is what he is trying to say. All he is saying there, in my respectful opinion, is, "Let us have an adversary system. We cannot take it to the adversary system."

Mr. Lewis: I do not know. Whoever that was, should be on the board. He would serve us well for sure.

Mr. De Monte: That is from Douglas Hamilton, vice-president or treasurer of—wait a minute, I know where he is—the Ontario Federation of Labour.

Mr. Sopha: That is Douglas Hamilton.

Mr. De Monte: Yes, that is Douglas Hamilton, secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Lewis: He is on the board.

Mr. De Monte: But not when he wrote this letter; not when he wrote this letter, that is the point.

Mr. Lewis: But he wrote this letter after the appointment. After the appointment, I know.

Mr. Trotter: The member for Scarborough West was probably his ghost writer.

Mr. De Monte: Quoting again:

Although the privative clause keeps workmen's compensation cases out of the courts, the adversary system was introduced to satisfy the courts that the cases would never reach.

What kind of thinking is this?

Mr. Sopha: Well, it qualifies him to be on the board.

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Hamilton says:

As is the case in most changes, our affiliates were apprehensive about this new system when it was first introduced. Since then we have had a mixed reaction from across the province.

A mixed reaction across the province.

Some of our people are still opposed to it and others agree that it is an improvement.

As you know, we have on our staff a fulltime welfare director who handles an average of 400 claims a year, most of which are among the most difficult claims. Of these about 50 per cent end up before the appeals tribunal.

Mr. Pilkey: And settling over 300 of them on behalf of the worker, that is—

Mr. De Monte: Yes, but I have spoken to other welfare officers in unions and it is becoming an onerous job for them to appeal up the system. I am sure my friend from Oshawa agrees with that, Mr. Speaker.

An hon. member: Getting onerous for me?

Mr. De Monte: It is onerous for me.

While we are not always satisfied with some of the results of some of the decisions, on balance we are satisfied with the system as working reasonably well. As a percentage of the claims processed, the complaints we receive about decisions of the appeals tribunal are few.

Man, this man is not with it, I will tell you.

Remember, Mr. Hamilton is here still supposedly speaking for the members of the Ontario Federation of Labour. This letter, written after he knew he had been appointed to the workmen's compensation board, is presently in the process of being repudiated by the great majority of the affiliated unions. As for the phrase, "percentage of claims processed," this is a play on words as I will show you in a minute.

Mr. Hamilton goes on to say:

> We recognize that in any system which handles the volume of work that the compensation board does, there are bound to be inequities.

Mr. Pilkey: That goes without saying.

Mr. De Monte: Yes, he is being really platitudinous.

> However, if we had to choose between the present system, imperfect though it may be, and having to review all of our cases in the courts—

—which he hearkens back to. It is never going to get to the court in any event.

Mr. Sopha: A copy of that letter was sent to the chairman of the board I suppose?

Mr. De Monte: No.

Mr. Sopha: Well, he was apprised at that time?

Mr. De Monte: I do not know.

> —we would continue to hold firmly to our position that the present system is much fairer and more equitable to the injured workman than the drawn-out costly procedure of the courts—

Mr. Lewis: Just transitionally—going to the Ontario Water Resources—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): The hon. member is better on minorities. Tell us about minorities.

Mr. De Monte: To continue:

> —even a quick look at some of the jurisdictions in the United States should convince you of this.

Mr. Speaker, if the man had looked at the jurisdictions in the United States, specifically New York, he would have found out that they took a look at our system prior to 1965, before the adversary system came in, and adopted it.

Mr. Pilkey: In New York?

Mr. De Monte: In New York.

Mr. Pilkey: Is the member suggesting we have the New York system?

Mr. De Monte: No, but they came up and looked at our system, before 1965.

Mr. Pilkey: Then they went back and put their own in.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask the hon. member to keep the debate directed through the chair for the benefit of this Legislature.

Mr. De Monte: To continue:

> While we may agree that some improvements in the present system could be made, we think that your resolution deals—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: You two members are too busy defending these days. Maybe if you got a bit more positive and did something—

> While we may agree that some improvements in the present system could be made, we think that your resolution deals much too harshly with this matter and, if pursued, could in the long run do much more harm than good.
>
> I would suggest that you or Mr. De Monte talk to some of our larger affiliates who have a great number of claims before the board and have expressed publicly that the present system is reasonably satisfactory before you get carried away on this subject.

Who are the affiliates he is talking about? Who are the affiliates that are pleased? I have not been able to find any.

Mr. Sopha: Not the Steelworkers.

Mr. De Monte: Not the Steelworkers, not the Bricklayers.

Mr. Sopha: Not Mine Mill.

Mr. De Monte: No, none. But the whole point—and then he says to me—

> We would be pleased to discuss this matter further with you and recite to you the experience of our own welfare department—

Four hundred cases a year, you know, a real department—

> —if you think this might be of some assistance in getting a balanced view of the situation.
>
> Trusting these few comments will be of some assistance, I am
>
> Sincerely yours,
> D. F. Hamilton
> Secretary-Treasurer.

The point is he was discussing the concept completely out of context. Certainly I never mentioned that we should put the system into the courts. That was not even in the circular. I cannot for the life of me understand what he was trying to prove, other than he might have been playing footsy. He knew he had been appointed and then wrote this letter.

Whether he did or not, Mr. Speaker, I maintain he was completely wrong.

An hon. member: He was playing footsy and he could not even dance properly.

Mr. Peacock: Could the member read us the circular letter?

Mr. De Monte: I have not got it here, but I will make it available to you.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Will the hon. member who has the floor please direct his remarks through the chair?

Mr. De Monte: It is surprising, Mr. Speaker, how the sheer prospect of a $30,000 a year job will mellow a man I can tell you, to put it kindly.

In the interim I notice that Mr. Hamilton landed an appointment with the Toronto Transit Commission, and I see that there are questions to be asked at the OFL annual convention as to whether he pro-rated his OFL salary as he promised he would in accordance with the time spent at the TTC.

An hon. member: Is that right, that he had to do that?

Mr. De Monte: I do not know, but they hope he does, because he gave an undertaking.

While these are, strictly speaking, internal union matters, it does give me serious cause to doubt the wisdom of the government in making appointments so universally unpopular—I am speaking frankly—with the rank and file of our trade union movement in Ontario. It is also interesting to note that Mr. Hamilton's signature is on a brochure that was passed out here in front of the House; it is in complete variance with his concepts under workmen's compensation.

I wonder what he is trying to do. Is he looking for a job? Mr. Speaker, I ask you.

However, Mr. Speaker, that is not all, this is not an end of it either. I am informed that the rank and file and the officers of many of the affiliates of the OFL are furious at the tone of some of the sections of the "Legislative Proposals, 1970," handed to the Ontario cabinet a few weeks ago.

Mr. Hamilton is a signatory to this document and I have never seen a more bland statement on workmen's compensation in my life. I understand this will be seriously challenged—this statement in the submission will be seriously challenged at the 14th annual convention of the OFL, particularly in regard to the watering down which allegedly took place between its formulation in London, Ontario, last November, and its recent presentation here.

Who, for example, added the word "seeming" to the phrase "outright blunders in Medicare legislation" on page three of the proposals? But mainly, who so drafted the section on page 12 on workmen's compensation, so as to make believe, contrary to the general feeling in London, that things are really not so bad after all? Was it the man who knew he was to sit on the board on April 1? If so, is not this the grossest betrayal of a trust?

Notice the similarity to the proposal in the wording of the proposal to those sentiments contained in Mr. Hamilton's letter to our office. From the proposals, page 12, I read the following astonishing statement:

> We have had, and no doubt will continue to have, problems in adjudication of some individual claims at the board, but the percentage of these in relation to the number of claims handled is relatively small.

The key word, Mr. Speaker, is "handled."

Not the number of claims, but the number of handling procedures that brings out the favourable ratio so often.

Now let us just look at that for a minute. Let me give you the lie to business about the number of decisions being two million in 1967. Two million. That is what this minister says when he puts in his annual report. Two million.

Mr. Speaker, he is clearly understood by all members and by the general public that the word "decisions" is not synonymous with the word "claims."

Listen to this, this is important. As the minister's tone and text of the annual report would imply, in fact in the language of the workmen's compensation board, a decision is made every time a case file is handled and initialled.

Since on the average each file is handled some 19 times, the number of claims is re-

duced in that proportion, and the number of claims appealed is increased in that proportion over the misleading statistics given in the annual reports.

To give you a concrete example for the year 1967, Mr. Speaker, which is the last complete year we can validate, in 1967 the number of claims initially settled was 352,232.

Of that total, medical aid—only claims where a man cuts his finger and is able to go back to work and all they pay is the medical bill, with no loss time accounted for—241,604 claimants.

Those are the claims, Mr. Speaker, as I said before, where there is no time lost, the man is fixed up by the doctor and goes back to work. This leaves as claims involving true compensations, which really had to be decided under merits of 110,258.

So we have to set the number of appeals against the number of real compensation cases, not against the fairytale figure that the annual report quotes.

If we do so we find that the two ratios of claims appealed to the total real compensation claims is 5,922 appeals to 110,258 or more than one case in 19 is appealed in the workmen's compensation board.

I wonder what that, if we are talking about adversary system, how that compares to the courts. Now, I feel that this figure is worth repeating. More than one case in 19 is appealed.

Now, because of the adversary system, that means one worker in every 19 is seriously inconvenienced by the system and its delays.

In this connection the annual statistics, both as to the level at which a claim was settled and the delays encountered by distressed individuals, have become so embarrassing they are no longer compiled and distributed, even within the board.

If a select committee or a standing committee of this Legislature were to be charged with the responsibility of looking into the affairs of the board, its research staff would have to do its own digging, case file by case file, and it would be a gargantuan task.

This is the incalculable total of human misery that Ontario's adversary system imposes upon the workers of this province. Nevertheless, I think that the time is right for the setting up of an inquiry into the workmen's compensation board.

Now, it has been the practice of the standing committee—government commissions committee—to hear the board every year, but this year I believe this House must make an extended effort either in that committee or by resolution in the labour committee to examine the board.

In any event, I believe a special research staff should be engaged to examine the whole question of workmen's compensation, not only in the light of the dissatisfaction now evident in the ranks of all organized labour, but also the Canadian manufacturers association *ad hoc* committee which is equally displeased with the present arrangement, though for very different reasons. In particular I would like to go on record in this matter in some detail, in that I want to name a number of persons who should be subpoenaed to appear before the committee, together with a number of others who will, I believe, appear voluntarily. I hasten to add that the subpoena of the persons I shall name, is intended to protect them from victimization, since a number of them are now working for other departments and one is a member of Parliament. This present naming is also by way of protection:

Firstly, the people who should be subpoenaed are: Mr. J. F. Cauley, ex-vice-chairman of the board right now; Dr. John L. Johnstone, chief medical officer; Dr. Douglas Alexander, assistant chief medical officer; Dr. Terry Cavanagh, chief permanent disability assessor; Dr. George M. Bastedo, chief orthopaedic consultant; and Dr. Earle C. Steele, medical commissioner.

I would like to subpoena one man in particular, Cornelius W. Hartog, FSA, CIA, the consulting actuary to the McGillivray royal commission, to explain his subsequent proposals in *The Financial Post* and elsewhere, re modification to benefits, along the lines shortly to be proposed by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

The following people, I know, will come before the committee voluntarily, since they are deeply involved in the labour movement on an official basis, and a subpoena in these cases would be unnecessary: Mr. John Dowling, Canadian national director of compensation and safety, United Steelworkers of America; Mr. Ken Martin, president; Mr. H. Kobyryn, secretary-treasurer, provincial building and construction trades council of Ontario; Mr. Ray Hounsome, president, and Mr. J. R. Hicks, secretary-treasurer of the International Railway Brotherhoods' Ontario legislative committee; Mr. Edward Hothersall, secretary-treasurer, Provincial Federation of Professional Firefighters; Mr. John Carroll, Canadian vice-president, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers; Mr. Don Williams,

president, Provincial Bricklayers' Council; Mr. Jack Donley, business manager, Toronto Carpenters' Union.

All these men have one thing in common, Mr. Speaker: They do not subscribe wholeheartedly to the workmen's compensation section of the Ontario Federation of Labour's legislative proposals, 1970, and they are shocked at its euphoric tone. The remarkable thing is that numerically they represent a majority of the organized workers in Ontario, and a majority, also, of the Ontario Federation of Labour affiliates. When Mr. Hamilton says in his letter, "some of our larger affiliates", it is easy to misread this phrase, with its overall tone, as implying "a majority of our affiliates", which is not, of course, the case at all.

So we have a very strong case to bring these people before a committee of this Legislature and, once and for all, get to the root of what ails the workmen's compensation board as presently set up in Ontario. I have some very interesting correspondence to discuss with the authors of the letters, if they should come before such a committee. For example, Mr. William F. Scandlan, secretary of the Hamilton and district labour council, has said, in a letter in reply to our circular for views on the workmen's compensation issue:

> The Hamilton and District Labour Council are in accord with the concern raised, and we would like to point out that for a number of years, we in the labour movement, more specifically through our provincial and federal bodies, have sought changes in this regard.

There is something interesting about this letter, Mr. Speaker, that might interest the House. He wrote me a letter, and he sent a copy to the NDP caucus and a copy to the Ontario Federation of Labour. I wonder what he is trying to prove. But this is what he said to me; I will quote it:

> It would seem to us more appropriate, rather than bringing the matter up during the private members' hour, although allowed in the House, that you should solicit the support of your Liberal caucus for amendments to the Act advanced by the New Democratic Party and/or this same position for these requested amendments, as presented by the Ontario Federation of Labour during its annual brief presentation to the cabinet.

I have spoken in the House, Mr. Speaker, on numerous occasions, as you know, on this very point. They have not spoken once.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: They have spoken, Mr. Speaker; I will show you how they have spoken. They have spoken in favour of the adversary system.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: I have copies of the celebrated interchange of correspondence between the Minister of Labour and Mr. Henry Kobyryn, secretary-treasurer of the Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario, the latest being on March 11, 1970.

> I point out the gross injustices that are happening to certain workmen in Ontario. He feels it necessary to write directly to the minister that these appeals are going on and men are suffering. The whole concept of workmen's compensation today is in direct repudiation of Mr. Justice Meredith's concepts in 1912.
>
> We have to immediately get to the bottom of the situation whereby the board is employing new psychological tactics in the case of reinjured workmen. A tactic which confuses them by focusing the inquiry almost totally on the previous injury, rather than on the reinjury. While the workman is still dazed by the technique, he finds his benefits cut off, even though he had benefits prior to the reinjury.

I am not happy with the tactic of using names in the Legislature because it probably singles out men and, in the long run, does more harm than good. But I think that in committee we might usefully have one or two in-camera sessions in which these cases—and the minister has the names and the carbon copy of the letter I referred to—can be fully explored in relation to the workmen's compensation board procedures.

I do, however, draw the minister's attention to the paragraph on page four of the March 11 letter which Mr. Kobyryn writes and I quote:

> That gentleman from labour who has chosen to replace the present vice chairman, in whom all working men had faith, will certainly do nothing to improve this system because he has stated publicly that there is nothing wrong with the new system and it is the best in the world.

This is the opinion of the secretary-treasurer of the Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario regarding the appointment of Doug Hamilton to the workmen's compensation board.

Mr. Speaker, the minister should have the good grace to admit that he has made a grave

error before not only a majority of the Ontario trade union movement tells him so, but also before the Canadian Manufacturers' Association adds to his discomfiture by its imminent attack on the whole workmen's compensation board setup.

Certainly, one of the things that the committee must look into is the page seven letter in the Toronto *Daily Star* by Mr. Anthony Azzarello, the director of adjudication of the workmen's compensation board. This letter, in the newspaper dated Friday, March 13, seems to take all the humanity, or any humanity that may be left, out of the thinking of the board officials. I quote only one line, in relation to a case already made public:

> There is no question but that he has trouble breathing, as is the case of many in our smoky and polluted environment.

Now I am not questioning the validity of that statement. All I want to point out at this time is its tone.

Here, in one sentence, the adversary system mentality is captured and frozen. "I have a chip on my shoulder and I challenge you to knock it off" says the board. Not the gentle touch of the Good Samaritan any more, but the harsh cry of: "It could happen to anybody. Go on, prove it happened at work. The onus is on you, Buster!"

That is what he is saying.

Can anyone deny that this is precisely the tone of that statement by the director of adjudication, Mr. Anthony Azzarello? That is why I want him before our committee of this House. I want to know what has come over the whole tone of workmen's compensation in this province since Justice Meredith saw in it the means of swift and fair justice for all workmen.

But this is not the only cause for concern. The inhumanity of the board's actions is also reflected in the long delays common in individual cases, delays that are bound to cause severe hardship. I pointed that out in *Hansard*, No. 53, Wednesday, March 5, 1969. I asked the question on page 1914, question 15, enquiry of the minister, which I submitted in good faith, and it resulted in an evasive answer, again hiding behind my well-meaning but possibly imperfect phrasing.

This was pointed out to me in a letter from Mr. John Dowling of the United Steelworkers of America, who advised that a more precise question should have been: What was the average length of time from when the injured workman was first laid off work until a final decision was given by the top board in the 301 cases which were heard by it in 1968?

He says this question would have yielded vastly different figures.

> I believe—

writes Mr. Dowling,

> —that the average waiting time for finalization before the top board would be closer to six months than eight weeks.

What a tragic state of affairs. We must move quickly as legislators to remedy the situation. Mr. Speaker, I want to say this: A healthy democracy depends on our continual examination of our institutions. We know that whatever organizations we create by statute, and however we set them up, they will change from time to time, simply because they are run by human beings, people whose ideas will vary one from another and year by year. Sometimes we make mistakes to begin with. Well, we did not make any mistakes with workmen's compensation; that is for sure. By and large Chief Justice Meredith was warmer and more humane than the people down on Harbour Street today. What we see here in the alternative phenomenon that assails us; a good idea gone sour over many years.

Mr. Pilkey: Or the Liberal Party.

Mr. De Monte: But changes, oh he is . . . Listen, you might learn something.

Mr. Pilkey: Forty dollars a week last year!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: The changes that have come about in the mechanics of workmen's compensation have done so by legislative amendment for the most part. But the change in the whole tone of the system has arisen as a result of the ideas of a few men at the top who have decreed that this shall be the new climate of workmen's compensation. The distortions in the original concept are so obvious that it is time to cry halt.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): You would rather give them nothing.

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Speaker, I am trying to teach the member for Oshawa something but he will not listen.

Mr. Sopha: He will not listen.

Mr. De Monte: He just will not listen. He never listens.

Mr. Sargent: He has got too much wax in his ears.

Mr. De Monte: The distortions in the original concept now are so obvious that it is time to cry halt. All the humanity has gone out of the Workmen's Compensation Board and in its place we have a monstrous, bureaucratic system that feeds upon itself at the expense of workers and employees alike. It is ironic that it is the employers who finally will make this government move to amend this system. They are waiting in the wings with a new and damning brief to the cabinet that will shatter any complacency that may still remain in the government or in The Department of Labour about this subject.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Or in the NDP.

Mr. De Monte: I cannot agree with the tone of much of what the employers are saying. They will, I am assured, attempt to burden the public welfare system with tasks that are rightly theirs to bear. But both labour and management will be united in the desire to see the stifling bureaucracy smoldered and the military club broken up for good and for all time. Before the . . .

Mr. Speaker: Now then, it is almost 6 o'clock.

Mr. De Monte: I have about two minutes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Well, it is 6 o'clock exactly.

Mr. De Monte: I have two minutes. Oh, it is all right. Do you not want to learn something too? Stick around. Before the lawyers distort the picture even more by turning what used to be a kitchen table confrontation into a legal aid situation of immense proportions, the minister is going to have to take cognizance of the situation. He must note the even longer queries for attention. As dissatisfaction by both management and labour reaches a new peak, the minister will be called upon to justify a long sequence of abuses or in all honour resign his responsibilities for stewardship of the trust that is the workmen's compensation, according to Chief Justice Meredith. That would indeed, if honour is to be satisfied, involve the resignation of the minister from the labour portfolio. My final salvo must be reserved . . .

Mr. Speaker: It being 6 of the clock I now leave the chair.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.

Legislature of Ontario Debates

No. 20

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, March 17, 1970

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, March 17, 1970

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. De Monte, Mr. Peacock, Mr. Braithwaite, Mr. Stokes 743

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Stokes, agreed to 769

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Grossman, agreed to 769

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1970

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, before the hon. member carries on, I wonder if I could have the consent of the House to revert to the tabling of reports.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): By all means.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table two reports. First, a joint statement by The Department of the Treasury and Economics and The Department of Municipal Affairs, being "A strategy for southwestern Ontario development," and second, a report on the Haldimand-Norfolk study of The Ontario Department of Municipal Affairs toward a land use plan for Haldimand-Norfolk.

Mr. Speaker, the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) and Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) are in Jarvis tonight to discuss these particular reports with representatives of the area, and it was our hope to have these tabled at the same time here in the Legislature.

Clerk of the House: The third order, resuming the adjourned debate on the Speech from the Throne.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, there is something that has come to my attention just recently. May I just look it over for one moment?

Mr. Speaker: By all means.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. My point of order is the remark by the hon. member for Dovercourt a few moments back in his address, when he implied that members of this party to which I belong have not questioned the adversary aspect of the workmen's compensation board. I would like to draw to your attention that on July 22, 1968, on page 6079 of *Hansard*, I urged the minister to consider removing "the adversary aspect from the whole method of awards."

Unfortunately, *Hansard* misquoted me as saying the "adversity" aspect, whatever that might be, so the hon. member could be excused for not recognizing it. However, a few pages later on page 6094 the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. J. Renwick) made a similar assertion, and I quote just one phrase: "My own view is that it must not be an adversary system."

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: May I just finish my address that I had prepared before I got to the NDP? My final salvo, Mr. Speaker, was prepared for these people to the left of me who purport to be the champion of the working man. They are always making excuses, Mr. Speaker, as my friend just made a few moments ago. They are always making excuses for the fact that they really do not have the interests of the working man at heart. They have great concepts, Mr. Speaker, of what they are going to do for the working man. In many cases they raise phony issues in this House.

But let us just go to a speech made by the member for Hamilton East (Mr. Gisborn) in this House not very long ago. Let us just understand what the NDP says in this House about the workmen's compensation board. He said something very important, but I want to say this.

I have mentioned, Mr. Speaker, three occasions on which I have spoken on this topic in this House. I have carefully documented the ills of the adversary system and its injustices. Since I knew that the majority of organized labour was behind me in my position on this, and since it was clear that, for reasons since evident, OFL headquarters was pulling its punches on this issue, I have looked for support from the NDP. I have begged for support from the NDP in this House—since they are supposedly the workers' champions in these matters, in their own estimation. I have asked for support; I have looked for support.

Let me quote from the speech of the member for Hamilton on February 25 last—*Hansard* page 1524; it is documented, look it up. My friend had the possibility of looking up what he said, but let us quote, and I think that perhaps the member for Hamilton East can be quoted in this House on what he thinks of the adversary system. I understand, Mr. Speaker, that Doug Hamilton, and my friend—

An hon. member: Commissioner Hamilton.

Mr. De Monte: Oh, commissioner Hamilton, right. Pardon me. What did he say? If I may remind you, Mr. Speaker, with respect, he got up after I spoke on the adversary system of the workmen's compensation board, and this is what he said.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): The member was so wrong in that speech he will never get it right.

Mr. De Monte: Relax, listen; you may learn something.

Inerjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: I cannot understand, Mr. Speaker, why my friends are so excited.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): With all that buildup, why does the member not come around to his point?

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): All in good time.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): He is having more fun teasing the NDP, that is why.

Mr. De Monte: I know, I know. Perhaps if my friends stop heckling and listen, Mr. Speaker, we might learn something in this House. If this party to the left would control themselves, the business of this House would move along a little faster.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: You see what I mean. The leader of the New Democratic Party questions my credibility, Mr. Speaker. What I have documented today are facts, not fiction. Sometimes I wonder whether my friend knows what he is talking about.

Mr. Singer: The member for Riverdale says you are not credible.

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Speaker, the member for Hamilton East said this:

> Mr. Speaker, first I would like to make a few comments about the statements made by the member for Dovercourt in regard to the workmen's compensation board. I have to, because I just cannot agree with him in two main areas. First, I hope that he does not suggest that we bring about many of the suggestions of Justice McGillivray—

And I never suggested that in my speech, Mr. Speaker, he just was not listening.

Mr. Gisborn: The member quoted from him at length.

Mr. De Monte: And if he had listened to me for three years, Mr. Speaker, or two and a half years, he should know what I am talking about. I trust he knew what I was talking about.

> —because most of them would be restrictive in regard to the claimant's benefits.
>
> The other is the hon. member's condemnation of the tribunal procedure under the board. After the tribunal procedure had been instituted for a year, there was a survey made by the trade union movement and the large majority of those people. The compensation committee chairman who was working at it regularly—

I would like to know his name, if I could:

> —felt that the tribunal stage was an improvement, that they were able to get justice they could not find before, that it was a regulatory system where there was a recorder who took words verbatim.

What he means is that there was a court reporter there, everybody being sworn in the courtroom that exists down there now. That is what he means, Mr. Speaker.

> They always make interpreters available for different languages.

Well, that happens in the courtrooms; that is just a questions of simple justice, Mr. Speaker, just a question of simple justice.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Is it wrong?

Mr. De Monte: No, it is not wrong, but do not try to cover up the issue by trivialities, that is what I am trying to tell you. Do not try to cover up the fact that the adversary system lacks in justice, Mr. Speaker, by covering it up with interpreters and the fact that somebody takes evidence under oath. That is what I am trying to tell my friend from Hamilton East.

> I do agree with him in some areas of his concern, but I would be very wary of asking the implementation of many of the McGillivray commission reports because they would be more restrictive upon the claimants.

I wonder, Mr. Speaker, what he means by "restrictive upon the claimants"? Does he mean the concepts that have been brought out by throwing the claimant out of the welfare department, about deducting certain deductions, and pulling him in and deducting

pensions from the workmen's compensation? With this I agree.

Mr. MacDonald: If you do not know what he means, do not put words into his mouth.

Mr. De Monte: But my friend probably missed what I was trying to say in this House the last time that I spoke.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Not likely.

Mr. De Monte: Not likely, but there is no doubt that they had somebody look this up in the interim, Mr. Speaker, and try to counter my arguments, because you know that they are in real trouble over this issue.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: And Mr. Speaker, when a man gets up on a point of order and tries to counter an argument that he knows is well made, that leaves something to be desired for this party to my left. It really does. The whole point, Mr. Speaker, is that I rest my case on this point. The idols have fallen in this little place over here; they have fallen; the con game is over. They know it among the workmen, because certainly, Mr. Speaker, they may have a lot of the executives, but do you know who they have not got—the worker. They just have not got the worker. They like to hope and they pray—

Mr. MacDonald: Were you out in London East during the middle of the Middlesex South by-election?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Speaker, when they pour in people from North Bay and Fort William by bus, certainly they have workers down there. That is the only way they can win elections and by-elections because they pour everybody in.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. De Monte: The whole point is—

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): The only trouble with Dick is that he found out that he was duped again, just like the rest of his party.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Who is speaking here?

Mr. De Monte: Well, I just do not know. The member for Sudbury East, the leering boy from Sudbury East has spoken again. His remarks are inconsequential and usually immaterial, Mr. Speaker. They are not even on the point.

Mr. Martel: When did you first mention it, Mr. De Monte?

Mr. De Monte: The thing that we have to remember is that they are built on clay. They are conservatives in the true sense of the term. They have not changed their concepts since the latter part of the 18th century, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the member for Dovercourt would yield for a question—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Is this a point of order?

Mr. J. Renwick: Are you going to yield the floor to a question, or not?

Mr. De Monte: Sit down.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, if my friend will not give me the courtesy of a hearing, the member is misrepresenting. I would simply ask the member that if, at his leisure, he would look at page 6079 on July 22, 1968, and page 6094 of the same date with respect to the position of this party—

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, this is not a point of order—

Mr. J. Renwick: —on the question of the adversary system—

Mr. Singer: Shame.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, my point of order is the Liberal Party—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member for Downsview will, of course, recall that he on occasion has pointed out to the Speaker that it is impossible to determine whether a member has a point of order until he has placed it before the House. The hon. member for Riverdale has endeavoured to make a point of order which I rule not to be a point of order. The hon. member for Dovercourt has the floor.

Mr. Singer: You are quite right, Mr. Speaker. My unfortunate fault is that I know the member for Riverdale.

Mr. De Monte: As I said before, Mr. Speaker, I do not know what they are all excited about. I do not know. Perhaps it is because, through their policies, they have suddenly discovered that they are not really for the working man when it comes to the workmen's compensation board.

Mr. Martel: No, no. The likes of Walter Gordon and James Richardson. That is the working man.

Mr. De Monte: You know, there remains the possibility—possibly it is more than a possibility—that organized labour will break free, Mr. Speaker, from the bondage of this party over here, and it will find a welcome berth here in the Liberal Party, where concern is not equated with dogma and servitude, Mr. Speaker.

Our record on environmental problems, such as highlighting of the caisson disease last year—they were not interested, you know—is impressive. Our real desire to see workers' standards improved is evident. That is evident in our party and it is evident to the worker. And so, I end by saying—and I am not ending because of a statement that came in just recently, Mr. Speaker—to organized labour, take a new look at what the NDP has done for you. Do not hitch your wagon to a falling star.

Mr. Deans: The member is getting support from the Tories.

Mr. De Monte: I am not interested in support from the Tories. I am interested in support from the working man. That is where I am interested for my support. I am not playing to the boys over on that side. I am playing where the game is really going to be fought out, and you know it is there, and when you lose them you will know you have made a few mistakes.

Mr. Speaker, before going on—and I have made my final point—in closing, Mr. Speaker, I wish to read the following important statement into the record—

Mr. Martel: Is that the one—

Mr. De Monte: Oh, be quiet. Just be quiet.

As a result of the interjections from the member of the New Democratic Party this afternoon to the effect that Mr. Jack Cauley resigned as vice-chairman of the workmen's compensation board solely—I repeat solely—on health grounds, I asked that Mr. Cauley be contacted during the supper break at his residence in Ancaster.

Mr. Cauley has authorized me to state for the record and without prejudice to his current status and benefits, that he wishes to appear at the earliest possible opportunity, and with the protection afforded by his subpoena, before a select committee of this Legislature in order to make a major statement under oath on certain matters of urgent public importance concerning the Workmen's Compensation Board of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, this is the end of my statement on this important issue. This is the end of my text. Thank you very much.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order in respect to the final remarks of the member. I sat here during the crossfire regarding the workmen's compensation board appointment of Mr. Hamilton and the subsequent resignation of other officers only mentioned by the member for Dovercourt. I heard no one say that Mr. Cauley was forced to resign because of health.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Cauley was here many years ago.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Who?

Mr. Gisborn: While the member has the right to make a statement, we will check the records to see what they say.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Cauley is the fellow he was talking about.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening during this debate to make only a short interjection and one which I must admit is not as thoroughly well prepared as that of the preceding speaker to my right.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Peacock: I have nothing to say about the celebration of St. Patrick's day, either, even though I happen to have been born in that country. Following this afternoon's performance by the hon. member opposite, which was followed rather unfortunately by the exchange between the Speaker and the member for Riverdale—

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): March 17 comes only once a year.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, indeed, it does, but perhaps throughout the year we could recall the industry of the people from that country and all of the other countries of Europe and elsewhere in the world who contribute to the building of this province, as the workers of the Dunlop Rubber Company have—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Faith and begorrah!

Mr. Peacock: —and have a little more attentiveness to their problems on the part of that government opposite.

Mr. Speaker, happily the Provincial Secretary put on our desks this evening the report

entitled "A strategy for southwestern Ontario development," which gave me cause and opportunity to rise in my place and catch your eye. As the minister quite spontaneously put this report there, I quite spontaneously rose to comment on it.

I have found in it, Mr. Speaker, a number of interesting comments on the developing situation in that part of the province from which I come. I thought the House ought to have the benefit of hearing portions of that report as the Provincial Secretary's colleague is apparently in the process, at this moment, in that very—well—centre of southwestern Ontario—Jarvis, is it?—of delivering himself of the contents of this report. I am not aware of the location of Jarvis. I believe, though, that it is definitely not found in the southwestern Ontario portion of the province.

On page two of the report which the minister probably, at this moment, is reading to his audience, which is studying it in rapt attention—

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if I may assist the hon. member. There were two reports tabled tonight, of which the hon. member has a copy of one. The other had to do with the area, I believe, of Haldimand-Norfolk, and I am advised that copies of that are in the mailbox for the members, and the copies of this report were delivered to my office for delivery here. The hon. member may continue, but I think he should be advised that there were the two reports going tonight.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): We have both.

Hon. Mr. Welch: And also the member's leader has a copy of both reports I tabled tonight.

Mr. Speaker: I did not know that.

Mr. Peacock: The copy of the report I have in my hand is "A strategy for southwestern Ontario development" and I believe it has been distributed to all members. No, it was the Provincial Secretary who was trying to put me off the track.

Let me quote from page two of this survey, Mr. Speaker:

> Since the need for inter-regional co-ordination has already been recognized and is now being served in the Toronto and Oshawa areas—

That is a rather odd phrase, "is now being served".

> —this paper will concentrate on issues requiring co-ordination in the Niagara, midwestern Ontario, Lake Erie and St. Clair regions, hereafter referred to as northwestern Ontario.
>
> Recent events have demonstrated the need for inter-regional co-ordination of development planning in the heavily urbanized, rapidly developing southwestern regions.

One of those, of course, is the St. Clair region, where the contribution of the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) to that rapid development that is spoken of on page two, has brought about the introduction of this report to the House this evening by the Provincial Secretary.

As the minister opposite is probably aware, his colleague, the Minister of Trade and Development, is contributing substantially to the haphazard development of that region by his programme of loans under the Equalization of Industrial Opportunity programme.

He is beginning to fill in, through the use of these loans, the present spaces between those large complexes that the report, on page four, speaks of as having been sited along the north shore of Lake Erie. The report states:

> The widely spaced site plans of the Steel Company of Canada, Dominion Foundry and Steel Company, Texaco and Ontario Hydro, demonstrate the urgency of planning lakeshore development and conservation, as they continue a system from Windsor to Port Colborne requiring collaboration among three closely related economic regions.

Obviously, Mr. Speaker, this particular portion of the report is extremely timely for the development work of the Minister of Trade and Development.

As the Provincial Secretary has produced the report this evening in the name of the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) and Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough), I would ask him to draw to the attention of the Minister of Trade and Development that he is already engaged in good part in filling in the areas between those widely spaced site plants of the four companies that are mentioned.

Further on in the report, Mr. Speaker, there is even more alarming evidence of what is going to happen in that, as yet, largely undeveloped, primarily agricultural, and very good agricultural, land between the Niagara peninsula and the Detroit River. Speaking

of one of the maps, or charts within the report, on page seven, it says:

> In each case we can clearly see the very high relative growth rate around the western end of Lake Ontario, extending throughout southwestern Ontario to the international border, Windsor and Sarnia.

It is conspicuous that the only sizeable areas that have been bypassed by the generally continuous belt of prosperity and growth are those southern-tier counties and townships which will experience the most direct and immediate impact from development of the Stelco and Dofasco site.

We are getting, then, Mr. Speaker, along in this area, that very kind of major industrial growth which the managing director or general manager of the Ontario Water Resources Commission, Mr. D. S. Caverley, complained of to the IJC, that Ontario should not be deprived of because of lower standards of water quality management on the United States side of the Ontario-U.S. border. He said the prime purpose of equalizing of those standards was to give to Ontario the same levels of industrial development and progress as were enjoyed in the large complexes of Erie and Cleveland and Buffalo and Detroit on the other side of the international border.

The report goes on, Mr. Speaker, I think, to point out in a rather urgent manner what is taking place in that region.

> The rush to acquire waterfront industrial sites along Lake Erie and the multi-regional growth of southwestern Ontario are not coincidental events, but at least in part the consequence of international geography and trade patterns which are shaping new megalopolitian forms of human settlements.

I have only one other quote to make, Mr. Speaker, from this report. It is found on page 14, item 3:

> A noticeable decentralization of urban growth which avoids unsightly and uneconomic sprawl, or strip linear development, but rather builds upon existing centres' capacity for growth, and distributes this growth among a large enough number of centres to retain a human scale in the size of future communities, thus ensuring economies of scale without the diseconomies of congestion.

That is one of the criteria for regional plans for southwestern Ontario.

I just want to sum up my comments on this report by saying, Mr. Speaker, that on the part of the Minister of Trade and Development, he has, to this point, completely ignored that final recommendation which I have just referred to for what is termed, I suppose, by some specialist who wrote this report, "a noticeable decentralization of urban growth" rather than the "unsightly and uneconomic sprawl, or strip linear development." It is the latter that we are getting at the present under the policies of The Department of Trade and Development. It is the latter which has been warned about, not only in this report which we have had put before us this evening, but also in the five-year development plans of the various councils of the province; particularly in the five-year forecast of the development council of the St. Clair region.

As far as the preceding quotation which I made from the report goes, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Municipal Affairs has told the people of southwestern Ontario that they need not expect regional government for 5 to 10 years; it is that far away. Yet here in this report this evening which the Provincial Secretary has put before us, is a signal, an indicator, an alarm sounded to us, that the economic development of the region is now well under way, moving toward heavy industry, and with all of the supporting and secondary manufacturing that the establishment of heavy industry will attract. And yet in hundreds of the townships in southwestern Ontario, we have yet to have implemented by the councils, official plans or the zoning by-laws which give them effect.

We have, on the part of these two ministers, a seeming indifference to all of these forecasts of major economic development that are going to be very, very much distorting the potentialities of this region, a region in which there are already a large number of well-developed towns and cities carrying on various specialties of economic life and progress. They are going to be completely overshadowed by the major development along the north shore of Lake Erie.

I hope, when we turn to the estimates of the departments of the Minister of Trade and Development and the Minister of Municipal Affairs, that we are going to hear from each of them as to how they intend to shape, on the part of the Minister of Trade and Development, his EIO programme, and on the part of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, his development of regional planning and regional government—to meet the criteria that has been set out in this survey.

Mr. Speaker, there is just one other matter which I wish to turn to in my remarks this

evening and that is the announcement of the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) over the weekend. It was not made to this House, but we can expect an announcement, perhaps in the budget or shortly thereafter, of an overhaul of the structure of family benefits and general welfare systems in the province.

That certainly is to be welcomed, Mr. Speaker, given the failure of the recent federal budget to deal, in any way whatsoever, with the plight of persons on fixed incomes, either through the instrumentality of the old age security system, or The Canada Assistance Act, in which this province shares responsibility for income maintenance.

When I read of the announcement of the minister—or rather, the press story of the minister's intended announcement—of an increase in the family benefits and general welfare assistance levels, I was reminded of the debate we had in this House last spring when the Minister of Social and Family Services' estimates were before us.

I recalled at that time that members in this group urged upon the minister a major increase in the level of benefit to his clients and recipients—an urging which he chose to ignore. At that time we pointed out to him the levels of benefit for his clients and recipients had remained unchanged since their introduction in April, 1967. At that time I made a rather quick calculation of what had happened to the purchasing power of the person, or family, on the minister's benefit programme as a result of the increase in the cost of living over that two-year period.

I worked it out again, Mr. Speaker, over the weekend. And, as the Dominion Bureau of Statistics provides an index of the rise in the cost of living only for the greater Toronto area, that is the only way in which I could try to relate the present level of purchasing power of the benefits paid out by the minister to the original level of benefit.

Between April, 1967, and January, 1970, a Toronto mother and family—and probably one which would be fairly representative of families around the province who are in receipt of provincial assistance, or a disabled person who is totally reliant on the benefits of the minister—have suffered a loss of about $10—just something short of $10—in the purchasing power of their benefit, because of the rise in the cost of living.

So, if the minister intends to convince the Treasurer of the need for a higher expenditure in the income maintenance programmes of his department, he is going to have to ask the Treasurer for at least an increase of $10 in terms of 1970 buying power, just to make up a level of benefit that the recipients, the families, the persons who are disabled were in receipt of in April, 1967.

That is the first thing that the Minister of Social and Family Services is going to have to do. He is going to have to provide a catch-up increase for his clients to bring them back to a level of purchasing power that they enjoyed in 1967.

The second thing he is going to have to ask the Treasurer for, Mr. Speaker, is an increase in his appropriation which will not only be sufficient to provide for the additional enrolment of persons in 1970-1971 who will become applicants and recipients in the minister's programmes, but which will also be sufficient to give a real increase in the purchasing power, and therefore the standard of living, of these persons on fixed incomes.

As I said last April, Mr. Speaker, we have an obligation, not only to protect the benefits against the rising cost of living and the consequent erosion of purchasing power. We have an obligation also to see to it that persons who are unable to provide for themselves in today's marketplace share in our ever-increasing level of prosperity and abundance that those of us who are active in the work force manage to acquire, through collective bargaining, or whatever mechanism is available to us.

We are the only ones, here in this Legislature, Mr. Speaker, who have the collective bargaining leverage to exert on behalf of all of these persons who are in receipt of benefit from the province under the Canada assistance programme.

In the forthcoming discussion of the minister's estimates we have got to see to it that he is cognizant of that obligation; that he will respond to that obligation; that he will obtain from the Treasurer—he will certainly get the approval from this House—sufficient money to restore those benefits to their April, 1967, level of purchasing power and to raise them to a 1970 level that will give the recipient a fair share and the minimum standard of comfort that he is or she is entitled to.

Once that is achieved, Mr. Speaker, we can then ensure that never again will a person who is in this position be forced to face a declining standard of living, as the consumer price index steadily erodes their ability to buy from that same basket of goods and services that the rest of us carry around the supermarket with us.

We will be asking the minister, at that time, to build into his programme an escalator

clause which will protect the recipient from future increases in the cost of living. There will be some fairly ready way of working out an appropriate index by which, for every percentage point increase in the consumer price index for Toronto, or for Ottawa, or for some other major regional city in the province, there will be an equivalent rise in the benefits of the recipient, so that he will never be getting behind, in terms of real purchasing power.

A new level of benefit having been set for him in 1970, he can look forward, in 1971 and 1972, to making sure that he will be able to buy at least the same amount of food, the same quality of shelter, the same amount of clothing required for his family, and all the other incidental expenditures of recreation and personal care that everyone should have as a minimum.

I think that this is certainly within the competence of the government to work out. It has behind it many, many large computer installations and task forces of economists and statisticians. There should be no difficulty in applying a reasonable average to form the base of that index to protect benefits from future cost of living increases.

These, Mr. Speaker, were the two areas that I wanted to deal with this evening in my remarks. I had thought earlier of endeavouring to engage one or two of the ministers in the give-and-take of the political battles in this Legislature in respect to a motion that has been moved by the member for York South (Mr. MacDonald), the leader of the New Democratic Party, which calls upon the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) to advise His Honour to dissolve the Legislature and call an election.

I am sure that the Prime Minister is giving that a great deal of thought—not so much, perhaps, as he was prior to the speeches of the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) and the hon. member for Riverdale on the Benson white paper. My sensation, Mr. Speaker, was that the Prime Minister was riding rather heavily on what he thought was a crest of popular disapproval of the Benson white paper.

I think that events in this Legislature during this throne debate and outside this House have brought home to the Prime Minister of Ontario that it is not simply the Benson white paper that has caused considerable agitation. It is a very deep dissatisfaction with the policies of the federal Liberal government in respect to rising unemployment—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): I knew you would find—

Mr. Peacock: —in respect to the lack of action in the housing programme, which the Minister of Trade and Development shares in, and is at fault with.

If the Prime Minister has concluded, at this point in time at least, that that is not the issue with which he can come to grips among the problems which he faces in the province of Ontario, and successfully return to power, that means, Mr. Speaker, that in the forthcoming months I think we will be dealing much more closely with the real issues that face the people of the province of Ontario—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Even the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) has shut up. He has not said a word in two weeks.

Mr. Peacock: —those matters which come under the jurisdiction of the province of Ontario in regard to prices, education, and pollution control. The Prime Minister will be engaged in these areas more and more and less and less in the Benson white paper and is therefore less and less sure of himself in respect to the calling of another election campaign.

Perhaps this will be a last session, Mr. Speaker, in which we meet here together here in the Legislature. If so, may I take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to you. I think this is the most appropriate—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Peacock: I think this is the most appropriate time to do it, at the opening of the session—

Mr. Lawlor: You had better do it now. You will never get a chance again.

Mr. Peacock: —rather than at the end, when we are all busy rushing off to our constituencies to organize for that election campaign.

I have already been doing that, so I am not going to be too surprised if the Prime Minister calls an election sometime this year. I hope to be back again.

An hon. member: You who do not go for it will all be on the other side.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Speaker, in rising to take part in this debate tonight, I wish to commend you for the impartial and fair way that you have guided the deliberations of this House. I know that all of the other members of the assembly join me in congratulating you.

The debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, is traditionally a time when a member can speak on anything and everything in connection with the problems of his riding. Tonight I wish to take the opportunity to make a few remarks, Mr. Speaker, on some things that are of importance to the people of my riding.

I will make some opening remarks, Mr. Speaker, in connection with civil rights and The Department of Labour. Later, Mr. Speaker, I will make some general remarks related to the lives of the people of Ontario. But the major portion of my talk tonight, Mr. Speaker, will be centred on a problem that we have in the northern part of Etobicoke in what is known as the Thistletown housing project.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I will close by making a few remarks on the need for an ombudsman. I am going to try to relate the problem that I am going to bring up at that time, Mr. Speaker, with some of the arguments that have been brought before this House by the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) and others, and relate it to the fact, Mr. Speaker, that we here in Ontario can use, and could have used for many years past, an ombudsman to whom citizens can take their problems when there is nowhere else to go.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make a very short reference to the cases of Dirk Hoogendoorn and Miss Agnes Hamstra, and others of the Ontario Dutch community. I should say, Mr. Speaker, that we have in Rexdale a very large Dutch community and these people—I suppose today I can say like the Irish—are very thrifty and very religious and law abiding.

On the whole, the Dutch people in my riding are very, very good citizens. Dirk Hoogendoorn and Agnes Hamstra are people who belong to this community and I think the people who live in Rexdale of Dutch parentage or ancestry are representative of the Dutch throughout Ontario, and these people are, by and large, in labour matters represented by the Christian Labour Association of Canada. This association, Mr. Speaker, has brought the cases of these two people I have mentioned to the attention of the government and to the attention of those who are interested in the freedom of the individual and in civil rights.

Time does not permit me to go into detail about the cases, but I would like at this time to add my support to the representations being made on behalf of these individuals. Mr. Speaker, I have never been in favour of an employee or any person being forced to contribute union dues to an organization which might then put these funds to uses contrary to the religious and other views of the person.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): How about your union dues to the Law Society of Upper Canada?

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to engage in any crossfire, only because this is a debate. I am certain, Mr. Speaker, that any and every person who wishes to speak has an opportunity to do so. I happen to be speaking the truth. I happen to be speaking on behalf of individuals who require people to speak on their behalf in this House and to bring these matters to the attention of the government. I intend to do so.

The member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly), speaking in this House, Mr. Speaker, has pressed his own party for an amendment to The Labour Relations Act, so that persons such as Mr. Hoogendoorn and Miss Hamstra need not become martyrs in the cause of freedom. I endorse the position taken by the member for Eglinton and would ask the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) to have this problem studied in depth, so that some fair and just solution to the problem of employee deduction can be arrived at.

Mr. Speaker, I make this comment because in the Speech from the Throne, on the second page of the copy which we have—I am going to read just a short paragraph—it says as follows:

> Underlying all of this is the necessity to protect the rights of the individual while at the same time ensuring that we achieve higher standards of responsibility on the part of each and every person.

And, Mr. Speaker, I think that these particular cases fall within these words. I do feel that this is an obligation of the government, to do something to see that this type of situation can be averted in the future.

I want to say a few words about senior and retired citizens. It has always been my feeling that, if a couple or an individual worked hard for years, they should not, in the twilight of their lives, find themselves burdened with onerous property taxes, especially taxes related to education. It is my view that there should be no need for private bills such as those brought before this House by the cities of Peterborough and Hamilton. I call on the government to bring in appropriate legislation designed to reduce the property taxes paid by retired and senior citizens and others on fixed incomes, so that the burden of taxation is

more evenly spread over the population as a whole.

Along the same line, Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the government seriously consider the elimination of succession duties, particularly in the case of those who do not die wealthy. A person should be able to plan for the passing of his hard-earned savings to his surviving family, without the government stepping in and taking a hefty slice.

It appears to me that the Ontario Treasury would not suffer if the minimum figure was raised to, say, $150,000. Anything less than this would not be subject to any succession duty. As I said, Mr. Speaker, there must be some way for the needs of this province to be met without unconscionable demands being made on the little man, particularly those who find themselves on fixed income in these times of inflation.

I want to refer now to a matter which I think affects all persons in Ontario, whether they be management or workers. I am going to read a letter from a Mr. A. R. Morrison, president of S & C Electric Canada Limited, 90 Belfield Road, Rexdale, Ontario. This letter was addressed to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) on February 21, 1970. A copy was sent to the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall), and a copy was sent to me. The letter is as follows:

> I have just received from our parent company in Chicago a 160-page book on Ontario published by the Ontario Department of Trade and Development. Why was our company in Canada not extended the courtesy of receiving a copy?
>
> On scrutinizing the publication further, I found it completely inconceivable to me as a Canadian, a resident of Ontario, that this documentation on our province was printed in Japan.
>
> That the Japanese should corral business from the Ontario government is a particularly sore point for we in the electrical industry, who, strictly from a non-tariff consideration, are not allowed to quote or sell any of our products in Japan.
>
> Yours very truly,
> S&C Electric Canada Limited
> A. R. Morrison, president.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know what reply Mr. Morrison got to his letter, but I felt that this letter reflected the views of many people in Ontario, because, in the last few days, Mr. Speaker, we have all seen and sympathized with the men and women who are being dismissed by the Dunlop Rubber Company. We have heard talk of how foreign competition has had some effect on the competitive position of companies such as Dunlop. My feeling is that, unless exceptional circumstances prevent it, this province of ours should give priority and assistance to industries within Ontario.

It is apparent that Mr. Morrison was quite upset about the publication of the book being given to a firm in Japan. He makes a valid point when he says that his company, along with many others, is not allowed to quote or sell any of their products in Japan. We do not want to have other plants closed because of unfair foreign competition, and I would ask the Minister of Trade and Development to seriously consider an Ontario-first policy in connection with government contracts unless, as I mentioned earlier, special and extraordinary circumstances pertain.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make just a very few comments on the Dunlop plant closing. I want to say, first of all, Mr. Speaker, that I received a call on Saturday from a man who had worked for Dunlop for 19 years. This man called to tell me that he did not know what he was going to do, Mr. Speaker, inasmuch as he was now 50. He heard of this plant closing at the same time he read about it. He heard it on the radio. I think this is despicable, Mr. Speaker.

As far as I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, I think that there should be legislation so that it is mandatory, if a plant is going to close, that there be consultation and advising of the employees, so that nobody should be caught by surprise. There should be ample time for the employees to be relocated or retrained.

In no event, Mr. Speaker, should there be a decision to close or relocate a plant without a great deal of consultation and, as I say, in no event should the decision be a unilateral one.

Mr. Speaker, I want now to devote the next part of my speech to an issue which has important overtones and consequences for the future way in which communities are going to develop in Ontario, and particularly in urban Ontario. My interest centres on some land in my constituency—in Rexdale, in the northern part of the borough of Etobicoke, where stands the Ontario Housing Corporation development known as the Thistletown project.

Within this area, bounded by Martin Grove Road, Albion Road, Kipling and the Humber River, there is a 10-acre parcel of land

bounded by Martin Grove Road, Rampart Road and John Garland Boulevard. At present this land is zoned as follows: three acres for commercial and seven acres for residential, with a proposed density of 247 family units. A developer has applied to the Etobicoke planning board for permission to build two high-rise apartment blocks on the residential land, totalling 410 separate units, and a shopping plaza on the commercial land.

It is a fact, Mr. Speaker, that a deposit—no, I do not suppose we should call it a deposit, we should say a payment—of $100,000 has been paid out of a total price of $900,000 for the land, to CMHC, on condition that Etobicoke council approves a rezoning to the higher density required. That is, according to the original proposal, from 247 units to 410 units.

Mr. Speaker, I just heard today that the developer, knowing that the original proposal is going to be turned down because of publicity which has been given to it, has now come up with a new proposal. The developer now wants to expand the commercial aspect of the 10 acres to utilize four to five acres, instead of three, for commercial purposes.

He also wanted, Mr. Speaker, to secure a zoning to allow 35 suites per acre, which would give 58 suites per acre on a seven-acre site. That is about 250 units. The proposed change, Mr. Speaker, is that he wishes now to ask for 259 units on a reduced site of 4.3 acres which would then give a 60-suite per acre density on the 4.3 acres.

What will happen, Mr. Speaker, is that there will be a higher high-rise building than originally proposed. In addition to the proposal for a higher density, the developer, Mr. Speaker, is saying that he would deed one acre of the 10-acre lot to Etobicoke—that is to the borough of Etobicoke—to be used as the borough wishes.

As a supplement to that, Mr. Speaker, the developer said that he would build a multi-service centre into the commercial area and will rent this multipurpose building to the social agencies. Of course, there is no one who can tell what the rents might be. From what most of us know about social service agencies, we know that rent cannot be a very big factor in their budgets.

The real problem here, Mr. Speaker. is this. The developer says that he wants to know what the community needs, what the various social service agencies will require for the community centre. He must know within two weeks—this is as of today. I understand, Mr. Speaker, that the social agencies feel that this is impossible. They need much more than two weeks to plan and to decide what facilities might be necessary in a multi-use building, if such a building is to be built by the developer.

All of this, Mr. Speaker, gives more basis for the claim that many people in Etobicoke have; that is, that there should be a freeze put immediately on the 10 acres of land by CMHC. A royal commission should be set up to investigate fully all aspects of the said 10-acre parcel and the needs of the Thistletown community as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, people might say, "well, that is 10 acres. What is so different about this particular 10 acres?" Obviously anywhere in Metropolitan Toronto there must be a dozen similar applications for spot rezoning being heard at the present time. What makes this case unique is the fact that it represents a betrayal by the province and the shattering of a dream of community development that architect Henry Fliess had many years ago.

I understand that, back in 1960, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fliess was the guiding light behind all of the ideas and the development that led to the Thistletown housing project. This was to be a unique type of development. There was to be low-rental housing, and there was to be private development, and there was to be commercial, and it all was to be tied together in a new way.

This was a daring concept at the time. In fact, I well remember, back in 1960, 1961 and 1962, when I sat on the planning board in Etobicoke, Mr. Speaker, listening to the same Henry Fliess and wondering at the time where he was getting his ideas from. Because these were ideas that we in Etobicoke, who feel we are progressive, had to admit were new. We just had not heard of this mixing of the various types of housing together, and we thought it was good, we thought it was daring, and we thought, as I say, that it would work.

Within the Thistletown project, and to the east of this 10-acre parcel of land, stands Greenholme Junior School, which now enrols children from junior kindergarten to grade four. This is already one of the largest schools of its kind in Canada, and if a proposed extension is completed, it will be the largest school catering to junior public school children in the whole of North America.

I want, Mr. Speaker, to pause here for a moment, to say that parents of children going to this particular school in Rexdale are quite alarmed at this extension. As a matter of fact,

in the fall, a delegation and I went to the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) and we discussed this whole problem of an enlarged school with him. The board of education in Etobicoke proposes to further enlarge this school and I will talk about that later.

Now the Minister of Education has stated publicly that he is against very large schools for junior children. In any event, Mr. Speaker, the parents in this particular area are concerned because nobody knows just what the effect of such a large school will be on such very few children.

Some experts claim that young children carry their space along with them and they relate to the teacher and to the teacher alone. These people argue that, however large such a school became, it would not matter to very small children, since they cannot comprehend above a certain area of "bigness."

Others, however, take the opposite view, and predict that, regardless of how well such a school might be run—and let me be the first to say that under the direction of its understanding principal, Mr. Clifford Chellew, this school is as near to the Hall-Dennis ideal as we can hope for in practical circumstances—the very size of the undertaking will produce serious traumatic effects upon the children, perhaps distorting their values and their perceptions in later life.

Well, Mr. Speaker, because nobody knows, northern Etobicoke parents have been rightly concerned that the Greenholme school should not be extended before the best educational advice available has been sought. The same people whose social concern has expressed itself on this issue have also been active in trying to improve the social service facilities available to residents of the Thistletown project which furnishes 95 per cent of the children for Greenholme school.

For a year or more, the northern Etobicoke community action group and the Greenholme Neighbourhood Association have seen these two concerns as really one and the same project; just different aspects of the same social problem. With too many people, with too many problems, confined in too small an area, with no provision for social, community and people needs, Mr. Speaker, Thistletown is on the way to becoming a dream gone down the drain.

Members will recall that the Thistletown project was erected in two phases. Before the birth of OHC, phase one was built by the federal-provincial partnership and comprised 309 dwelling units. Then when the Ontario Housing Corporation was set up, phase two was begun, and when completed it comprised a further 245 dwelling units, making 554 units in all of subsidized rental housing.

In these homes, which are row houses, not apartments, live 3,193 persons, of whom 1,032 are adults 18 and over, and the remaining 2,161 are children under 18. The average family size is 5.8 persons. I have been unable to obtain figures of how many of these are one parent families, but I know many are headed by a female, a few are father-led and the balance have both parents at home.

However, the number of multi-problem families requiring a variety of social services is extremely high. The pity is that their needs cannot be cared for anywhere in the immediate vicinity. Those needing help have to journey a long way, to the central part of Etobicoke, to what is known as the Six Points on Dundas Street.

The need for a multiple service centre right within the Thistletown project has been voiced over and over again. I myself brought these needs to the attention of the Minister of Trade and Development last year during the estimates of his department.

It was at this time, during his estimates, that the Minister of Trade and Development promised that something would be done, after about an hour of pressing on all sides. Now, Mr. Speaker, this exchange is well documented in *Hansard* for October 10 last, a Friday morning, commencing on page 6957. The commitment is made on page 6960, and I would like to read it into the record at this time.

During that debate, Mr. Speaker, I said:

> The Minister should show his interest by taking some time, if he cannot go there himself, to send some of his research people up there, to see what the problems are. I do not have to tell you what you will need. You will see—they will see for themselves. That is all I am asking the Minister to do.

To this the minister replied:

> You have got a deal.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I repeat, that is on page 6960 of *Hansard*, October 10, 1969. That pinpoints it exactly: the minister's firm commitment to send some people up there to make a study. However, six months later, no researchers have shown up.

I want to say this, Mr. Speaker, this is the type of action that has led to the disillusionment of the people of Ontario, and this is one of the reasons why this government is going to fall. It is not going to fall because of things it has done; it is going to fall because of things it has not done, problems that have not been checked.

As I say, Mr. Speaker, what has happened up there is that the people who have bought these homes expected this government to stand by what its ministers have said and send up people to create a survey and find out what some of the problems of Thistletown are. This government has not followed up on its promises.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what actually has happened is that these citizens' groups have made further representations to the Etobicoke council. In particular, a fine presentation made by Mrs. Sheila McIlraith, speaking for the Northern Etobicoke Community Action Group and the Greenholme Neighbourhood Association on Monday, February 16. As a result of that evening's exploration of the whole question by its members, Etobicoke council passed resolution 38 as follows:

> That this council requests Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation not to dispose of the 10-acre site—northeast corner of Martingrove Road and John Garland Boulevard—in the federal-provincial land area in northern Etobicoke until a study of social requirements is made by the Etobicoke council and the Etobicoke Board of Education.

Mr. Speaker, the effect of that resolution was to tie the future of Greenholme school and the future of the adjoining 10-acre site together into one conceptual problem. Whatever happened to Greenholme school by way of expansion could not be divorced from whatever happened to this 10 acres. Council reached out to CMHC by way of public resolution and a follow-up letter. Council was also pleased to discover that its board of education had already, just some 10 days earlier, invited the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education to undertake a study of the future of Greenholme school.

Mr. Speaker, there was an unfortunate delay in the receipt of the letter to Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation because it was addressed to the wrong individual there, but the letter from Etobicoke was answered on March 4, 1970. At the same time, as a result of action initiated by myself, the federal minister in charge of housing matters, the hon. Robert Andras, called for a full report on the situation, which I understand he may be in possession of already.

I want to read, Mr. Speaker, at this time, an important letter into the record, before commenting further. The letter is from the Etobicoke Board of Education to Dr. K. Prueter, co-ordinator of field development at OISE, dated February 6, 1970. Some members will know that Dr. Prueter was with the Etobicoke board before he went to OISE, so he obviously enters into this matter with some foreknowledge of the situation.

Here is what the letter says:

Dear Dr. Prueter:

> The Etobicoke Board of Education has authorized its officials to explore the feasibility of a sociological study for Greenholme Junior School, which serves a community with a large proportion of public housing. A continual evaluation of the academic results has been successfully carried out by the board's staff. However, in this particular situation there is need for professional assistance in the field of educational sociology to assess the social implications related to the educational provisions for this community. We would be grateful to have your advice on the proposal for such a project and the procedure which should be followed.
>
> As preliminary information, a summary of the development of this school from the beginning may be helpful in identifying the needs for a study of this nature.
>
> Since 1964 the board has been developing and implementing a plan for the education of children in the Greenholme school community. The community includes the Thistletown housing project which is comprised of Ontario Housing Corporation units and private development in the ratio of about three to one.
>
> Of particular significance is the density of the population providing a high pupil yield from a relatively small area. To meet the needs in this unique situation, it has been necessary to provide extensive educational facilities and professional resources beyond what is normally required.

The letter goes on:

> Greenholme school opened in September, 1966, with 14 classrooms and two senior kindergartens, accommodating kindergarten to Grade 6. By the end of that school year, the enrolment had grown to 584 pupils and it was apparent that an addition would be required at the earliest possible date. Subsequently, the first addition of 16 teaching areas was completed for September, 1968, and the school was reorganized to accommodate junior kindergarten to Grade 4 with a total enrolment of 1,076. The enrolment as of December 31, 1969, stands at 1,188.
>
> It has been the intention of the board to expand accommodation for a complete

junior school programme, junior kindergarten to Grade 5 inclusive.

In view of the fact that the yield from the remaining undeveloped land in the area and the projection of the present enrolment would yield an ultimate school population of approximately 1,500 pupils, the Etobicoke board is concerned about the implications of a second addition of some 12 teaching areas for the total development of children in a school environment of this size.

The letter proceeds:

The following points from our experience in this school situation over the past four years are pertinent.

1. The large enrolment has made it possible to extend the class groups to accommodate the wide divergence of abilities.

2. The size of the building has made it possible to provide special facilities which would not have been available otherwise.

3. The provision of staff and facilities have made the school virtually self-contained and self-sufficient for immediate attention to specific needs.

4. Standardized test results in this school, in comparison with other schools, show that academic progress is most favourable.

5. The tone of the school reflects that the children like to go to school and that they are eager to learn.

However, a concern of the board to which it has not been possible to provide a convincing answer, since our only reference has been subjective observation, is the impact of a school of this size on the social development of the child. To our knowledge there is no reference available in Canada where a sociological study has been done for an area with the conditions identified above. It is felt that the findings of a well documented study of this nature would help to resolve the problem of a further addition to the present structure as a viable development for educational provision in this community.

Your interest in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
L. W. Smith,
Associate Director of Education.

Mr. Speaker, my concern is that these two studies, the one asked for by the board and the one asked for by the council, should in fact become one. The situation is indivisible.

What happens, because there is no community service centre, is reflected in the behaviour of children in schools; and conversely if some of the children in school are overwhelmed by its size and bewildered by its complexity, then they are going to carry their emotional disturbance home with them and aggravate a situation that may be already tense through overcrowding and the absence of one parent or the other.

Furthermore Mr. Speaker, not enough research has been done on the spread which can be accommodated through a process of social integration such as the Thistletown project purports to achieve. The private homes were built in 1966 in the portion of the area known as San Francisco Village, and their value was then $34,000 on the average.

And I can say, Mr. Speaker, from personal knowledge, that the various builders in that particular area had an awful time selling their new houses because of the prejudices of many individuals against the public housing. But in any event, most of the houses in that particular area have now been sold.

Now in 1970 Mr. Speaker, these very same houses changed hands, if at all, for $39,000, a gain of $5,000 in four years. So while the homeowners have not actually seen their property values depreciate as a result of their location within the Thistletown project, it remains a hard fact that they have not appreciated to the Toronto average figure.

A few, at least, of the people who live there, have used this fact to bolster perhaps latent prejudice against the people in the geared-to-income rental housing whose children share the school with their own. In turn, the public housing tenants have shown some resentment against the affluent minority. So what has happened to this date has been some polarization and hardening of parental attitudes which has so far, fortunately and happily, not penetrated the school.

Mr. Speaker, my investigations have shown that the children work and play happily together at Greenholme. The staff has been handpicked and the planning of the resource centres and library facilities is most imaginative. Etobicoke has poured money into the school in the form of equipment of all kinds which is constantly in use.

Mr. Speaker, we looked into the patterns of movement of the children to see if they were, in fact, spending an undue amount of time in moving about the huge building, but we found that the various entrances and cloakrooms are so designed and arranged that

there is no more travel than in a normal-sized school. However there seems little doubt that the addition of a further floor which—if present plans go ahead will be constructed during the school year while teaching is actually in progress on the floor below, will be the last straw which breaks the camel's back and drives the dedicated staff up the wall, or looking for a softer, less demanding job.

The teachers have probably had just about as much innovation and change as they can assimilate in one dose. They are all, Mr. Speaker, extremely young persons; beginning teachers, many of them. But even so, the atmosphere of crisis is probably now at its peak and could easily deteriorate if construction were added to the present unusual features of the situation.

Now as I said Mr. Speaker, there are two alternatives in prospect. One is the completion of the extension, a second story which will certainly make Greenholme school the only one of its kind in North America—for where else will some 1,800 children of from junior kindergarten to Grade 4 be found under one roof. The second alternative is that Greenholme shall be confined to its present size and that a second school shall be built as part of an all-embracing community complex on the 10-acre lot which the private developer wants for high-rise apartments and a shopping plaza.

In order to get to the heart of the matter it is absolutely essential that the OISE study of Greenholme be merged with the larger study of the sociological needs of the Thistletown project, because this primary school is the key to the whole thing.

It is no good for the Minister of Trade and Development to say that there are school sites available in Thistletown. He would not make such a statement in relation to this particular request if the research promised last October had been carried out by his staff; for they would have told him by now how very small and young these children are and how the other sites for the schools, across Albion Road and other busy roads, do not lend themselves to this particular community of small children. However, the minister has already issued a statement about the situation, and since he has not seen fit to make that statement in the Legislature, I propose to read it into the record in the form he issued it to the press.

Mr. Speaker, this statement was the basis of the report on the Metro page of the Toronto *Daily Star* of March 10. Before I get into the minister's statement, Mr. Speaker, the article in the *Star* was headlined, "Thistletown housing talks planned". The article goes on to say that the Ontario Housing Corporation will consider a lower housing density and more land for community facilities on a 10-acre parcel of the Thistletown development in Etobicoke, and it comments on the statement of the minister.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, the minister started off by saying:

> I would like at this time, Mr. Speaker, to make a few comments on the address by the hon. member for Etobicoke.

However, Mr. Speaker, that line was pencilled through, since I had not as yet taken part in the debate, and I get the feeling that we almost ended up in a war of press releases. But in any event the minister then went on to say:

> The member states that the federal-provincial partnership has departed from the original concept of the architect, Henry Fliess, for Thistletown development. The major departure is in the number of public housing units recommended for the area. The architect recommended something in the nature of 1,100 units, which we have cut by nearly 50 per cent to 554 units.
>
> The second point I would like to make is that the original plan of subdivision clearly sets out the 10 acres in question for a combined shopping and residential use. The present zoning is for 35 units per acre. The proponent proposes 50 units per acre and the partnership has informed him it would agree to this if he is able to obtain township approval.
>
> As the hon. member is no doubt aware, 10 acres of land fronting on Albion Road, but within the development, were conveyed to the borough by the partnership for institutional purposes. Presumably this land was to include the major community facilities he mentions and does have the library and swimming pool located upon it. Only 25 per cent of this site has been developed to date.

If I could stop for a moment, Mr. Speaker, I would say that I am familiar with this 10 acres that the minister mentions in his press release. I know that there is a community centre and a library, but a firehall and other borough needs are already crying for this 10 acres, and the social needs of the community will nowhere be met by what remains of this original 10 acres on Albion Road.

The minister, in his statement, goes on to say, Mr. Speaker:

> Another point I would like to make is in the question of high density, which the hon. member is underscoring. Much has been said in the past about the high density in Thistletown and it is certainly unfounded in that the overall density is only seven units per acre. The area has an exceptionally high amount of park lands which amount to roughly 19 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to digress here for a moment and say that when he talks about park land and when he talks about lands that are not being used for building, the hon. minister should look and see what type of land he is talking about, because he will find, I am sure, that a lot of this is ravine land and land that is unusable for housing and for just about everything.

The minister's press release goes on:

> Having made these comments to put the hon. member's speech into perspective, I would say further that Ontario Housing Corporation is quite prepared to discuss with Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation the possibility of reducing the density on the 10-acre parcel he is referring to and restricting its use for shopping and such community facilities the borough of Etobicoke would be prepared to provide.

Mr. Speaker, in point of fact, the original plan of subdivision included a community centre facility as part of the shopping plaza complex. The plaza which the present developer proposes includes no such community facilities, but as I mentioned, this new proposal says that if the agencies can within two weeks state the area that they will require, then such a facility can be built by the developer and leased to the social service agencies.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed true that the federal-provincial partnership has informed the developer that it would agree to 50 units per acre provided that Etobicoke's approval were forthcoming. In fact, it has gone further than the minister suggests because the partnership, or rather its agent, CMHC, accepted a cheque from the developer for $100,000—I mentioned that earlier. This cheque, Mr. Speaker, was banked last April and the interest on the money has been accumulating ever since. This sum of money is not an option, and I think I made that clear earlier; this $100,000 is the first installment of the sale price. So as far as CMHC officials are concerned, the deal has already been completed, except that the title has not yet changed hands. But to the partnership, the idea that Etobicoke would seriously resist the higher density proposal was absurd.

It is only because participatory democracy has reared its head in the form of a well prepared and well presented intervention on the part of NECA and the Greenholme Neighbourhood Association, that council has moved and passed the resolution I read into the record earlier.

We are reliably informed by Mr. Jorn Nielsen, the consultant to the developer, that an application for a building permit will be made after some modification to the first plan has been completed, and that, if Etobicoke does not grant the building permit, the developer will, in all likelihood, seek a writ of mandamus against Etobicoke.

What the federal-provincial partnership has effectively done in this matter is to bounce the ball right back into the lap of the municipality. Since this is a precedent-setting situation, it behooves us to look at the Act under which OHC was set up and see whether or not the Minister of Trade and Development is right in shrugging off his duty to create communities and not just to create shelter.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, the minister in his statement has just said:

> Ontario Housing is quite prepared to discuss with Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the possibility of reducing the density on the 10-acre parcel he is referring to, and restricting its use for shopping and such community facilities as the borough of Etobicoke would be prepared to provide.

Mr. Speaker, I take it those discussions will include the possibility of a new primary school on the site, under the umbrella of community facilities, and to the extent that the educational capital aid corporation is involved, the provincial government will be in there if this series of discussions bears fruit. So we may have won one concession on behalf of the residents of northern Etobicoke. There has been a slight change of policy there. This is on the record now, and I will be speaking with the minister further on this during his estimates.

That is not the main point, Mr. Speaker. The major question is, what is OHC set up to do? In fact, is the minister's concept of what OHC is set up to do really what the Act says OHC is set up to do? That is really the vital question, not only for Thistletown but also for the communities that are to come, in Malvern—whenever it comes—in Saltfleet, in Nanticoke, and wherever OHC moves

in. If the minister has an inadequate concept of his responsibilities, then the urban development of Ontario, already suffering from lack of a master plan, will be further distorted and warped.

Let us look, then, at the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1960, chapter 182, The Housing Development Act. Right there, the first definition gives us the needed power. OHC can do what the people of Greenholme want it to do. Here is what the definition says, Mr. Speaker:

> Building development means a project designed to furnish housing accommodation with or without public buildings, recreational facilities, etc., and includes a plan for the redevelopment of land devoted to urban uses designed to increase and improve the housing accommodation thereon.

Then sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 give the Lieutenant-Governor-in-council the power to advance moneys and underwrite projects, while section 6 gives the Legislature the right to underwrite the provincial portion of federal-provincial agreements.

Mr. Speaker, the minister is apparently passing the buck in his statement by stressing section 6, subsection 4, which would allow Etobicoke to erect any or all of the community service facilities required, and to apportion the costs of these works as a land tax on all residents without their assent or without reference to the Ontario Municipal Board. I agree that Etobicoke has this power, and interestingly enough, "whether such properties form part of a project within the meaning of such agreement, or are adjacent thereto"—that is page 492 of volume 2 of RSO 1960.

I am also suggesting that the minister, of his own volition, has all the power needed to initiate the erection of a community service project, and the time has come to ask if he should not have a plan in the works to be able to duplicate such a centre at will. Is it too much to think in terms of a "franchise outlet" approach for community service centre construction?

We have all seen how Harvey, Colonel Sanders, Burger Chef, the Red Barn and a score of other franchise outlets can offer their facilities in very efficient terms in identical buildings. It would be equally practical to standardize the grouping of all the services required by individuals in trouble, so that the community service centre or the citizen's advice bureau would be immediately recognizable in the community, just as the A&W or the Dairy Queen are now in the general area of Metro. Could not a branch of the family and juvenile court and possibly the children's aid, probation office, and so on, be located therein?

Mr. Speaker, the minister has the power, but does he have the will? He has seen the various agency briefs and representations, I am sure. The children's aid society, the YMCA, The Department of Social and Family Services, The Department of Health, all want to get in on this project. The churches have been wanting to get into the community with a thrift store for over two years, and this simple proposal, for which I have pleaded with the minister on many previous occasions, has been hopelessly bogged down, the minister claiming he has no power to use his facilities for anything but shelter.

I want to pause here for a moment, Mr. Speaker, and say that many times I have had people here from Etobicoke — community leaders — and we have met with the Minister of Trade and Development, and we have tried to impress on him the need for a thrift store as a start in the provision of community services. And every time we have got some sort of approval, or some sort of encouragement here, they have gone back to the housing project at Thistletown, and we have found that the people underneath the minister had been unable to give us any sort of co-operation, not because they did not want to, but because they said their hands were tied.

We found that it was a very aggravating and discouraging situation. As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, some of the churches have got together in the Thistletown area and they are going to erect a prefab house on church land which will serve the purpose.

It seems a shame that the Minister of Trade and Development and his department could not even take that step, to help the people of RESA, that is one of the other organizations in northern Etobicoke, and NECA, and the other organizations that are trying to help to make the Thistletown housing project a viable and successful community.

Mr. Speaker, the minister has claimed that he has no power to provide some of these facilities. This is not true. The power is there, right in the Act. The minister could, if he wished, immediately fund a pilot project in Thistletown that would be the model for all the new communities that we are going to have as the population grows.

All he has to do is act, if he wants to act. I do not think he should let Etobicoke shoulder this burden alone, because the

Thistletown project is, in many ways, greater than the municipality of Etobicoke and ought surely to come under the special aegis of the province through OHC.

Now the minister has another and most useful power in section 9 of this Act, Mr. Speaker. The OHC may inquire into any matter relating to housing conditions or a building development at the request of the municipality. And "any matter" surely can be interpreted as covering just that—the social service aspects being part and parcel of the conditions under which the OHC tenants are housed.

Therefore, I would hope that, following up its letter to Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Etobicoke council will contact the Minister of Trade and Development inviting OHC to undertake a study of the sociological conditions obtaining in the Thistletown project, with a view to the highest and best community use of the 10-acre parcel we are discussing being assured. Meanwhile I am asking the Minister of Trade and Development to get such a study started, if only to back up his promise given during the debate on his estimates last year.

It is not too late, he can still do something about his promise and I think as a gentleman, his word should be inviolate. But the point is, that I would hope that this will be an outside study, a commissioned study by experts in the field, just as the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education review of the Greenholme situation is an outside and well designed study along scientific lines.

What I hope for most of all is that the Minister of Trade and Development and the Minister of Education will get together and will so arrange their affairs and funding that an enlarged and integrated study will emerge, that extends the OISE review into a complete community review.

Since there are many legal overtones to this, it seems to me that perhaps a judge should be in charge of the inquiry, and that is why I suggest a royal commission. However, I am flexible on this point, as long as my basic purpose is understood. I regard this as a pilot project which will offer guidelines for many future projects. We can, and must, learn from the mistakes already made at Thistletown.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the Minister of Trade and Development has a chance to give his views, hopefully before the end of the throne debate or during his estimates.

There are advantages in the minister making a statement to the House, particularly if that statement can be followed up by questions from members. For it seems to me that we have now come to the crossroads. Either we go the way of urban community development, and that means the provision of social services wherever they are needed, or we confine ourselves to merely providing shelter, and wait for the inevitable social problems—broken homes, delinquency, unwanted pregnancies, drugs, violence, and so on, to occur.

This is not smart. It costs more to rectify our omissions than to plan ahead, quite apart from the human distress factor that we can avoid. That, of course, is what Henry Fliess recognized. Perhaps his ideas, Mr. Speaker, of urban density are not ours today, but at least he was on much sounder ground than the minister when it came to the provision of social services.

There is the further aspect to be explored, and surely this is a proper function of government, if we are to avoid some of the ills that beset our neighbours to the south. The question of social dynamics is a practical one, not one crowned in idealistic laurels. There seems to be evidence that geared-to-income housing can stand side-by-side with middle income homes and that the social integration will work.

But there also seems to be a cutoff point. Could the Kingsway and Mutual Street, which are well-known high and low income streets in Metro, co-exist without friction, prejudice and eventually hatred and violence?

Is it possible that too much was attempted in the Thistletown project and the Greenholme area, in trying to cater to people who at one extreme, live in $39,000 homes and others who, at the opposite end of the income scale, pay little or no rent? Can affluence and poverty co-exist in mixed projects like Greenholme? As we pack in together on our crowded globe, this seems to be the $64 question.

That is one of the reasons I want this royal commission, to discover just what happens when idealism and intolerance meet.

Mr. Speaker, no matter what happens, the Greenholme community exists. It is there now as real property, solid on the ground—the row housing and the fancy homes and the Greenholme school that must cater to both elements of the population in the ratio of 95 to 5, or 19 to 1. I know, as do all the concerned citizens who have participated in this exercise in democracy, that the situation desperately needs the provision of social services on a

multiple community scale, far more than it needs any more stores.

Since the crisis over shopping facilities of some years ago, in the area, normal market forces have come into play. Albion Plaza has been expanded. But normal market forces do not operate in the social service agency field. The law of supply and demand does not apply.

That is why I say, Mr. Speaker, that these 10 acres must be frozen until we see how this community ought to be provided for in the most efficient and expeditious manner possible. We can do without the twin apartment towers, but we cannot do without the social service agencies on which the future of so many citizens depends, nor without a suitable small school that the kindergarten and lower grade children can call their own.

Mr. Speaker, I have left until the last, the possible involvement of the federal authorities in this matter. While I believe that this is primarily the responsibility of the government of Ontario, I nevertheless feel that the federal minister in charge of housing matters, the hon. Robert Andras, must become involved, if he means what he says in regard to community development. I think that he has to put some of his money at any rate, where his hopes lie.

He sees traditional urban renewal as having been disappointing, and he looks forward to experiments that will set a new direction for community development. Well what better experience for a few thousand dollars of federal money than this?

Perhaps instead of a royal commission we may have a joint federal-provincial study; or best of all, a three-level governmental study which brings in Etobicoke, the municipality concerned in this instance. I think perhaps the federal minister could learn a lot from this, and I hope that he will read my words when they are printed and respond in the same spirit that this suggestion is made.

I believe that Central Mortgage and Housing has been too "hardware-oriented" in its approach to the housing problem. In the jargon of the computer, the software of a housing project is the people. Yet when CMHC has been evaluating mortgages in the past people have only been considered in actuarial terms, or negatively in terms of the damage they are likely to inflict on the property under mortgage. This mental attitude is outdated and is partly responsible for the troubles that Mr. Andras sees in the present urban renewal effort.

I think there has been an encouraging change of heart in the past few months and I think we are going to get community development in the broad sense; if and when the federal and provincial authorities can see their way around the constitution to co-operate effectively and to initiate new developments and concepts in this area.

But in the end it all comes back to the Minister of Trade and Development who alone can set the tone for community housing in Ontario. True he should have the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) by his side, as his ally, in the creation of what we hope will be a forward-looking and exciting province in which to live. But for too many this is not the case at the moment. They are the victims of the bricks-and-mortar approach to housing, not the rounded approach to community development.

Today we know that our resources are not limitless, that we must conserve them and live in harmony with our neighbours. That is why my proposal is so important. The Minister of Trade and Development may be well able to leave all the initiatives to Etobicoke, but he is shirking his larger responsibility if he does.

What happens at Thistletown and Greenholme today will be duplicated across Ontario tomorrow. Let Greenholme be the torch that lights the way to a bright future and a happy life, not just for a few thousand residents of Etobicoke but for all who need this kind of service in the province.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I want to refer to a certain problem of the homeowners of Clarion Road, Waterbury Drive and Willowridge Road which is directly related to the widening of the Macdonald-Cartier Freeway between the Martin Grove Road-Dixon Road interchange and highway 27. Mr. Speaker, prior to 1962—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): The member for Halton West (Mr. Kerr) is embarrassed for some reason—

Mr. Braithwaite: —we had over 100 people buying homes on the streets I have mentioned; and all of these streets are in Etobicoke south of Dixon Road and immediately east of the highway. Now it is a fact that these people knew that the highway was there. But I should point out, Mr. Speaker, that at the time they bought their homes the highway was in what we would call a valley and most of the traffic was hidden from the crest of the hill and the backyards of these people.

Further, the highway was only four lanes and the traffic, even in the slow lanes which were closest, was quite some distance away.

Now I make these points, Mr. Speaker, because on May 23, 1963 the widening scheme for the highway at this point was officially announced. And so, Mr. Speaker, we have people living and enjoying the fruits of their labour, enjoying the good life; and we have The Department of Highways coming along and changing the situation. It would have been different if these people had bought their homes and the highway had not been changed and they then complained about the noise. We could then say that they knew what they were doing when they bought their homes.

But it is an entirely different situation, Mr. Speaker, when we find the highways department coming along and starting to widen the highway from four lanes to eight lanes. And this date of May 23, 1963—

Mr. Singer: It is 12 lanes out where we are.

Mr. Braithwaite: Twelve is it? It may even be 12!

In any event, the fact is that May 23, 1963, is the date that the plan was announced; anybody who had his home there before this has been grievously injured by this action.

Mr. Speaker, what has happened is that the grade of the highway has been changed—it is really the slope—with the result that the valley has been removed. It has been filled in. The highway has been widened so that in some places it comes within 35 feet of the backyard—that is 38 feet of the backyard of some of the people who live in the area.

A slope has been put on the highway so that traffic proceeding normally on Highway 27 to Dixon Road, particularly the heavy truck traffic which must use the easterly or slow lane, has to gear down as it approaches Dixon Road. This traffic has become very heavy now that the highway has been widened and the noise from the gearing down of heavy trucks has become unbearable.

Now back in October, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): That is what I would call injurious affection.

Mr. Braithwaite: —a delegation of these people came to see me. I arranged to meet with them and with the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) on October 29, 1969.

Mr. Singer: He was going to look into it.

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes he was!

We had a very nice meeting, Mr. Speaker, and I specifically told the minister that I did not want to put him under any pressure, that all we really wanted was that he should consider the petition, that his department should consider the petition that we presented to him.

And this petition, Mr. Speaker, was signed by over 200 people. It represented the people that owned 100 homes that were being adversely affected by the highway development.

Mr. Speaker, this petition was broken down into various areas. They talked about the increase in noise pollution and they talked about how many of the people were unable to sleep at night. They went on to the fact that you could not use your backyards any longer, and they talked about the rumbling of traffic and the effect it had on homes, particularly in the summertime when they had to close their houses and live inside and were not able to enjoy the good weather because of the noise and the dust.

The brief went on to talk about the vibration and air pollution, highlighting various things these people did not have to worry about prior to the widening of the highway.

Mr. Singer: Injurious affection did they not call it?

Mr. Braithwaite: Definitely so!

Mr. Gaunt: That is the phrase I was trying to get out.

Mr. Braithwaite: Now Mr. Speaker, I bring all this to the attention of this House, because as I say we had a nice meeting; there were four members, four representatives. There was the Reverend Paul Morris, who lives on Willowridge; there was a Mrs. J. Barwell, who lives on Waterbury; a Mrs. J. Thurston, who lives on Clarion; and a Mr. Carl Buden who lives on Clarion Road; and myself.

Now these people, Mr. Speaker, one from each of the streets affected, came and really, we felt that the Minister of Highways, in giving his word, would do as he said: that is he would have a study made and he would let us know within a short time as to what, if anything, could be done to alleviate the problem. The fact is the highway department had caused the problem; these people did not have these problems before the highway was widened.

During December I started to get calls in my office, Mr. Speaker, from some of these people. After we met with the Minister of Highways I had my secretary run off a memo to all of the people who had signed the

petition. I told them that we had met with the Minister of Highways and that he had promised he would immediately have a thorough study made of the noise and other complaints. I went on to say that when this was completed his office will be in contact with me. And I told them that I would be in contact with their representatives as soon as I heard from the minister.

Now by December 3, Mr. Speaker, we had heard nothing. I had had many calls from people saying: "Well on October 29 you met with the minister; does this government not have any faith in what it says?"

So I wrote to the minister on December 3 and I said:

> Further to the citizens' visit with you on October 29 in connection with the above matter, inquiries have been made of me as to the progress being made by your department in solving the many problems brought to your attention at that time. May I hear from you at your earliest convenience.
>
> Kindest regards.

I was very polite: "Kindest regards."

Now Mr. Speaker, on December 12 I got a reply from the Minister of Highways and he said:

> I wish to acknowledge your letter of December 3, 1969, requesting an indication of the action which has taken place since our meeting of October 29, regarding the widening of Highway 27.

So far he had not said anything.

> An investigation is being carried out by the planning branch of this department to determine suitable ways of achieving noise abatement on freeways. It is expected that a report on this subject will be available in about three months time.

Then he says:

> I trust that the above information will enable you to answer the inquiries on this subject.

And so Mr. Speaker, gullible little me—

Mr. Gaunt: Signed: "Kindest regards"?

Mr. Braithwaite: "Yours sincerely." But I said, well, I am going to be a gentleman. He is a gentleman, he has given me his word. Now I have to say that we have doubts about the Minister of Trade and Development—and I trust the two of them do not talk, but in any event, I would take another try, and wait and see what happens.

About three weeks ago, Mr. Speaker, I received a call from one of the people who had been in the delegation. He wrote me a little note:

> I just went outside to make sure on the holes, and apparently what has happened was that The Department of Highways had got a great big—I do not know what sort of machine it is they use—but they were digging holes, along the east side of the right of way.
>
> But, in any event, they were digging holes about eight feet square, 16 feet, from centre to centre, and about 4 feet deep. Top soil has been placed in some of them and there are quite a number of hay bales around which are used for planting.

So far I had not heard from the Minister of Highways, and I said to myself, "Well, I recall when we met we said that they would be asked particularly not to go ahead with any planting of trees," because this type of situation is not the ordinary type of situation, where you have quite a distance between the actual lanes of traffic and the people who live in homes. The traffic here was backed right up, as I said, Mr. Speaker, to 38 feet from the back of the various homes that back on to Highway 27.

We said the trees would die from the salt. They would take some time before they became anything, and, in any event, they could not eliminate the vibration, they could not eliminate the noise. And what would they do about the dust and the salt in the winter that blows around?

I have to say this, Mr. Speaker. Since this highway was widened it has increased the traffic; the traffic has increased quite a bit.

As far as the noise is concerned, Mr. Speaker, on Friday October 3, 1969, readings were taken with a type 1565-A general radio sound level metre, and this metre meets ASA standard S1.4. These readings were taken at 72 Clarion Road, between 10:40 p.m. and 11:15 p.m. and are as follows:

In the back bedrooms, with the windows closed—cars, 50 decibels; trucks, 60-70 decibels.

Back bedrooms, windows open—cars 65-70 decibels; trucks, 70-90 decibels.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, the noise was awful.

Going back to my comments about the minister. As I said I heard nothing, but the people have phoned me in the last two, three, four weeks and they have said holes were being dug—

Mr. Singer: Here comes the Minister of Highways now.

Mr. Braithwaite: We thought the minister said that he would not do any planting—that he would not do anything until they had made some sort of investigation to determine whether some particular type of fencing could be built; whether some particular type of noise barrier could be erected, in order to stop this noise and reduce the vibration. We all felt in good faith that nothing would be done until this happened.

We asked the minister—we did not know—but we said to him, and more than one person brought it up—you have probably seen these screens that they use, Mr. Speaker, when they test aircraft. These screens are put up against the highway to dampen the noise when the jets are turned around for testing. You do not get the backlash from the noise of the jetstream.

We talked about that, and we said it is not our place—it is not for the people who live there to tell the minister and his department what to do. We felt that he had the technical help; he had the staff to look into this. He could go anywhere in America to find out what was being done in other areas. But we did feel that he would do something.

Mr. Singer: You felt that he was concerned, but he was not.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am glad the minister has come into his seat now, because I really do feel that the people in my particular riding, and the people in Ontario as a whole, have been let down, and let down badly.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Braithwaite: I want to say this, Mr. Speaker, that in the last three or four weeks I was getting these calls about holes being made for trees—great big holes, right up against the backyards, and this was contrary to what we had been told. So, just before I had a chance to ask the question in the House, the minister wrote me on March 11, and he said:

Dear Mr. Braithwaite:

> You will recall that following our meeting on October 29, 1969, I stated in my letter of December 12, 1969, that further studies were being carried out by the department to review ways of achieving noise abatement on freeways.
>
> It was stated at the meeting on October 29, that The Department of Transport at Malton had installed a noise shield adjacent to the right of way. Our investigations have indicated that this was not installed for noise abatement at all, but rather for the deflection of jetstream emanating from the engines being tested in this area.

Now he does not say anything else about what has been going on, or what he found, but I will continue with the letter:

> After due consideration of the existing circumstances and a complete review of relevant data on the subject of noise barriers, my enginers have recommended, and I agree, that the same type of tree planting be used in this area that has been followed right across the reconstruction section of the freeway. This standard of planting was developed by our forestry section, taking into consideration the overall aesthetic value and the protection of the neighbourhood property.

I want to stop here, Mr. Speaker, and say that this is the very thing we told the hon. minister would not be of any assistance here.

This was not the ordinary type of situation. The lanes of traffic were 38 feet from the backyards of the houses in question and a row of trees was just not going to do any good. As the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) has said on many occasions, that is just not good enough.

I want to go on, Mr. Speaker. The hon. minister said:

> A contract has been awarded for the planting of trees parallel to the security fence across the 2,300-foot section that is under consideration. The type of trees and this spacing are in accordance with plans previously approved for this and similar areas between Highway 27 and Highway 48 in the east.
>
> This work is now under way and the beneficial effects will be evident in the near future.

I want to say, right now, Mr. Speaker, I disagree. But I also want to say this, that the minister, if only as a courtesy, could have called me. He could have sent me a note; he could have done anything. He could have let us know that they had decided before they started to dig the holes.

Because, after all, the people who came as representatives of these 100 homeowners, specifically said to the minister and to his assistant who was there: "Please do not do anything about tree planting because tree planting cannot work here. This is not the ordinary situation."

Mr. Singer: Useless.

Mr. Braithwaite: I stress this, Mr. Speaker. But now the minister closes by saying:

> We are fully aware of the need generally to develop new ideas so as to make the construction of these facilities to urbanized areas as compatible as possible with the surrounding development. To that end we will continue to carry on research to consider and test different methods of reducing noise levels.

Now these are what I call, Mr. Speaker, "buzz words". They mean nothing. All I want to say, Mr. Speaker, is this: These people did not cause this situation. This situation was caused by The Department of Highways of this government. There need be no other case to prove the need for an ombudsman. After all, these people came themselves. They came to see the minister, they told him their problems, they brought a petition. The member talked to him and what did he do; he listened—and I am beginning to wonder whether anything else was done. I will be kind. Perhaps it is not the minister, perhaps it is his staff. Perhaps he did not know what was happening.

But I am going to say this, that the residents of Etobicoke have been insulted. They are not stupid. I think this, Mr. Speaker, is another situation—and another of many.

I could talk about OHSIP and I could talk about many other situations where the government has said so and so, and so and so, and done nothing. The people have listened and they are beginning now, Mr. Speaker, to say, "Well, gee whiz, have we been fooled all this time?" I want to say that this government is going to fall and it is going to fall for that very reason.

We have not got an ombudsman; I had hoped the Speech from the Throne would say something about it. It has not. We have not got anywhere that these people can go.

The least the minister could do is to arrange a further meeting so that these people can talk about their problems with him, to see whether something can be done, compensation-wise. But that they do not want. They do not want to be expropriated, because they cannot buy comparable houses in Metro. They do not want that.

They want the minister to do something about the noise he created—his department created. As far as this particular problem is concerned, it points up the need for an ombudsman.

And I say this, Mr. Speaker, in closing, that it will not be long—the Minister of Trade and Development can do what he likes and he can talk sweet as he likes, but he can only fool some of the people. As for the Minister of Highways—and I say, I am going to be kind—perhaps he did not know what is happening, but you cannot make promises, you cannot tell people so and so is going to happen, you cannot let them go away happy thinking that they are dealing with gentlemen and then go ahead and do what you were going to do anyway!

All I am going to say, Mr. Speaker, is that it will not be long before the people on that side of the House are turned out. And when they are, you know who is going to be there.

Now I want to say in closing, Mr. Speaker, that I have tried to bring some of the problems of my particular—

Mr. Singer: The only way you can deal with them is the way the member for Armourdale (Mr. Carton) did.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Speaker, I have tried in this short talk tonight to bring some of the problems of the people of northern Etobicoke, once again, to the attention of this government. It seems to me no matter how many times you tell them they do not listen. They go ahead and do what they want to do anyway.

As far as I am concerned, you can only do this so far and you can only go on so long. I do not have to worry in my particular area, but I know in many of the areas there is going to be a Liberal sitting where they have a minister now. And I am going to say this, Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I support the amendment proposed by my leader and I wish the government would call an election, the sooner the better.

Mr. Singer: No, no! They do not learn either through practice; they will be consigned, eventually, to the back bench.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Mr. Speaker, in participating in the throne debate for this session of the Ontario Legislature, I first want to congratulate you on the way in which you have carried out the duties of your office; and to also congratulate the deputy speaker, the member for Waterloo South (Mr. Reuter), on the excellent job that he is doing in the tasks that have been assigned to him. I wish you all the best of luck in the future and pledge my support, and the support of this party, in the carrying out of your very special duties.

I would also like to congratulate the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), the hon. member for St. George, on the publication and release of a very well prepared booklet called "The geological survey of the north shore of Lake Superior." It is a very attractive booklet. I recommend it very highly to all members of the Legislature, and I am sure that if they take the trouble to peruse this booklet, they will become much more aware of the beauty of the area that I happen to represent on the north shore of Lake Superior, and of the ecology of the area, of the flora and the fauna. I congratulate the Minister of Mines for having made it available to the people of Ontario.

I would also like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), particularly for the wonderful work that a particular district office is doing in northern Ontario, and I speak of the Geraldton forest district and the work which they are doing in keeping the people informed of the various programmes in which they are engaged.

I want to refer the members of this House specifically to a document that emanated from that district office making the people of my riding aware of the events of the past, and I am talking about the glacial action some years ago that was responsible for the kind of ecology and terrain and the various phenomena that we find in the riding of Thunder Bay.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Well, I thought the member was talking about the ice age of the Conservatives.

Mr. Stokes: No, I was not referring to that. I was coming to that, but I did want to give some recognition to the district forester, Mr. Eric Gage at Geraldton, and his staff for the wonderful work that they are doing in attempting to keep the people of that area informed of what the department is attempting to do and the various activities pertaining to people living in the area.

One of the first topics that I would like to speak on tonight, Mr. Speaker, is the reference made in the throne speech to the activities that this government will be engaged in pertaining to northern Ontario. I am speaking specifically of the announcement whereby the department of the present Minister of Mines is going to be expanded to encompass what the government chooses to call a department of northern development.

We have no indication of just what the terms of reference will be, what the administrative structure will be, or really just how serious the government is, after 27 years, in trying to do something meaningful to assist the people of northern Ontario to gain the recognition that is due them and to participate to the fullest extent in the industrial and economic life of the province of Ontario.

I think it came through loud and clear during the dialogue that the people of northwestern and northeastern Ontario engaged in during the three northern conferences which were held at Timmins, Sudbury and the Lakehead. I think it came through loud and clear that the people of those areas were fed up with being studied and surveyed and restudied and resurveyed, with nothing tangible resulting from those surveys.

At the present time the people of northwestern Ontario are anxiously awaiting the results of a $140,000 ARDA survey sponsored jointly by the federal and the provincial government to study that area and what its potential might be, based on the resources—the mining resources and the forest products resources—that we have in that area. They also studied the need for services, and at the conferences that I spoke of earlier the government said for the first time they were beginning to understand the aspirations and the aims and the objectives of the people of the north.

As I said, we are anxiously awaiting the report of this ARDA survey that is supposed to be made available to the people of northwestern Ontario at the end of this month. I would like to make it quite clear here and now that if you think you are going to satisfy or pacify or keep the people of northwestern Ontario quiet just by referring that study back for further study to some body in northern Ontario such as the Northwestern Ontario Development Council or the Associated Joint Chambers of Commerce or to the Thunder Bay Municipal League and expect us to be quiet for another three or four years, this government is just deluding itself!

I would like to call the attention of the House to a delegation that came down to Queen's Park some two weeks ago. They made their annual pilgrimage to Toronto to present a brief of their priorities as they see them. And I might say they were received very, very courteously by the cabinet. I was privileged to attend those meetings and I sincerely hope that the cabinet, collectively and individually, not only heard that delegation but listened to that delegation and are prepared to take some concrete steps to solve many of the problems that were brought to the attention of those Cabinet ministers. The chamber of commerce stressed unity of pur-

pose, orderly utilization of resources, effective communication, taxation, drug addiction, regional government, change of environment and freight rates. I thought their briefs were very well prepared, and if the cabinet members were listening at all they could not help but be impressed. If they are interested in problems of northern Ontario, they have no other course but to take some concrete action to solve those problems.

Now Mr. Phillips, the general manager of the Northwestern Ontario Development Council, made it quite clear in speaking directly to the Premier of this province (Mr. Robarts) that the day for procrastination, the day for throwing a few crumbs to the people of northern Ontario and hoping they will go away satisfied, has long since gone. He gave fair warning that if some concrete action was not forthcoming from all of the surveys and the reorganization of the portfolio of the Minister of Mines, such inaction would boomerang on the present government.

The Premier answered: "Set your fears at rest. We have specific plans for northern Ontario and plan to take concrete action to resolve a lot of the problems that you have brought to our attention."

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): We have heard that for 10 years.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): We have been doing things for 10 years.

Mr. MacDonald: Try to prove it up there, they do not believe it.

Mr. Stokes: I want to refer, Mr. Speaker, to an editorial that appeared in the March 12 issue of the Geraldton *Times Star* as a result of the recent announcement of a reorganization of the portfolio of which I have just spoken. It says:

> Northern Ontario has become the centre of attention of the provincial government, if one is to accept the new concept as briefly outlined during the throne speech when the Ontario Legislature opened this year.
>
> The provincial government has created a new post by adding to The Department of Mines the new office of northern affairs. This, one would assume, places the Minister of Mines, the hon. Allan Lawrence, in the enviable position of an empire builder.
>
> For many years northerners have heard all three political parties outline proposed programmes that would give the north a boost—open up the north and develop this vast area, so that the residents could expect the same progressive growth and expansion that the southern section of the province has been enjoying ever since World War II. Up to now, all that has been talk, away back there where the north is known as northern development, but it died a natural death and has been forgotten.
>
> Now the present government has, at long last, come up with another office, northern affairs. The details of the new office have not been spelled out. At the present time no one knows just what the new department will do, or what they plan.
>
> There is no doubt in any northerner's mind that the new office has hundreds of surveys, fact-finding and soul-searching reports, all detailing the north. It will be interesting to see what Queen's Park will come up with. You canot blame a northerner for being skeptical. In the past, you have seen many great booboos made, all under the guise of helping the north.
>
> The Minister of Mines has a big job cut out for him, but if he will only listen for the "call of the north" he will not be too far wrong. It says, sir: "You have a great opportunity ahead of you, one that will require vision, faith and hard work. You will either fail or succeed. It will be entirely up to you and your new office." Sir, listen to the call from the people of the north.
>
> You have before you an area of the countries of Germany, France and Spain all rolled up into one. All this vast area called the north is bounded in the south by the Great Lakes, which could be called inland seas. In the north you have salt water—James and Hudson Bays. But you have a 610-mile river and you have an 1,870-square-mile lake called Nipigon right in the heart of the north.
>
> You will hear the cry of the high cost of transportation, yet by a series of locks, ocean freighters could cross Lake Superior, travel north through a lock system to Lake Nipigon and go north 100 miles into your northland.
>
> Up north there is timber, minerals, not to mention untold, untapped wealth. We northerners—our original Canadians living along the Albany River—will tell you of great oil slicks covering the rivers. Where does it come from? The geology is similar to that of other gas and oil areas. It just needs development.
>
> During the past five years not one new pulp and paper plant has opened in

Ontario, yet five have opened in the province of Quebec and 12 in the province of British Columbia. This will be another challenge to your new office—to find out why such a vast area, approximately 153 miles in length, between Hearst and Geraldton, still is a wilderness. The same area is still in the heart of Canada and not developed; the province of lost opportunity.

Your office has the tools to do the job. You have a railroad that was originally called "the development road." It did open parts of northeastern Ontario. Why not use it to open up north central and northwestern Ontario? The same railroad could reduce high freight costs and transportation costs.

Listen to the call of the north. Listen to the voice of the north. Listen to the people who live in the north.

This is an empire so vast that it would bedazzle other nations. It is ours to develop. It is ours to open up and enjoy. It is the largest portion of the province.

Answer to the call of the north, meet with the folks who have lived there; people who have worked, gambled against odds and are still meeting the challenge. This is the government's opportunity to take decisive action. Do not listen to false prophets who have never been north of North Bay; or the weekend wanderers who fly into the north, stay at a hotel or a motel, spend a few hours and become northern experts.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Sounds like the member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: I have been to the north far more than the member.

Mr. Stokes: Quoting still:

Turn a deaf ear! Listen to the call of the north, sir! The northern storehouse is waiting for you, it is the future of our province. This will be your challenge!

It is unfortunate that the Minister of Mines is not present here tonight to hear that. I want to make it quite clear that the people of the north expect action, concrete action, and they will settle for nothing less. We want more than the few crumbs that were thrown to us as a result of the EIO programme.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The member is quoting my speech.

Mr. Stokes: Is the member in his own seat?

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that instead of the hon. member for Rainy River trying to interrupt what I have to say on behalf of the people of the north, including the people of his own riding, that he go back to his own seat, prepare a decent speech, a meaningful speech, and say something about the town of Atikokan that is going to die in five years unless his counterparts down in Ottawa do something about the hodgepodge of transportation costs.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Rainy River not being in his own seat, I cannot hear what he says so unfortunately I am not in a position—

Mr. MacDonald: Unfortunately, we can hear what he says.

Mr. Speaker: I am not in a position to deal with the comments of the member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The other night Mr. Speaker suggested to me that if I was to comment I would have to do from my own seat. Now I think it incumbent that the Speaker follow his own precedent set the other night; he cannot have it both ways tonight.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order! If I have been out of order I do apologize, but I think the remarks by the hon. member for Sudbury East and the member for Thunder Bay just exhibit once again the complete lack of a sense of humour of those people in that party on the left.

Mr. Speaker: I would hope that the members would endeavour to obey the rules and customs of the House, and when I feel it is desirable to ask or suggest to a member that he return to his own seat I shall do so. I am not, shall I say—I am like the rest of you. I am not always consistent—it would be unfortunate, perhaps, if I were, because many members would suffer.

The hon. member for Thunder Bay has the floor.

Mr. Stokes: Thank you Mr. Speaker.

I want to apologize to the House if I do not have a sense of humour tonight. I happen to be talking about a subject that is very dear to me, that I think is very important; and I think it essential that the message get across in this Legislature—that there is neglect, that there has been neglect for years and years in the north; and I am quite capable of making my own speech without any help or assistance or guidance from the member for Rainy River.

An hon. member: He is right there.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Why not dry his ears off.

Mr. Stokes: I was talking about the EIO programme, the Equalization of Industrial Opportunity, which was thrown to the people of northwestern Ontario specifically on the eve of the last provincial election, in October, 1967. This programme was supposedly going to be the lifesaver for northwestern Ontario, it was going to foster a degree of economic and industrial expansion such as we had never seen before. We were going to have our resources exploited in an orderly way for the benefit of the people of northwestern Ontario. Everybody went away happy and this government was restored to power.

Now Mr. Speaker, this has not happened! Since the programme came into effect in the fall of 1967 we have had a total of 32 loans in the north, which comprises four fifths of the geographic area of this province, totalling $5.8 million and creating—supposedly, or it was hoped to create—948 jobs. This is where the programme was designed to assist low-growth area.

Contrast that kind of development against what has taken place in eastern Ontario when 80 loans were provided for a total of $16,173,000 where supposedly they created 2,811 jobs; triple the amount of money that was made available to foster economic growth in the north.

In the rest of Ontario there were 107 loans made available, a good many of them to foreign companies, for $13,305,000; and they created 3,661 jobs.

Now the overall result of the programme to date has been to create 966 jobs in the north; 2,879 in the east; and 3,940 jobs in the rest of the province. So out of a total of 7,785 job opportunities created by this programme across the province, northern Ontario, all of northern Ontario, the very portion of the province that this programme was designed to assist, got 966 jobs out of a total of 7,785.

All I am saying to this government, and those cabinet ministers who happen to be around this evening to listen to my remarks, is that if they think the people of northern Ontario are going to be satisfied with this kind of programme they are deluding themselves.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the hon. member could find a convenient place to move the adjournment of the debate?

Mr. Stokes: I would just like to say, in ending up this portion of my remarks, that they have got to be much more imaginative; they have to listen to the people of the north. The people of the north know what their problems are, they have offered concrete solutions to those problems. I suggest members of the government had better start listening to them, because if they do not, they have completely alienated what little support they do have in all of northern Ontario at the present time. I suggest that they had better come up with some meaningful, concrete, definite plans for assisting the people of northwestern Ontario.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Sounds like Allan Eagleson.

Mr. Stokes moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue with the throne debate and probably second reading of Bill 39, which I understand will be printed by tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Grossman moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, before the adjournment of the House I wonder if the acting House leader gave us the correct bill number? There does not appear to be a Bill 38 on the—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Bill 39; order number 9.

Motion agreed to.

The house adjourned at 10.30 o'clock, p.m.

No. 21

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Wednesday, March 18, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Wednesday, March 18, 1970

Introducing 26 civil servants from many parts of the world, Mr. Welch 773

Safety seminar at Westbury Hotel, statement by Mr. Haskett 775

Appointment of three regional directors, statement by Mr. Gomme 776

Recommendations by York county grand jury, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 776

Postponement of applications for membership to Toronto Stock Exchange, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Shulman 776

Private offers to buy Dunlop plant, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Nixon, Mr. J. Renwick, Mr. Sargent 777

Mr. Neville Procter, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. J. Renwick, Mr. Lewis 779

Cosmos Imperial Mills Limited, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Gisborn 781

Steven-Bird assault case reports, questions to Mr. Bales and Mr. Wishart, Mr. MacDonald 781

Quetico Park and International Lithium Corporation, questions to Mr. A. F. Lawrence, Mr. MacDonald 782

Tabling report, Ontario Securities Commission committee on problems of disclosure, Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence 782

Tabling report of Dr. Edwards, "Did Pesticides Kill Ducks on Toronto Island?", Mr. Wells 783

Motion that standing natural resources and tourism committee be authorized to sit concurrently with House, Mr. Carruthers, agreed to 783

Labour Relations Act, bill to amend, Mr. Bales, second reading 786

Third readings 789

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Guindon, Mr. B. Newman 789

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. B. Newman, agreed to 813

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 813

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Today our guests in the east gallery are students from Bishop Ryan High School in Hamilton, and from Humber College of Applied Arts and Technology in Rexdale; and in the west gallery from the J. G. Althouse Public House in Islington and from Dunbarton High School in Dunbarton. Later today we will have students from Harrow District Elementary School in Harrow.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce to the House 26 civil servants from many parts of the world who are at present seated in your gallery at the north of the chamber. They have been attending a three-day seminar arranged by my department in co-operation with the Canadian International Development Agency of the government of Canada and five Ontario government departments which have provided seminar speakers. The departments are those of Agriculture and Food, Education, Health, Municipal Affairs and the Treasury Board. All of the speakers have described to these students the procedures which govern the operations of their respective departments.

All our visitors, Mr. Speaker, have been chosen by their respective governments to learn as much as they can about Canadian methods of administration. We are very happy that Ontario has been chosen, for the seventh consecutive year, to conduct this particular seminar.

I should explain that these young people in the chamber today are in the midst of a course in public administration at Carleton University in Ottawa. Together they represent 14 countries in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and South and Central America. They are accompanied by officials of both the government of Canada and Carleton University.

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that I speak for all members of the House when I wish them every success in their studies here, and even greater success when they are able to apply what they have learned to the greater advancement of the countries from which they have come. To each of them all of us extend the hand of friendship and goodwill.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, on a point of personal privilege.

I wish, sir, to complain that my privileges as a member of this House have been seriously infringed upon, as I think have the privileges of all members of this House, by the auditor of the province of Ontario.

The auditor sir, as you know, is not a person hired by the government. He is a servant of the Legislature and his duties are set out and carefully spelled out in The Audit Act, which is chapter 27 of the revised statutes of Ontario, 1960. By that Act he is required to report annually to the Legislature insofar as a number of things are concerned. His report is not to the government, his report is to the Legislature.

Now sir, insofar as privileges are concerned, privileges of members are established either by custom or by statute, and I would suggest to you, sir, that the privileges insofar as the right to be advised by an independent person, independent from government, are set out in the statute which states that the auditor must be, and must continue to be, the servant of this Legislature and not the servant of government.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Hear, hear.

Mr. Singer: Now sir, I have in my hand the provincial auditor's report dated 1968-1969, and the note which forwards it is signed by George H. Spence. The report is dated November 28, 1969, on the page which identifies it as the auditor's report to the Lieutenant-Governor, his annual report in accordance with the provisions of The Audit Act.

One page 18 of that report, sir, the following two paragraphs are found:

> Recommendations made in previous reports that have not been dealt with at the time of the most recent examination of the related accounts and other matters relating to the revenue of the province are commented on as follows:

> The report on the audit and the examination of The Department of Public Works dated January 24, 1969, repeated certain recommendations and made others which are considered necessary for the effective control of incoming mail and funds contained therein, revenue from telephone commissions and miscellaneous agreements, stores, and the sale and purchase of real estate, and the establishment of the complete inventory of property owned by the department.

When I was reading that report, sir, and came across those particular paragraphs, to my mind they were not too clear.

So I took it upon myself yesterday to phone Mr. Spence and ask him if the implication I drew from those two paragraphs was in fact correct. What occurred to me as I read them, and I would think, sir, might occur to you, was that he was something less than satisfied with certain actions taken by The Department of Public Works in connection with recommendations set out in his report, which he referred to on January 24, 1969.

Mr. Spence, in fact, concurred in that and he said that was the purpose of that clause. I then asked Mr. Spence if he would make available to me the report dated January 24, 1969. Mr. Spence said he would have to take it under advisement. He later communicated with me, and that conversation took place this morning, when he said he "could not make that report available" to me. At one stage he suggested I might ask the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Simonett) for that report.

Now, I say this, sir, if the rights and privileges of the members of this House are to be protected by the creation of a so-called provincial auditor who is the servant of the Legislature; and if the auditor, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, makes his report, and in the report he draws to the attention of the members of the House certain things which he sees fit to question; then I say, sir, we as members of this House have absolute right to see the basis on which he is complaining.

I say, sir, that we have been denied that right, arbitrarily, against the provisions of this statute; and I say there has been a serious, gross infringement on our privileges as members of this Legislature. We have enough difficulty, sir, getting information from government on matters that the government chooses to consider are matters relating to government policy.

But this is an entirely different case. Here we have a gentleman who is supposed to be independent of government, to be the protector of all members of the Legislature. We have a duty to inquire into government expenditure, that is why we have an auditor who is supposedly independent of government. If he is unsatisfied, and he sets out in his report a vague reference which he will not spell out, I say, sir, that our privileges have been seriously, detrimentally imposed upon and interfered with.

I would therefore ask you, sir, in view of what I have said, in view of the contents of this report, in view of the pertinent sections of The Audit Act—and I can read them to you, but I will not go into them at length—that you summon the auditor to appear before the bar of the House and make explanation as to why he has flagrantly abused the privileges of the members of this House.

Mr. Sargent: Let us see you handle that one.

Mr. Speaker: I shall.

The member for Downsview has set out, I think very properly, the position of the provincial auditor, and I think within reason the position of the members of this House with respect to the matters that he has raised.

He has, in fact, answered his own question as to what should be done. In my opinion the provincial auditor is the servant of this House, and therefore if this House as a House orders a return from the provincial auditor, or something of the kind, then I think that the provincial auditor must, and I am sure will, reply.

Therefore I would say, I will check with the authorities, but I would say offhand that the member's mode of approach was perhaps not that contemplated by the auditor, or by the Act—and that is, that either there should be a question directed through appropriate channels to the auditor, or there should be a motion for a return filed with the clerk. Then it becomes an order of this House, and the provincial auditor will, of course, I am sure, comply with it.

At the present moment that is my reaction to the point of privilege raised by the hon. member. I shall consult with the authorities, but on the points raised and in my view of the situation, that is the present standing of the matter.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, may I comment very briefly on your remarks?

Mr. Speaker: No, the hon. member has raised his point of privilege and this is not a debate.

Mr. Singer: No, I do not want to debate with you, sir, I want your further direction.

Mr. Speaker: I have dealt with the matter as far as I am concerned, and if the hon. member then wishes further direction in view of what I have said, he has the floor.

Mr. Singer: In my request for further direction I contemplated posing a question, sir, but again on reading The Audit Act I find there cannot be, nor is there, any minister responsible for the auditor, nor should there be. So one cannot pose such a question, nor do I know of any way in which one can sort of throw a question out into the air because there is no one here to answer. The auditor is the servant of the House and not of the government. With that big question mark in mind, sir, it occurs to me that you are the only one who can act; or perhaps, sir, you should act by resolution of this House.

Mr. Speaker: I concur with what the hon. member has said—on short acquaintance with the matter, because this is the first I have heard of it—that I think it has to be a House direction which Mr. Speaker, of course, then will either direct or enforce. Therefore, perhaps the suggestion that I made for a motion for a return might be the proper way to handle it. But in any event, as I say to the hon. member for Grey-Bruce, I will consult the authorities—and by the authorities I do not mean the government, I mean the authorities in the matter of Speaker's precedents and rules of the House.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Perhaps by way of assistance, Mr. Speaker, the thought which has gone through my mind in listening to the exposition by the member for Downsview is that there is a standing committee of this Legislature of which the member for Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt), of the same party as the member for Downsview, is chairman. It would appear to me to be quite appropriate that any recourse which the member for Downsview wants to have should be taken by requesting the chairman of the public accounts committee to convene a special meeting of that committee and asking the auditor to appear and explain this apparent contradiction in the problem, which the member for Downsview has raised.

Mr. Speaker: I am grateful for the suggestion because, as I say, as far as I am concerned this is a new point. My initial reaction is as I pointed out to the member, and I will consult with the authorities upon whom Mr. Speaker relies. I am sure the clerk will give me assistance in going back through the precedents and I will endeavour to advise the hon. member further. In the meantime he might consider the advisibility as to how he himself would like to bring it before the House, because, hon. members, I think this is a matter that the House must direct, not an individual of the House.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House of a special safety seminar being sponsored by my department at the Westbury Hotel in Toronto on May 1 and 2. The seminar is being held to discuss the relationship between medical and psychiatric impairment and the safe operation of a motor vehicle. This is one aspect of safe driving that deserves more intense study, discussion and consideration so that any areas of action that could achieve greater safety for all road users can be more clearly defined.

The special seminar will bring together a representative group of physicians, surgeons, psychiatrists, judges, lawyers, motor vehicle and safety administrators, and other interested individuals. The two-day conference will essentially consist of a few formal speeches by authorities in pertinent fields and four workshop sessions. The workshops will consider such questions as defective vision and safe driving, whether medical impairment is an important factor in the safe operation of a motor vehicle, and the significance and disclosure of psychiatric disorders and alcoholism and drug dependence and their relation to traffic collisions.

A large number of qualified authorities have agreed to participate in this seminar as speakers and panel members, ensuring a high calibre of discussion that we hope will produce many useful ideas and recommendations. These participants represent such diverse organizations as medical associations of Ontario, Canada, Britain and the United States; the Departments of Transport of Quebec, Manitoba, Ontario, New York State and the United States; Canadian and American universities; hospitals, the legal profession and several specialized medical associations. The objectives of the seminar are to review existing procedures and standards, to develop recommendations aimed at identifying the drivers with physical and mental deficiencies, and to establish levels of medical

fitness related to driving competence in line with today's medical opinion.

The seminar should also develop proposals for solving problems involved in detecting and evaluating physical and mental deficiencies and reporting them to licensing authorities. In addition, delegates will be asked to review the role of medical advisory boards as relating to driving licensing authorities, and to develop a consensus on the most urgent line of research into the medical aspect of driver capability.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, might I ask the hon. minister—

Mr. Speaker: No, the oral question period is the time for elucidating ministerial statements.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have a very brief statement relating to the tabling of a report. Do I make it at this moment?

Mr. Speaker: If it is a brief statement with respect to a report I think the proper time is when the report is tabled. If it is a ministerial statement of policy or otherwise then this is the proper place for it.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, I wish to announce the appointment of three new regional directors to co-ordinate the activities of the department in its northern, eastern and southwestern regions. These appointments are a further extension of the policy announced last year to place greater authority for the direction of the department operations at the local level. This started with the appointment of a regional director for the northwestern area of the province and the results of this new management approach have been most gratifying.

These regional directors, who report directly to the deputy minister, have a wide latitude of authority to direct and co-ordinate the department's activities and deal with local situations on a direct basis. In the case of the northwestern region, this has developed a closer and more effective relationship between the department and the municipal authorities, local organizations and other branches of government in the area.

The new directors who have been appointed are, Mr. Peter D. Billings, the district engineer at Kenora, who will assume direction of the eastern region with headquarters at Kingston; Mr. James H. Blevins, the staff engineer to the assistant deputy minister of engineering at headquarters in Downsview—

Mr. Sargent: The minister should be cutting down on staff instead of adding on.

Mr. Mr. Gomme: —who will be the director of the southwestern region with headquarters at London, and Mr. William S. Aiken, district engineer at Huntsville, who will head the northern region with headquarters at North Bay. Mr. Billings' region covers the districts of Kingston, Ottawa and Bancroft. Mr. Blevins' region includes the districts of Chatham, London, Stratford and Owen Sound, and Mr. Aiken's region takes in the districts of Huntsville, North Bay, New Liskeard and Sudbury. The appointments are to take effect on July 15th.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, with great respect to the ministry, some of the ministers being absent, the more important questions cannot be asked at this time. However, I would like to ask the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, in light of the recommendations made by the York county grand jury recently, is he prepared to upgrade the situation that was complained of and permit the crown attorneys more staff, better pay and better facilities in order to carry out the prosecutions. The complaints were directed in that way, I believe.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, a question of almost the same kind was asked yesterday, by the member for Downsview. The report was just received yesterday and I answered then. I have read it, and I think I indicated yesterday that I was going to make a statement to the House when I had considered the recommendations and the requests in the report. Of course, on the matter of increase in pay, I cannot stand here as one minister of the government and say that this could be accomplished at this particular moment.

That would not have a bearing on how the crown attorney prosecuted a case in any event. I think I will leave my answer there, Mr. Speaker, that we are considering the report and in short order I will either answer the question more specifically, or make a statement to the House.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs: is he prepared to undertake an investigation into the decision taken by the Toronto Stock

Exchange to indefinitely postpone the applications of two firms for membership in the exchange, so as to be sure that equal treatment for all applicants is being accorded?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, ultimately, if this were to become an issue, a political issue, I presume that I would have the responsibility of doing that, but at the moment I understand that the question has not reached the point where we have to consider it from that point of view.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: does the minister consider an indefinite postponement one of the alternatives that would be available to the stock exchange under these circumstances?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No; the word indefinite, I think, is not an appropriate one, but I would ask for a reasonable amount of time to pass so that the situation could be assessed.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): In view of the fact that this action by the Toronto Stock Exchange, as acknowledged by the members of the exchange, may be because of the religion of the two members involved, does the minister not think he should step in and is it not time that the Toronto Stock Exchange ceases to be a private club?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned earlier, if the allegations that are included in that question are sound I would think that obviously the political responsibility will arise to assess it, but I would ask that the question not be suggestive of peremptory or immediate action on my part.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Labour, in the absence of the Premier (Mr. Robarts) and the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall): is the Minister of Labour aware of private offers to buy the Dunlop plant that is about to close and to keep it operational? And if he is aware of such offers, is the government prepared to assist in the conclusion of the sale so that the operation of the plant can be continued without interruption?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of no private offers of purchase, I think that is the phrase the Leader of the Opposition used, of the plant itself. My discussions with the president of Dunlop Canada Limited were in reference to the feasibility of that operation continuing, that is not under the Dunlop company. At no time did he indicate that there were any offers from other people to buy the plant as such.

I have had a thorough discussion with him as to the feasibility of that company continuing to operate. This took place several weeks ago when we had the initial discussion. It was at that time that it was made clear that the particular operation in that plant, the industrial rubber division of that company, there was a keen competition by other companies in the same field within Canada, as well as stiff competition involving products from abroad. For that reason, sales had been on a decline for some time.

The company, in order to improve their own efficiency, so he advised, had spent considerable money; and the figure they used in their press release, or their announcement of it, was $1.5 million. Infusion of that capital to improve machinery and other needs did not result in the increase in sales they had hoped for; particularly, they felt, because of imports from abroad being available at lower prices. For that reason, they were of the view that the operation could not continue.

The company considered their decision and yesterday Mr. Procter advised me that they were issuing a statement confirming their previous position. In his conversation with me, he told me the whole matter had been under consideration for some 18 months to two years, so it was not a decision lightly taken but only after long and careful consideration.

I may say that when I read the story the other evening in the Toronto *Daily Star*, that the employees were considering investing their moneys—either severance pay or perhaps pension money, though I doubt they could do the latter—some $3,000 to $4,000 apiece into this operation, I was concerned for the employees' sake as to that kind of an investment. It seemed to me that with the problems the company had in trying to maintain the operation, it would not be in the best interest of the employees themselves to invest such a substantial sum of money individually in the hope of continuing that kind of operation.

I think a better hope for all in this matter is the assistance that can be rendered to the employees, through the work of Canada Manpower and also The Department of Labour —through their retraining.

I may say that as of last evening, I am advised that the registration of all of the employees, as to their present jobs and their experience, has been completed. Our representatives have been there with a large number of counsellors from the Canada Manpower in completing this job in a short space of time.

There have been offers—not just through Canada Manpower—there have been offers of employment from other agencies to these employees. Now they can start matching the requests for employees against the experience of the present people, so we can try to facilitate their re-employment as quickly as possible.

Mr. Procter yesterday reiterated to me that the plant would continue—and this is the same undertaking he made before—the plant would continue until all orders were complete, and they would continue operations as long as possible. He has now told me that it would be approximately May 1 before the plant would be shut down. But I was told initially that the employees would continue to work for at least a month before the layoffs would begin.

Mr. Nixon: May I ask a supplementary question? In the minister's view then there is no possibility of the plant continuing, either under Dunlop management or any other management?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I would think there is no possibility of the plant continuing under Dunlop management. This is an industrial building, which I would expect to be purchased by another industry and developed by it. I do not think it will be developed for the same type of industry as it is today.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question. Is the Minister of Labour privy to any plans of the Dunlop company to expand the operations of George Angus Canada Limited, another subsidiary company in the Scarborough area, at the expense of the shutdown of the operations on Queen Street?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker I am not. I would say to the hon. member and others in this House that at the time of our discussions in reference to this matter, I was concerned as to the other divisions of that company, where they employed very substantial numbers of people. I wanted to know if those divisions were likely to be affected as well.

They assured me in the main the operations would be continuing at the other divisions, but that there is an adverse effect on those divisions due to the present status of the plant in east Toronto.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Riverdale has another supplementary?

Mr. J. Renwick: Another supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As the minister's statement was so extended, I trust my supplementary question is in order.

Is the Minister of Labour aware that the hon. Mr. MacEachen stated in the House of Commons, on March 12, in a reply to my colleague the member for Broadview, having referred to a situation in which they had been active for quite some time, in connection with Dunlop: "We attempted at the beginning to negotiate with the employer, Dunlop Canada Limited" – and I interject those words – "a manpower assessment incentive agreement" that might even, at a late stage, do some advance planning to assist workers and that the company refused to enter into that preplanning agreement with The Department of Manpower and Immigration?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, in my meeting with the president of Dunlop I urged the formation of a committee between the management, the employees and the various government agencies to better facilitate the new employment of the employees as well and as expeditiously as possible, for their sake.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question in this regard. You may not answer the question now, but from the financial end of it, have you considered the feasibility of using the multimillion dollar forgiveness loans you are giving to industry now in Ontario? Have you considered the feasibility of using a $1 million forgiveness loan in this area, on a co-operative basis with Dunlop?

Hon. Mr. Bales: That might be helpful, but this comes under The Department of Trade and Development and they would have to—

Mr. Sargent: Why do they not get together?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Just a minute—they would have to meet the requirements of The Department of Trade and Development. These two departments have been in discussion together and I have been in touch directly with the Minister of Trade and Development as to these matters so that we are both apprised of the situation as it develops.

They had meetings with the Dunlop officials in February and some of their people met with them on Monday last in a joint meeting with the hon. member for Riverdale and others in this House.

Mr. Sargent: Further, can I ask the minister whether he would consider recommendation of a takeover from Dunlop and use the

money on a co-operative basis with the employees?

Mr. Speaker: I think that was inherent in the hon. member's first supplementary question.

Has the hon. member for Riverdale a further supplementary, because this is an important matter?

Mr. J. Renwick: Yes, Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question to the Minister of Labour is in reply to his further comment. Am I to take it that the company refused to co-operate in the formation of a committee to deal with this matter in advance of the unilateral announcement to shut down the plant?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I want to be fair and put the reply to this matter in the proper way.

At the time that I raised the point with them, the decision to close the plant had not been made. What the president was saying to me in confidence was that this was under consideration. I said that if it were to be closed, I felt that this was the kind of committee that should be established to be of assistance, and that had to come afterwards.

I did say to him that I would want to assign if it were going to be closed—and hopefully it would not—I would want to assign someone from our department to be in direct charge of our work and negotiations with them. That I did as soon as we had knowledge of it.

Mr. J. Renwick: I have one further supplementary question Mr. Speaker. In view of the statement issued in London, England by the parent company on March 6, that "furthermore the Dunlop company subsidiary, George Angus Canada Limited, will continue its activities in the fields of belting, industrial hose and fire hose," and, in view of the fact that that plant is a very small plant in Scarborough at the present time, is there any indication that the Minister of Labour, or the government, to his knowledge, has received information that, in fact, the market formerly filled by the Queen Street plant of Dunlop is now going to be filled from affiliated or subsidiary companies of the Dunlop empire abroad at the expense of the jobs of the workers at the Queen Street plant?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, we talked about the market that was there and it is my understanding from those conversations they expected it would be outside companies who would absorb that market, not related companies.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition has completed his questions? The member for York South.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, on a brief point of order. I would like to draw to your attention that yesterday the Prime Minister attempted to usurp part of the question time by calling upon the Minister of Labour to give a lengthy statement on what was being done. And indeed, later the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman) interrupted my colleague from Riverdale and is quoted in *Hansard* as saying:

> The hon. members will recall the hon. Prime Minister asked that the Minister of Labour be allowed to get up and make a statement on this question and the leader of the NDP refused to grant permission—the hon. member refused to hear the Minister of Labour, so it is just a phony ham approach.

Mr. Speaker, may I draw to your attention that even today, before the question period, the Minister of Labour did not use the time that was available to him to provide the House with details of all the government was doing in this matter. We, once again, have had to drag it out and whether what he is now telling us might have been part of that statement, I do not know. I suggest to you that this is an abuse of the limited time we have in the question period.

Hon. J. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): What did the member say about the Irish yesterday?

Mr. MacDonald: However, Mr. Speaker, if I may proceed—in the absence of the Prime Minister, I would like to ask the Minister of Labour this: In view of the fact that Mr. Neville Procter yesterday told the member for Riverdale that he had not been approached with regard to consideration of the economic circumstances that had enforced the closing of the Dunlop plant—had not been approached by this government—how does the Minister of Labour, on behalf of this government, square the comments that were made by the Prime Minister and others?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, just prior to the latest statement the hon. leader of the NDP referred to the matter that I was going to add to the remarks of the Prime Minister yesterday and he declined to permit that. I was simply going to make a factual statement, if I had this opportunity, or if I was asked a question.

Mr. MacDonald: Why did the hon. minister not do it in the ministerial statements?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Because in many cases the hon. members opposite have objected to ministerial statements.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Bales: In any event, I was asked a question by the hon. Leader of the Opposition and I have given a reply.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): That was the statement? The minister's reply earlier today?

Mr. MacDonald: It was obvious that the minister had nothing to say yesterday.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Yesterday I was in communication with—or at least I telephoned the president. There was reference to that matter yesterday. I had a discussion with him very shortly after I found the member for Riverdale had had a discussion with him. It was at that point he returned my call—while I was in this House answering, or being available to answer, questions.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question. The minister—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will resume his seat while the hon. minister is completing his answer.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, he is evading the question I asked. The question I asked was: yesterday the Prime Minister said approaches had been made to the company with the regard to the economic viability of the plant and the feasibility of it continuing. The Prime Minister contended that those approaches had been made. Now Mr. Neville Procter contends that no such approaches had been made. How will the minister explain that?

Mr. Speaker: Let me point out to the hon. member, first of all, that a good deal of this speculation as to what the minister would have done yesterday is only speculation. Because, after all, it is the Speaker who would determine whether a statement could be made in the question period or not, and not any member of the House.

Secondly, I would point out that the hon. minister may answer questions how he wishes. If the hon. member asking the question does not like the answer, he can ask another one. But the minister has complete freedom in answering questions as the members have almost complete freedom in asking them.

The hon. minister has the floor if he wishes to answer the question.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I told the Prime Minister yesterday—and I do not think we should go into all the discussions we have back and forth—but I advised him that I had endeavoured to reach Mr. Procter and I expected to hear from him very shortly. I did hear from him later in the afternoon, but after the question period.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question. Is the Minister of Labour aware that Mr. Bullough, who is presently holding the office of manager of the plant on Queen Street, was sent out from England five weeks ago to do the hatchet job of shutting down the plant, but when the announcement was made about the shut-down of the plant on March 6, they then gave instructions to Mr. Procter for practical purposes to disappear. That is why the minister and I, and the members of the government at all levels, were unable to contact Mr. Procter for the last 48 hours. Is the minister aware of that?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I have had the names of people I could contact at Dunlop in reference to this matter. I was not confined to one person.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce; a supplementary?

Mr. Sargent: No, Mr. Speaker, this is not a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Well then, the member for York South has the floor unless there is another supplementary.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker, precisely whom at Dunlop, did the minister and/or the Premier speak to by way of discussing the feasibility study? Other than placing phone calls, who were the precise people and what was the nature of the conversation, within the last 48 hours?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I am not going to go into all of the discussions as to who the people were that we talked to, but I would say that yesterday afternoon I had a long discussion with Mr. Procter in reference to the matter.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: On a further supplementary, we were told specifically, in this House by the Premier yesterday, that discussions had taken place with management at Dunlop—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will please ask a question.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary then: With whom precisely at Dunlop did the Minister or the Premier discuss the feasibility study prior to yesterday afternoon—say in the 48-hour period prior to yesterday afternoon? What were their names and what was the content of the discussion?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, that is not my recollection of what was said in this House.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has a point of order?

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): No, Mr. Speaker. We have been on this one subject with supplementary questions for half an hour. Now, Mr. Speaker, you have indicated that you permitted these questions because you thought the matter was important and urgent. Under the circumstances, Mr. Speaker, I most humbly suggest that it be turned into a matter of public importance and that we carry on a debate and we will get to the root of the problem sooner than by asking these questions back and forth and you cutting off speakers because they do not put it in the form of a question. So may I suggest, since your honour has agreed it is an important topic that we turn this into a debate on a matter of public importance and take it from there.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member of course, realizes that we are operating under certain rules in this House and it is not within my power to turn anything into that type of a debate without the proper procedure being taken. I agree with the hon. member for Humber that we have had sufficient time, even though this is an important matter, and that it is now becoming a debate. Therefore I would ask the member for York South to move on if he has further questions.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have another question for the Minister of Labour. Inasmuch as news accounts indicate that Cosmos Imperial Mills Limited, with 600 employees in Hamilton and another 1,500 in Nova Scotia, are now threatened in terms of their economic viability because of the cut-off of orders from Dunlop, may I ask the minister what is this government doing to anticipate a situation with Cosmos Imperial Limited closing up in Hamilton? Secondly, in view of this development and the shoe plant in London, and Dunlop, does the minister still not believe there is some requirement for a statutory obligation on the part of management to co-operate with government in preparing for this kind of a close-down and consequent unemployment?

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): That is a good question.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the situation in reference to the Hamilton plant; I will look into it. As regards the other matter, I would say, that for some time we have been considering legislation particularly in reference to individuals, and that would be dependent of course, on government policy as it stands.

Mr. MacDonald: On another matter, Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East has a supplementary.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Supplementary to the question regarding Cosmo textiles in Hamilton: Will the minister have his department initiate discussions with the Hamilton company in regards to the eventuality of their shutting down?

Hon. Mr. Bales: I will look into the matter and see what the probabilities are.

Mr. Lewis: Take a feasibility study perhaps.

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister of Labour; on another topic altogether: When is the minister going to table, as I requested some weeks ago, the reports of the human rights officer to the human rights commission on the Steven and Bird assault case last April in Hearst?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member raised that question the other day—and it also affected the Attorney-General. This was not a case—it was an investigation through the human rights commission—it was not a case that would ordinarily be reported. I have asked for a report and I anticipate that it would be on my desk by late today.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Attorney General. The Attorney General indicated a week or so ago that he was going to make an up-to-date report in the Stevens and Bird assault case. When can we expect that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I have the statement on my desk; the full report. It is

12 pages long, and I did not think I would include it today, in the proceedings of the House. Perhaps I might give notice today, to you Mr. Speaker and to the House, to give it tomorrow. I would be quite prepared to give it at this moment if that is the wish of the House.

Mr. Speaker: No, I think that if it is a statement, rather than an answer to a question, it should be given at the proper time tomorrow.

Mr. MacDonald: Tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for York South completed his questions? Then the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has a reply to the question asked by the member for York South—I am sorry, the Minister of Mines has an answer to a question directed by the member for York South.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): As I have said before, Mr. Speaker: "him Bert"!

Yesterday the member for York South asked a question about certain mining claims in Quetico Park and the International Lithium Corporation, and I indicated an answer generally. I merely want to confirm that today.

International Lithium Corporation staked its 17 mining claims in Quetico Provincial Park in 1956, under regulations which were then in force, but which were withdrawn with effect from August 27, 1956. The regulations that were in effect at the time of staking, permitted the holder to proceed to the stage where a licence of occupation could be obtained; that stage was reached late last year so that we felt that we had no alternative but to issue such a licence of occupation. However, as previously indicated, no staking has been permitted in that park or any other park since August 27, 1956.

At the present time, there are no regulations permitting mining in any provincial park and the existing holdings would, therefore, appear to be pretty effectively frozen.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question: since it is firm government policy that there will be no mining claims developed in provincial parks, is the minister considering the introducing of legislation which will, in effect, wipe these out so that somebody will not have his foot in the door?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: No, Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated before in answer to the hon. member's questions, we feel we have the situation under control. They cannot carry on any mining operations in any event, so rather than spend good taxpayers' money in attempting to expropriate—

Mr. MacDonald: You do not have to expropriate.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Has some idiot any objection to that?

Mr. MacDonald: What we are hearing is the idiocy of government policy.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Instead of spending government funds and expropriating, or extinguishing any such—

Mr. Singer: He is short tempered these days; very unparliamentary!

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: —any such interests, Mr. Speaker, we feel that the situation is well under control and that these holdings are effectively frozen.

Mr. Speaker: This completes the oral question period.

I would say to the folk in the gallery, that if there are any further outbursts, the galleries will have to be cleared. They are here as guests and as citizens to view the proceedings and not to take part in them.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, the hon. members will recall that on April 17, 1969, the then minister reported to this House that he had requested the Ontario Securities Commission to conduct a study. I quote from his letter of instruction:

> —dealing with present legislation and regulations relating to consolidations, amalgamation, mergers or reorganizations and takeovers. This will, of course, lead to consideration of the problems raised by conglomerates, and also deal with private placements and exempt purchasers.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the report of the committee of the Ontario Securities Commission on the problems of disclosure raised for investors by business corporations and private placements.

Copies of this report will be made available immediately to all members of the House and included with this report is a summary of its highlights.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, on September 25, 1969, this government appointed Dr. Martin H. Edwards, of Kingston, Ontario, by order-in-council, to:

> —inquire into the relationship, if any, between the use of diazonon or any other pesticide on the Toronto islands during the period April 1 to August 1, 1969, and the death of waterfowl at the Toronto islands, and to make recommendations as the commissioner deems necessary arising out of any such relationship.

I am happy today to table this report, Mr. Speaker, and to thank Commissioner Edwards for the work that he has done. I think the report very aptly titled: "Did Pesticides kill ducks on Toronto Island?" will be of interest to all the members.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Mr. Carruthers moves that the standing natural resources and tourism committee be authorized to sit concurrently with the House this afternoon.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. MacDonald: I move, seconded by the member for Riverdale, that this House do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance; namely the impending shutdowns of Dunlop Canada Limited, Cosmos Imperial Limited and Murray-Selby Shoes and the resultant loss of 1,200 to 1,300 jobs. And I ask for unanimous consent of the House.

I would just say, Mr. Speaker, that I recognize that normally the rules of the House require this be submitted by noon, but by unanimous consent of the House this House can do anything by way of business.

Mr. Speaker: I concur in the view of the member for York South that the House can, of course, do anything it wishes by unanimous consent because we are a body supreme in our own area.

However, it is not customary that these matters be not dealt with in the ordinary course of the rules and procedures. I shall read the motion as presented by the member for York South, and then I presume that it is a matter which, by that time, I shall be able to perhaps rule on.

Mr. MacDonald moves, seconded by Mr. J. Renwick:

> That the House do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the impending shutdowns of Dunlop Canada Limited, Cosmos Imperial Limited and Murray-Selby Shoes, and the resultant loss of 1,200 to 1,300 jobs; and asks for unanimous consent of the House.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, while you are considering this matter, perhaps you would take advice from members of the House as well, because it appears that the matter is of urgent importance and you yourself said so during the question period.

It also appears that the matter could very well have been put before you, sir, as the rules now require, and in that way we might have in a more orderly way proceeded toward a decision which could have resulted in a debate this afternoon. In other words, the leader of the NDP and his caucus might very well, sir, have given you the notice that the rules now require.

Mr. MacDonald: If the member was anxious, why did he not?

Mr. Nixon: On the other hand—if the hon. member will permit me to express my view—since we can, upon unanimous consent, proceed towards such a debate, we on this side of the House will support the resolution and we hope that it will be supported on all sides.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the resolution is out of order. I recognize the tactic being used in order to attempt to put it in order, and we on this side of the House will not consent to this resolution.

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. members that, in addition to what has been said by the leaders of the three parties represented in this House, the motion is most definitely out of order. There is a procedure to be followed for this, and if the hon. member for York South had wished to do this he, as the hon. Leader of the Opposition said, should have gone about it in the right way as prescribed by our rules presently in force.

Secondly, of course, I would point out that it is a matter for unanimous consent and therefore one member of the House alone dissenting can reject a unanimous proposal.

Therefore I rule that not only is the motion out of order, but there is not the unanimous consent required.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

I think perhaps the members would like to know before we enter on the orders of the day that we have a distinguished guest from

the British Parliament present with us. He is Mr. William Howie, a Labour MP, from Great Britain, and with him is Mr. Samples, the senior British trade commissioner in Toronto; and also Mr. George Whitehead, who is the vice, or assistant British commissioner to Canada in Ottawa. They are in Mr. Speaker's gallery and I am sure that we are pleased to have them with us this afternoon.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I suppose on a matter of personal privilege I should rise and meet the allegation I understood was made yesterday, when I was not here, that I had misled the House.

When I read *Hansard* I cannot find the direct allegation that I misled the House. On the other hand, I can find statements to indicate that that opinion had been advanced. Of course, I do not agree that I did mislead the House and I would like to simply go over what happened and make one or two comments about it in justification of the position that I take.

We had a somewhat hysterical presentation—apparently I had retired, but I think that the reference to me misleading the House came in answer to some questions put to me by the hon. member for York South.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): That was outrage, not hysterics.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I said at that time—I believe the only part of my statement that could lead to any idea that I misled the House comes in *Hansard* of yesterday when I was asked—yes, the member for York South asked me:

Has the government made approaches to Dunlop management since yesterday seeking their co-operation in the review of the economics of the proposed shutdown of the plant and, if so, with what result?

My answer was, Mr. Speaker:

We have been in touch with the company and I have not any report to make at this time as to the result of those discussions.

The next question, by way of a supplementary question:

Is the Prime Minister aware the company is reported, according to the media, to be making a statement this afternoon? Is this a parallel action or is it in co-operation with the government?

And my answer was:

No I was not aware of that.

Which I was not.

Perhaps I have just not had time to read the paper yet today.

My assumption there was that this information in the report was coming from the news media, but I was not aware if the company was going to make a statement.

Then I went on to say I rather doubted that the company was going to agree to participate in any feasibility study, and I referred to the fact that the hon. member for Riverdale had indicated in his remarks the day before that he had been told that the company was going to make, I believe he termed it, a unilateral decision.

Now, sir, before I came into the House, I was told, and the basis for my remarks that we as a government—but perhaps I should go on to say that there was another question. The next question was:

Is the Prime Minister aware that the president of the company has not been available to anyone in the course of the last 48 hours for any discussions of any kind?

My answer was no, I was not aware of that.

Now sir, of course there have been many discussions between the company and the government over this matter, going back into February and on into March. The matter came up on Monday of this week and I was asked at that time if the government was prepared to make feasibility studies. I said if this was agreed to by the company and the union we would be more than happy to participate. Yesterday I said that it was my opinion, after looking over the material that I had on the matter, that the company probably would not agree.

Before I came into the House yesterday afternoon the Minister of Labour informed me that he had telephoned the president of the company and had been told by his office that he would be available in one hour. This telephone call was subsequently completed by the Minister of Labour, prior to the issuance of the statement by the company, and the contents of that release were made known to the Minister of Labour at that time. This information I eventually received, that is as to the statement subsequently made by the president of the company. That information was being relayed to me outside this chamber while this dispute or "kerfuffle" or whatever it might be called, was going on in here.

So that I do not think that at any time I can in any way be accused of misleading the House. In actual fact, if one cares to look at the statement that the company made—and I have a copy of it here, this is what was communicated to the public, I suppose, through a press release, and certainly was given to this government—this statement from the com-

pany reads that recent statements made in the press:

> Have unfortunately led to a great deal of uncertainty in regard to the future of Dunlop Canada Limited's industrial division located at 870 Queen Street East, in Toronto. The company therefore feels that it is only proper that it should reclarify its position. The decision to close the industrial rubber goods division was only taken after long and exhaustive studies of all the factors involved and after conversations with both federal and provincial governments.

Now this is what I pointed out was said.

Mr. MacDonald: Has the Premier copies of those studies and will he table them?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: To continue:

> The factors leading to the decision were fully referred to in the statement made on March 6, by the president, Mr. A. Neville Procter. Nothing has happened subsequently to alter in any way the economic facts upon which the decision was based. The company has made no change, and indeed there is no prospect of a change in its plans to cease that division's operations on or about May 1. It would be an injustice to the employees to give them any reason to hope that this unprofitable operation will continue.
>
> No one likes to close a plant, but this is not a sound investment opportunity. If we could see it as such we would not be closing. The company will continue to cooperate as fully as possible with those agencies of the government involved in assisting employees to find suitable alternative employment.

Mr. Speaker, this simply confirms what I stated to the House yesterday and what was, in fact, my opinion as to the position the company would take. I was not in a position to say that it was definite, because confirmation of my belief came shortly after I left the House yesterday afternoon.

So I cannot, in all conscience, accept the position that I have in any way misled this House.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, if I may just . . .

Mr. Speaker: The matter of privilege does not become a debate. The question was raised the other day, the Prime Minister has replied to it and I think at the moment that is the end of this.

I would say to the spectators in the gallery that I would ask them to take down whatever signs they have there, otherwise we would have to ask them to leave.

Mr. Lewis: Why? They are very good signs, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: If they wish to remain in the House . . .

Mr. J. Renwick: The art work is good!

Mr. Lewis: Perfectly proper signs, and the message is clear.

Mr. Speaker: If they wish to remain in the House there will be no more display of signs and no more applause.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, a point of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: Point of privilege?

Mr. J. Renwick: Yes.

My point of privilege arises out of the point of privilege which the Prime Minister has just raised. I do not either lightly or carelessly make a statement in the House that the Prime Minister has misled the House, intentionally or otherwise, and I want to have the opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to clarify exactly what took place in the interchange yesterday.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that is in order at all. I think my previous ruling is correct. I stand by it. The member for Scarborough East has the floor on a point of order.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Before the orders of the day, I would like to bring the attention of the hon. members to people from the University of Toronto who have come to the Legislature to make their views known, who are in the gallery.

Mr. Speaker: That is quite out of order too!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order; can I, through you, request the Prime Minister for a tabling of the economic feasibility studies to which he referred in the House, since apparently the government now has copies of them?

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister is in the House. He has heard the hon. member and I am sure that he will take the matter under advice. I do not have any authority over the government any more than I have over the New Democratic Party.

Orders of the day.

THE LABOUR RELATIONS ACT

Hon. Mr. Bales moves second reading of Bill 39, An Act to amend The Labour Relations Act.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Mr. Speaker, in rising to support this amendment to The Labour Relations Act, I would like to say on behalf of the Liberal Party that it rectifies a judgement given by the supreme court in the case involving Metropolitan Life and the International Union of Operating Engineers. It has been a long established practice of the labour relations board, Mr. Speaker, to certify unions with a minimum of restrictions so that if a union can show it represents 50 per cent of the proposed bargaining unit that the unit will be recognized by the labour relations board and certified by the labour relations board as representing its members.

I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that the only way that justice can be done in many cases in Ontario in industrial relations is that we give free reign and the highest possibility for unions to certify themselves as bargaining agents. Further, it is incumbent upon this House to allow the free expression of the unions in bargaining, and this is one method whereby we can recognize this principle. I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that this party supports this bill.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, we too, albeit rather more reluctantly, will support second reading of this bill, simply to facilitate its passage through the House. The Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) is in increasing trouble in the province of Ontario, Mr. Speaker. It is therefore with compassion that we want to encourage his efforts in this amendment.

It is typical of the minister and his very, very tentative and modest steps in this, as in all things, that he was not able to bring himself beyond the most tepid of amendments. This amendment simply legalizes the provisions of the Ontario Labour Relations Board in the practice of certification, and in the process, hopefully, will circumvent the havoc wrought by the supreme court decision in the Metropolitan Life case.

Had the government, or the minister, Mr. Speaker, a smidgeon of imagination, they would, of course, have used the opportunity to amend the Act so that it would read "giving a trade union movement the authority to represent—"

Mr. Speaker: The member is to discuss the principle of this bill, not the principle of some bill that the government might bring in.

Mr. Lewis: I am discussing the principle of this bill, relative to what it might otherwise have done.

Mr. Speaker: With respect, the hon. member is not. He is discussing the principle of a bill not before the House.

Mr. Lewis: Not at all. I am looking in front of me, albeit painfully, at an Act to amend The Labour Relations Act submitted by the minister. And this Act purports to amend by making some very modest alterations in the wording.

What we in this party are saying, Mr. Speaker, is that because of the problems at the board, because of the urgency of this situation, we will support the amendments in principle. We wish that the Labour minister and the government were endowed with that bit of creativity which would have allowed them to make the kind of fundamental amendment to the bill which would have won approval, right across the province, rather more enthusiastic than marginal.

The bill as it now stands, Mr. Speaker, is still much too complicated in its principle. This absurd nonsense of paying the dollar and signing and counter-signing.

The Speaker will remember that that is a relic of the days when one of the more earnest unions in this province attempted to organize Eaton's. The minister will recall the organizing campaign at Eaton's had gone very nicely indeed—10,000 or 12,000 cards had been signed. At the eleventh hour, as we were about to have a union in Eaton's, the government decided, in one of those friendly cabals between John David Eaton, John Bassett and Leslie Frost, that it would be more useful suddenly to impose a dollar membership card, in order that the organizing would have to begin again.

The initial efforts on the part of the trade union were thus demolished, the organizing campaign had to begin from square one, and the efforts to create a bargaining unit were successfully averted.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): The workers were not prepared to pay the dollar?

Mr. Lewis: The workers were quite prepared to pay the dollar, but the government was quite prepared to delay a massive organizing campaign to force a reinitiation

of the campaign in order to avoid the union. And the minister will know, as he knows in this Act, that in several sectors of Ontario's society it is very, very difficult indeed to form a viable bargaining unit, given the nature of The Ontario Labour Relations Act.

This brings me to the last point I wanted to make, Mr. Speaker. Inherent in the principle of this bill, is the reference to the Act applying to those cases which are to come after its promulgation and those cases which are already in process at the point of its promulgation. May I say to the minister, through the Speaker, that there may be several instances of an effort to certify which will be, or have been, destroyed by his delay in introducing this bill.

It is true, Mr. Speaker, that the terminal date has been extended in many instances, but where you are dealing with very small bargaining units—when you extend the terminal date and you are dealing with groups of 10, or 12, or 15 people—then you seriously jeopardize the achievement of that bargaining unit.

There is absolutely no question, Mr. Speaker, that the minister should make this amendment retroactive, to apply to every single effort at certification which has come before the Ontario labour relations board since the supreme court decision with no exceptions whatsoever.

All of those things notwithstanding, Mr. Speaker, we in this group will rise to support the principle since, in the best of Tory fashion, it confirms what has already been confirmed. The minister has thereby been confirmed. And he will doubtless bring in legislation later in the session just a jot more radical and more adventuresome, we hope.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): I wish the hon. member for Scarborough West had told us whether the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), joined that cabal—that fascinating cabal that he described.

Mr. Lewis: Well, it was in his younger days.

Mr. Sopha: Your honour, as I search for the principle of this bill and as I apprehend it, I conceive that it comes before the Legislature as a result of a considerable amount of legal boondoggling that took place in the confines where such things are determined—some law office downtown that represented these two insurance companies before the Supreme Court of Canada. It is well known, of course, that the insurance companies concerned are in the very forefront of the progressive ramparts of the development of labour law in this country.

The principle of the bill deals with certification. It seeks to be of assistance to the labour relations board in determining the constituency or the population from which the collective bargaining agent is to be fashioned, so to speak. Putting the principle that way, I think it is fair to say that we, in this party, have consistently, over the years, reiterated time and time again in this House that it is the policy of our party and, indeed, treated as a fundamental principle, that there should be few, if any, bars at all to certification. That certification should be, if anything, almost automatic. That once the consideration is determined that workers wish to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, then certification should follow almost automatically.

We must view the principle of this bill in the light of the world of reality. That is what the young people are talking about—we have to tell it as it is. And this bill, of course, reveals in stark form that what actually occurs in determining whether a group of workers shall have that wellknown right recited in the preamble of the Wagner Act, but not in ours, then the seizure upon any technical device, any bit of legal boondoggling—I like that phrase—is fair game. The brilliant, imaginative gymnastic minds of the legal profession and those who advise them, are turned in that direction of determining how the will of these workers can be thwarted.

As a result, of course, it is no accident that workers universally and historically have had suspicion of the courts. For one thing, they do not want to go to the courts because they are too expensive, because they involve delay, because they do not feel there is that dispassionate objectivity, keeping in mind what is the ultimate aim of certification, that is to say, the bargaining of representatives of their own choosing.

So in the result, of course—in this case which leads to this bill, the enunciation of this principle, the company took the matter right through to the highest court in the land. And the decision was adverse. The Minister of Labour got guidance.

Hon. D. Bales (Minister of Labour): Only in the last court.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, only in the last court. He had the privilege of getting guidance from the very top of the judicial system. They advised the Minister of Labour.

In the light of that, it is fair to say, of course, that if our policy were to become part of the warp and woof of labour relations in this province that certification would flow almost automatically once the application was made. Then, of course, we would not be spending our time on all this folderol. We would not have these expensive law suits going on between protagonists, that ultimately led the very top of the hierarchy of the judicial system to require us to change our legislation in accord with the views of public policy as we see them in this Legislature.

That would be one single advantage of the adoption of our policy. The other that would flow from it, of course, is that finally, ultimately as a society, we would come to the apex of progressive outlook; that we will not tolerate labour to be treated as an enemy and to be thwarted. And of course, that is why there are applications before the labour relations board.

Here is a body that causes an inconvenience, that interferes with the management function, that interrupts the age-old prerogative of running the business. And accordingly, every step of the way, road-blocks, frustrations, and irritations have to be put in their way. Technical devices are seized upon, and there may be some here that would swear an affidavit that on many an occasion I have used the opportunity that I have had in this House to express my revulsion about the legal and technical attitude of the labour relations board. That it, in fact, is a court for lawyers.

May I borrow the phrase of yesteryears? It is no place for the blue shirted unions steward; not at all because it has become too legalistic and the only person who can find himself comfortable within the confines of its walls and standing at the bar of justice is the lawyer with the suit formalis on—the $250 suit—armed with his law books, his lexicons and his legalistic armory with him, yes, and his QC.

That sketches it in, in terms that all can understand, and I will never fail to complain about that, for that is entirely wrong. What we are dealing with here is not to meet an economic commodity; we are dealing with people, and labour relations can never turn itself into a fixed body of jurisprudence. It is a continual process, where the environment is always changing, and it is a very antithesis of the establishment of precedence and the straight rule of law. It ought to be a forum where human consideration and the desire to advance and adjust claims of human beings ought to be the motivating force.

That rules out this type of legal bulldogging that went on in this place, so it gives us the opportunity, once again, Mr. Speaker, to stand here in the House and to say that when we come to the point in time in the life of this province when, as soon as there is signification of the desire of a group of workers to bargain in respect to the working conditions, rates of pay, and fringe benefits, through representatives of their own choosing, then we will do everything we can to assist that motivation, and we will do nothing to delay it. We will sweep aside all the irritations that have been placed in the way.

The truth is, of course, that The Labour Relations Act as it stands in the statute books of this province, sets up an adversary system —an adversary system that is just as compelling as the one in the workmen's compensation board described yesterday by my friend from Dovercourt (Mr. De Monte). I have railed against it; I am against it in principle. I am against that concept it extols. We will never, I say, become an enlightentened society, a totally just and human society, until we stop treating the working man as a commodity to be used and until we get rid of the attitude that is still far too prevalent among the management groups in this country, that labour is in many respects, an enemy. When finally, ultimately, we recognize that our economic system must be based on a spirit of co-operation and partnership, mutual trust and confidence, then and then only, will we become an enlightened society.

So, of course, we support the principle of this bill, and now that the Speaker has left the chair, and he was expressing some inhibitions, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will tell you that we share the view of the member for Scarborough West (Mr. Lewis) that our chief complaint about the bill is that it does not go far enough, that this patchwork approach to the very idea of tampering with it is because the Supreme Court of Canada has laid down its mandate. That is offensive. We ought to be more intelligent than that.

Once given the challenge by the highest court in the land, all those advisers of the Minister of Labour, such brilliant people—some of whom are not too modest, I would say, but we will deal with that later; that does not include the deputy minister, a very modest fellow, but some of the rest are not too modest—all those brilliant advisers can sit down and draft up a statute that would encompass and crystallize within its four corners,

a modern human approach to the problem of certification.

That is the challenge that we give the Minister of Labour. Let him make it easy, let him make it automatic, and let us get rid of all this mish-mash that now goes on to thwart working people in this province who belong to trade unions.

Mr. Speaker: Does any other member wish to participate in the debate on the principle of this bill? If not, the hon. minister.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I said a few weeks ago, when the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in the Metropolitan Life Insurance case came forward, that we would see that legislation would be introduced to ensure that the board could continue to provide a system of certification that works relatively smoothly. We had to assess the impact of that Supreme Court of Canada's decision. That has been done, and while it has not been overly serious, nevertheless I felt it was an impediment to proper certification, and therefore we have brought forward the amendment at this time.

We all realize that there are many union constitutions which define membership in a rather cumbersome and outdated way. For that reason, almost 20 years ago, the labour relations board issued a policy statement defining membership, so that all applicants before the board would have some simple and unified system whereby it could be used as a guide to facilitate certification.

It is only now that this policy statement has been overruled in this case. There have been several cases over the years where that statement, while not specifically dealt with, received the approval of the court as a reasonable qualification and statement of what constituted membership in certification cases. And so, Mr. Speaker, we are anxious that this bill should proceed as it has with the co-operation and assistance of members throughout this House, and that it should become law as soon as possible.

There was one point that was touched on by the hon. member for Scarborough West, and I would particularly refer to it because we were determined that, under section 3, this bill should apply, not simply to cases that might come before the labour relations board in future, but, as in the wording of the bill, to proceedings commenced before but not finally disposed when this Act comes into force. It will deal with the very large number of cases that have come before the board for certification since the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada case.

In certain instances, I might say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the hon. members of the House, the Supreme Court of Canada decision did not apply, was not raised and was not an impediment to certification. In this rather short period since the decision came forward, while there has been some period of uncertainty, it has not been a serious impediment to certification to this date. But we did not wish that kind of situation to arise, and for that reason we have brought forward the amendment as it is now to be incorporated within the statute itself.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

THIRD READINGS

The following were given third reading upon motion:

Bill 1, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

Bill 5, An Act to amend The Proceedings Against the Crown Act, 1962-1963.

Bill 39, An Act to amend The Labour Relations Act.

Clerk of the House: The third order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last night while I was participating in this debate I drew the attention of the House to the obvious and apparent neglect of the present government, and the indifference of the government, to the needs and the aspirations of the people of northern Ontario.

After having sat in the standing committee on tourism and resources this morning for about two hours and a half, it became even more obvious to me and to other members of the committee and, indeed, to about 200

of the public who were in attendance, that this government has got to become involved in the problems of the people of this province.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): No, it has got to be replaced, this government.

Mr. Stokes: Well, of course, we cannot do that until 1971, so up until that time all I am doing is appealing to this government to be more aware and more sympathetic to the pleas of the people of this province to react in a very positive way to the representations that have been made to them.

Last evening I was trying to impress upon this government the need for a more meaningful plan for development for northern Ontario, based on the resources that are found in the area. I tried to point out the inadequacy of the Ontario Development Corporation loans, the forgivable quality of industrial opportunity loans, which have actually worked to the detriment of northern Ontario.

Rather than putting them in an advantageous position, it has tended to discriminate against northern Ontario, because of the wide base and the wide application of such loans.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to a recent survey and a report by the Ontario Economic Council entitled, "A forestry policy for Ontario." This review of past and present forest policies was undertaken by the Ontario Economic Council at the suggestion of the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle). Its recommendations, however, are solely those of the council and of the author of this report, Mr. Ian Butters:

> The council's concern lies primarily with the efficient use, both long run and short, of the forest resources of northern and southern Ontario and their relationship to the growth of our economy in increasingly competitive foreign markets.
>
> While the future world demand for forest-based products, related directly as it is to advances in living standards, appears assured, there is no like assurance that the people of this province will attain their fair share of the benefits of that demand, unless and until forest policies, private and public, are properly attuned to the times.
>
> Resource-based exports now account for some two thirds of Canada's total export sales. The labour content of such is not, however, high. If we are to move toward greater employment opportunities in the wood-using industry, we will have to reduce our production costs through specialization of product, rationalization of harvesting and of limits, and the introduction of a greater degree of private motivation in the proper use and regeneration of this significant segment of our renewable resources.

Those observations were made by Mr. William H. Cranston, who is chairman of the Ontario Economic Council. I am not going to take the time of the House to go through all of the recommendations proposed by this special study but I would like to make brief reference to a summary that is contained therein. It says:

> Under present conditions, as indicated by allowable annual cuts, some two thirds of Ontario's renewable forest resources are going unused.

At a time when we need so much expansion and job opportunities where the resource is based.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Province of lost opportunities!

Mr. Stokes: At the present time, wood-using industries of other parts of Canada and of this continent are expanding rapidly. No new pulp and paper mills have been built in Ontario for some 21 years and increases in capacity over that period have maintained this province's relative position. The current surplus of wood could support the operation of several new pulp mills as large as any now in existence in Ontario.

Lumbering and many secondary segments of the wood-using industry reflect a similar lack of growth.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): They have dried up the forests.

Mr. Stokes: Future development of Ontario northland and, indeed, of many other of the marginal land areas in the south is linked to our forest policy. Accelerating cost of transportation and of harvesting are limiting Ontario's international competitiveness in all aspects of the wood industry. The decline in the competitive condition of the forest-based industries was documented 22 years ago in the Ontario royal commission on forestry.

Many companies have, however, failed over the years to carry out adequate reforestation and regeneration programmes and in particular, research into, and development of, improved strains, fertilization and harvesting productivity.

They go on to make some recommendations —recommendations that have been made to this government dating back to 1947 with the Kennedy report on our forest industry.

The recommendations are:

A significantly greater degree of integration of wood supply for pulp and paper and saw milling operations is essential if returns from forest resources are to be optimized.

More adequate licencing areas should be made available to new forest-based companies wishing to establish in Ontario with existing idle licence areas being reviewed and revised.

Crown dues should be revised and transportation facilities developed to encourage the use of the major volume of surplus wood.

Ontario's competitive position in respect to the logging tax now applicable only in this province, British Columbia and Quebec, should be reviewed and a more economic approach evolved for the measurement of scaling of timber.

Federal and provincial authorities should explore further a rationalization of the fine paper and paper board industries to encourage export specialization.

Our total productive forest area—90 per cent of which is held by the Crown, virtually all in the right of the province of Ontario, and 10 per cent patented, or private land—exceeds 105 million acres and forms three distinctive regions. One is the deciduous forests, consisting almost entirely of hardwoods, which extend over southwestern Ontario from the western end of Lake Ontario. The second one is the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence area, and the third is the boreal forest of northern Ontario.

These forests have been calculated to carry a primary growing stock of some 242 billion cubic feet of wood. However, this seemingly astronomical figure must be viewed in its true perspective. Almost half of the stock is limited to four species—black spruce, jackpine, white birch and poplar—with black spruce and poplar comprising almost 75 per cent.

The proportion of the resource actually and potentially exploitable on a sustained yield basis is closer to some 2.3 billion cubic feet annually, or 27 million cords, with the aforementioned species constituting 78.4 per cent of the allowable cut. Black spruce and poplar alone account for two-thirds of this volume.

This report is just replete with recommendations that will enhance the position of the forest-based industry in the province of Ontario and on the need for a more orderly exploitation by its sharing through an integrated forest policy undertaken by The Department of Lands and Forests.

As is the case in almost everything that people attempt to do in northwestern Ontario, we are faced with the cost of transportation. This is not unique to the forest-based industry, it is applicable also to the mining industry, which tends to put us in a distinctly unfavourable position with regard to other sources of raw materials elsewhere, not only on this continent, but in the entire world.

I was talking to the controller of one of the major mining companies in northwestern Ontario as late as last Saturday. He said that the town of Atikokan, which is based on iron ore extractions in that area, will surely meet its demise. It will ultimately have to close down, unless both levels of government come to realize that some action must be taken—that some government action, some political action is essential—in order to keep our forests and our mining based industries in a competitive position. He told me that iron ore producers in Australia can land raw and pelletized ore on to our Atlantic and Pacific seaboards cheaper than they can produce it in Atikokan.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Why?

Mr. Stokes: The minister knows better than I the reasons why. One of the main reasons is the cost of transportation.

Any place where one of our major carriers has a monopoly, where they do not have to compete, they set their own rates. Any time I mention this to somebody who should know about these things, they tell me that the formulas are so complex. I am also told there are only about 10 lawyers across the Dominion of Canada who can even sit down and discuss our hodgepodge of freight rates, rules, regulations and structures in an intelligent way.

I think it is incumbent upon this government to make representations to the federal authorities to come up with the kind of a realistic freight-rate structure that will make it possible for our resource-based industries, not only to survive, but to thrive, so that our position not only in the continental market but in the international market will be placed in a favourable position with other producers.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: If we do, can I have the member's undertaking that he will not say we are passing the buck?

Mr. Stokes: No, he can not. As a matter of fact, I have been urging this government for quite some time to do just that.

We realize there are certain areas of authority and jurisdiction that this government is not competent to deal with, that are beyond its jurisdiction. But we have always been urging it to make representations on our behalf to the people who are charged with the responsibility for making those policy decisions.

If I have not made myself quite clear before, I urge the Minister of Mines and northern affairs, to get working on that very project.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): When is the government going to get that northern Ontario bill through here?

Mr. Stokes: I am also told, Mr. Speaker, that because of the antiquated freight-rate structure, it is cheaper to buy B.C. plywood in the Toronto and the New York markets than it is is northern Ontario. That is, you get B.C. plywood traveling right across the continent, or sometimes by ocean down through the Panama Canal, serving the markets on the eastern seaboard and the prices down there are much more favourable than half way across the continent, in the Thunder Bay area.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: The same with Nova Scotia gypsum instead of utilizing gypsum from Hearst.

Mr. Stokes: Right. So I think it is quite obvious that, for a lot of these industries that we are trying to develop, along with the present industries in northern Ontario, unless some concrete action is taken to make our position that much more favourable for a complete rethinking and restructuring of the freight rates, there is really no use in talking about development of any kind in northern Ontario.

I want to get to another subject, Mr. Speaker. That concerns regional government, which goes hand in hand with regional development; they are useless each without the other.

The interdepartmental report was released here last October, supposedly giving the people of northwestern Ontario three alternatives for a restructuring and a reorganization of the municipal administrative boundaries. After very careful study of those three alternatives, we in this party—and, indeed, most people in northwestern Ontario—came to the conclusion that the alternatives proposed by the interdepartmental committee were completely unrealistic, completely unworkable and completely unacceptable. Indeed, in talking to several members who sat on the interdepartmental committee, I wonder how a consensus was ever arrived at and how they were able to put down in written form those three alternatives that I spoke of.

This party has come up with yet another alternative. We do not think it is the cure-all, or the end-all, of the problems of municipal reorganization and the restructuring of municipal boundaries in northwestern Ontario, but we think our alternative is far superior to anything proposed either by the government or the interdepartmental committee to date.

We go much further than any recommendations ever made by the government or, indeed, by the committee that I spoke of earlier. We think it is absolute nonsense to talk about a restructuring of municipal governments unless you can demonstrate to the people who are supposed to carry it out that there are some inherent advantages to such a reorganization. I am talking about a complete restructuring of the tax base at the municipal level.

It is common knowledge—it should be to this government, at least—that it is absolutely ludicrous to attempt to provide a level of services in small communities in northern Ontario based on resource industries, or who owe their existence to the resource industries in the area, where in a good many cases we do not have the taxing authority to get a fair share of the economic pie generated by such activity.

So, in order for regional government to have any meaning in northwestern Ontario, it is absolutely essential that we have a complete restructuring of the tax base so as to provide the essential services in northwestern Ontario on a comparable basis with communities of a like size elsewhere in the province.

We have made several suggestions as to how this could be accomplished. Among them is a fund to be set aside of one per cent of personal income tax and one per cent of corporate income tax for the entire province for one year, raising approximately $70 million for the fiscal year 1970-1971. These amounts could be made available to crown corporations or agencies, one for the northeast of Ontario, one for the northwest part of Ontario, which would be representative of the area; they would report to the Legislalature through the minister of regional development, and we have one just waiting—just

chomping at the bit over there. He just exudes enthusiasm for the whole concept and I commend this idea to him.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: This would be an additional one per cent would it?

Mr. Stokes: Yes. This minister would report to the Legislature or to the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and such a development corporation would also receive funds already spent in the north by other agencies.

Now similar agencies were recommended in the reports of both the northwestern and the northeastern development councils. Recommendations as to the makeup of the councils differed in these reports from our position in that the reports suggested a body composed of half of local municipal representatives and half provincial representatives. Our suggestion recommended complete local representation, but responsibility to the Legislature through the cabinet.

So, what I am suggesting, Mr. Speaker, is that if there is any hope for a reorganization of regional government in northwestern Ontario, it must be demonstrated to the people who are going to be charged with the responsibility of carrying it out. It must be demonstrated that it is going to achieve the kind of development that is necessary and that it is going to provide the tax base to provide the services that they lack at the present time.

I was pleased to see an announcement made just recently by the Minister of Mines stating that his department has undertaken special geological surveys in areas where there is a great need for some kind of economic development based on mineral resources in such areas. If this project is successful it will mean that those areas will, hopefully, foster the kind of development based on the resources in the area—areas where we really do not know enough about the resources—areas where we have communities based on nonrenewal resources that are slowly withering on the vine.

I think that, at long last, the minister saw the need for just such a geological survey. To see what the potential is in that area, so that you provide a viable, industrial base for existing communities before you allow other communities to spring up elsewhere, duplicating costly services, as opposed to utilizing those and adding to existing facilities in the existing communities.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): You said that before.

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin): That is what the people of Blind River said just before they left.

Mr. Stokes: Right; right.

Another area that I would like to get into, Mr. Speaker, is the need for health services in northwestern Ontario. Here too, this merited a lot of attention during the northern Ontario development conferences, also sponsored by the Minister of Mines. I think it came through loud and clear at the conferences in Timmins, Sudbury and Port Arthur, that there was a dire need for an upgrading of health services in all of northern Ontario.

I have, on numerous occasions, made representations on behalf of those people to the new Minister of Health (Mr. Wells). He assures me that everything possible is being done to upgrade those services.

In spite of the huge sums of money that have been made available to this government by the federal government—some $167 million—nothing has really happened with regard to an upgrading of health services in northern Ontario. There are people in that area who pay the same OHSIP rates, who pay the same hospital rates, but find it necessary to travel as far as 350 miles in order to enjoy the services.

I recommend at that time that cost of transportation to existing facilities be made a cost to the Medicare programme. Some people thought it was a good idea, but no action has been taken, neither to subsidize the cost of transportation to existing health services and facilities, nor has this government made any attempt to upgrade existing facilities or provide them where they do not already exist.

As late as last Saturday I attended the opening of a nursing station at Osnaburgh House, which is about 340 miles northwest of the Lakehead. At a cost of some $90,000 The Department of National Health and Welfare put up a new nursing station, staffed by two nurses, for the benefit of a reserve community with a population of 800 people.

Just 20 miles to the north of that are the two communities of Central Patricia and Pickle Lake with absolutely no health facilities at all, no personnel to diagnose illness, or to advise people in need of attention where they should go, or what the nature of their illness is. I have made numerous representations, as I said, in the past. I get promises but no action.

Mr. Sargent: That is all you get from those guys, promises.

Mr. Stokes: I would like to draw the attention of the members of the House to the special plan announced by the hon. Minister of Health last fall entitled, "Increased bursaries for undergraduate medical and dental students." This is a plan whereby the province of Ontario will subsidize a dentist in a northern community and guarantee him an annual income, after expenses, of $22,000. It also provides the same incentives to a medical doctor to the tune of $26,000. Since the inception of that programme, it is my understanding that not one dentist, nor one doctor, has been attracted to the north as a result of this new incentive programme.

On one occasion I made representations on behalf of a dentist in a town of 3,000 in the riding of Thunder Bay. The minister stated that because he was already resident in that community he could not qualify. The income of that dentist was $12,000 to $14,000 before expenses; he could make double or triple that elsewhere. He wanted to stay in the north and applied for the subsidy, but the hon. Minister of Health says, "Sorry, it does not apply to you. It will apply to someone else who comes in to replace you, but not you," so we lost the dentist.

Mr. Sargent: Same thing in the Bruce peninsula.

Mr. Stokes: So, all I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that if these programmes are going to be meaningful, let us make them apply as it affects people in northern communities at the present time.

Mr. Sargent: Vote Liberal and these things would not happen.

Mr. MacDonald: To borrow the Minister of Mines' phraseology, that is idiotic.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I never said that.

Mr. Stokes: In another instance, the Minister of Health stated that a part of the $60 million that was to be allocated for an extension of health services and for the retraining of medical personnel would be used in northern Ontario. It would apply toward the construction of new facilities, as well as the upgrading of present facilities.

Again I made application on behalf of a municipality in my riding for just such assistance, and they said: "Sorry, it does not apply. The responsibility for providing health services or clinical services to attract doctors to practice in small towns is the responsibility of the municipality and the local people. Sorry, no help."

What is the use of setting up these programmes if they are not going to help people? I have tried, time after time after time, to make representations on behalf of northern communities. We have the legislation. We have the regulations, but when you ask for assistance they say, "Sorry, no help. You will have to paddle your own canoe."

Mr. MacDonald: We have got the wrong government.

Mr. Stokes: We in this province have $167 million coming from the federal government, plus the highest Medicare rates in the Dominion of Canada, and we cannot even get medical facilities which are being paid for at the present time by people of northern Ontario. They are non-existent.

Mr. Ferrier: Looks like the ombudsman of the north is going to have his work cut out for him.

Mr. Stokes: Right. Any time any individual of this province, who is paying the highest hospital premiums and Medicare premiums in the Dominion of Canada, has to travel 350 miles to take advantage of them, there is something wrong with such a programme.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Shameful.

Mr. Stokes: The Minister of Mines nods his assent. I hope that he takes that message to his cabinet colleagues and to the Treasury Board and they let us come up with the kind of programme that is designed to help people.

Mr. MacDonald: I think he is going to sleep, I do not think he is nodding assent. He admits it is both.

Mr. Stokes: Mr. Speaker, there is another area that I would like to discuss briefly this afternoon. It stems from representations that I made to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) last fall. It deals with U.S. interference with Canadian waters and our Canadian sovereignty.

Since the exchange that I had with the Minister of Energy and Resources Management at that time, I got a letter from the Minister, on January 9, 1970. He says:

> Further to your inquiries of me regarding the alleged presence in northern Ontario of personnel from the U.S. Corps of Engineers, I am enclosing, herewith, a copy of a recent letter to me from the assistant to the chairman of the International Joint Commission.
>
> This letter is self-explanatory and you will note that the only possible connection between Canadian studies and U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers' involvement is in respect to the International Great Lakes Levels Board.

I trust this information is of some benefit to you.

Kind personal regards,
George Kerr.

The letter that he refers to, dated January 6, from the International Joint Commission in Ottawa, is addressed to Mr. Kerr. It says:

In the absence of the chairman, due to illness, I have your letter of December 19 regarding the alleged presence in northwestern Ontario of personnel from the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers.

By a reference dated October 7, 1964, the governments of Canada and the United States requested this commission to study the factors which affected the fluctuations of levels of the Great Lakes and determine whether, in their judgement, action within the Great Lakes basin would be practicable in the public interest to bring about a more beneficial range of stage—

That one threw me too.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Range of what?

Mr. Stokes: Range of stage. He continues:

The text of the reference is included in the commission's interim report of August 6, 1968, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, for your information.

The International Great Lakes Levels Board, which the commission established in 1964, consists of engineers drawn from the Canadian Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources, Public Works and Transport and from the United States Department of the Interior and from Transport, and the Corps of Army Engineers. This board has undertaken, through the appropriate federal, provincial and state agencies in the two countries, the necessary technical investigations, surveys and studies.

Personnel from the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, The Department of Tourism and Information, and Ontario Hydro are associated with the investigations, serving on various international working committees under the board's supervision. You will appreciate that, like the commission itself, the International Great Lakes Levels Board and its working committees meet from time to time at convenient locations in both countries.

Now get this—

The actual field work required by the investigation, however, is carried out by appropriate agencies in the country concerned — Canadian or provincial in this country; United States or state agencies south of the border. Inquiries made by this office have confirmed that personnel of the corps of engineers associated with the commission's investigation of Great Lakes levels have not visited any of the Ontario tributaries on official business. I hope that this explanation and our interim report will clarify the commission's activities and procedures in relation to this investigation.

Yours sincerely,

J. L. MacCallum,
Assistant to the chairman
and legal advisor.

I did not understand that letter, so I fired one off to Mr. MacCallum myself. I said:

Dear Mr. MacCallum:

The hon. George Kerr, Minister of Energy and Resources Management, has forwarded to me a copy of your letter to him of January 6, 1970.

You state that the commission was requested by the United States and Canada to study water fluctuations in the Great Lakes basin and to see whether it would be practicable, and in the public interest, to bring about a more beneficial range of stage. Would you be kind enough to explain the term "range of stage?"

You also state that the International Great Lakes Levels Board has undertaken, through the appropriate federal and provincial and state agencies in the two countries, the necessary technical investigations, surveys and studies. You also indicate that personnel from The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, Department of Tourism and Information, and Ontario Hydro, are associated with the investigation and that the actual field work required by such investigation is carried out by appropriate agencies in the countries concerned.

I have received numerous complaints from constituents asserting that personnel from the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers were conducting such surveys in northern Ontario. I have done some investigating and was unable to obtain proof that such was the case. I did find that the U.S. corps was enlisting the aid of Canadian citizens along the north shore of Lake Superior and Lake Nipigon to report ice, slush and snow depths, and they are being paid $3.50 per week for doing so. I understand that about 40 Canadian residents are

providing such data to the U.S. corps in Michigan.

This procedure seems to be in conflict with your assertion that investigations are being conducted by the appropriate agencies in the jurisdiction concerned. I am sure you will understand the uneasiness of northern Ontario residents when they learn that our neighbour to the south is collecting data on one of our very precious and much sought after resources—an abundance of cool, clear water.

Rumours are spreading like wildfire that on-going federal-provincial studies on the Severn, Attawapiskat, Ogoki and Albany Rivers are to study the feasibility of water diversion through Lake Nipigon and the Great Lakes. This has caused great anxiety on the part of residents of northern reserves and sportsmen and tourist operators. They are fearful that fluctuations of water levels will inundate large tracts of productive forest lands and upset the ecology of all of northern Ontario.

Past water diversions in the Ogoki and the Lac Seul area devastated vast areas and caused siltation problems which spoiled fish spawning grounds.

I think that as a necessary first step, to assure all Canadians that Canadian water is not for sale, we should insist that all surveys be conducted by Canadian agencies. Northern Ontario residents are cognizant of the fact that once Canadian water starts flowing south, there is no way to stop it, short of a serious confrontation. Any assurance that your office can provide to indicate that we will be conducting our own surveys without outside interference or participation will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
Jack Stokes, MPP,
Thunder Bay.

And that went to the International Joint Commission.

On January 29 I got the following reply:

Dear Mr. Stokes:

On my return from the commission's public hearings concerning pollution on Lake Erie I had your letter of January 16 with regard to the alleged activities in northwestern Ontario of personnel of the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers.

In my letter of January 6 to the hon. George Kerr, a copy of which was forwarded to you by the minister, I described the reference on Great Lakes water levels which the Government of Canada and the United States presented to the commission in 1964, and the International Great Lakes Levels Board which the commission established to assist it in complying with the terms of that reference.

The board was directed to undertake the necessary investigations, surveys and studies through the appropriate agencies in Canada and the United States and to advise the commission on matters it must consider in reporting to the two governments. Similar directives have been issued to the international boards established by the commission to undertake the investigations, pursuant to other references that have been received from the government. I also indicated in my letter to the minister that the actual field work required by the board's investigation is carried out by appropriate agencies in the country concerned.

I note in this connection, that your own investigations have not substantiated the complaints that the United States Army Corps of Engineers were conducting such surveys in northern Ontario. The International Joint Commission, of course, is not informed regarding engineering and scientific investigations which are undertaken by various governmental agencies and departments and which are not related to matters which have been referred to this commission for investigation and report.

The federal-provincial studies in northern Ontario to which you refer are in this category and we have no information about this. Similarly, since ice studies of the type described in your letter are not being conducted by, nor on behalf of, this commission, or its International Great Lakes Level Board, we have no information about this.

As to the concern you have expressed regarding the possible export or sale of Canadian water, I would emphasize that no such impression or matter has been referred to this commission by either government. Indeed, the reference concerning Great Lakes levels discussed about specifically eliminates such possibilities from commission consideration.

The introductory words in this reference from the two governments are:

"In order to determine whether measurements within the Great Lakes basin can be taken in the public interests to regulate further the levels of the Great Lakes, or any of them and their connecting waters, so as to reduce the extremes of stage which have been experienced, the governments

have agreed to refer the matter to the International Joint Commission for investigation and report pursuant to article 9 of The Boundaries Water Treaty of 1909."

A synonym for "the extremes of stage" in this context would be "the extreme fluctuations of water levels".

I hope that the foregoing information, insofar as the International Joint Commission is concerned, will provide the assurance you have requested.

Yours sincerely,
J. L. MacCallum.

After a denial both by the International Joint Commission and a denial from the Minister of Energy and Resources Management that there is any survey going on at the present time with regard to export of water, or any surveys going on—the Minister of Energy and Resources Management denied, categorically, that there were any surveys going on in northwestern Ontario either by the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers or their agents—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: In which the province was involved?

Mr. Stokes: I want to draw the House's attention to an article which appeared in the Port Arthur *News Chronicle*, dateline Toronto. It says:

A spokesman for the Ontario Water Resources Commission said Tuesday, the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers has been using Canadians in northwestern Ontario to report on ice conditions in rivers flowing into Lake Superior.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): What paper is that?

Mr. Stokes: The Port Arthur *News Chronicle*. So, he did an about face and he said: "Yes, there are on-going surveys being conducted on behalf of the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers," but he was not prepared to do anything about it.

In view of the on-going federal-provincial studies going on at the present time, I would like to draw the House's attention to a map that was taken out of a survey that was made available to me by the joint committee charged with the responsibility of studying the stream flow, water levels and water quality in northwestern Ontario. It is a joint survey undertaken by the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources and provincially by The Department of Energy and Resources Management. It shows diversion dams on four or five locations in northwestern Ontario plus a controlled dam, plus four other dams, and they say that all they want to do is determine the quantity and quality of water in northern Ontario.

I would also like to draw to the House's attention, an article that appeared in the *American Farm Journal* of February, 1969, entitled: "New river for U.S. farmers". I am not going to burden the members with the whole survey. I would like to quote briefly a few paragraphs. It says:

You or your son, some day may irrigate crops from a vast new canal system that will stretch from the Arctic Circle to Mexico through our Great Plains, supply enough water for 50 million acres, equal to all cropland in Iowa and Illinois, and cost roughly $30 billion over several decades of construction as needed—that is a fraction of the expense of the Viet Nam war. It is a carefully engineered system, not a wild scheme. It has been proposed by E. Roy Tinney, chief of Canada's Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, and the canal would carry plenty of water for decades to come from the Northwest Territories to our western and midwestern states for one third of the cost of other proposed plans.

It also shows on the accompanying map, a connection between the one that I just mentioned, stretching over to Lake Nipigon and thence on into Lake Superior and connecting up to the Great Lakes system.

Mr. Greene, at the federal level, says: "It has never been our policy to sell water. Our water is not for sale."

Mr. Sopha: That is what he said. I saw him on TV.

Mr. Stokes: That is right. And yet here we have chief of Canada's Department of Energy, Mines and Resources actually proposing how we should go about selling it.

Mr. MacDonald: It is like those mining claims in the park. I wonder what they are there for if they are not going to be used sometime.

Mr. Stokes: I am pretty naive, Mr. Speaker, but I hear statements being made by The Department of Energy and Resources Management at the provincial level, and the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources at the federal level, that there has never been any consideration given to the sale of water, and almost nightly we hear some spokesman from the United States, including Senator Moss, saying that: "We want a continental resource policy"—

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): Well, of course they do.

Mr. Stokes: —and if Canada wants to sell its excess oil from western Canada we are going to have to look at the overall package. They say they will not talk about oil unless Canada is willing to talk about the other resources.

Well, of course, let us not have any delusions that the other resource that they are looking so covetously at, and the one that they really want to talk about, is water. I need not dwell on what this might mean to the ecology of areas such as northern Ontario, whereby a diversion or a reversal of the normal flow will inundate thousands and thousands of square miles. I need go no further than the diversion which took place 25 years ago undertaken by the Ontario Hydro Electric Power Commission, where they inundated thousands of square miles of good forest land, where they caused excessive siltation problems, particularly on the north end of Lake Nipigon, which has spoiled spawning grounds, and if it is allowed to continue, or if any further diversion is allowed, it will spoil one of the most beautiful lakes on the North American continent. So members can understand just how serious it is and what an adverse effect it would have to the environment and the ecology of the whole area.

As an aside to that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to an article that appeared in the Fort William *Times Journal* in January, 1970, entitled: "Waterway talks set". I quote:

> A proposed link between Lake Superior and the Mississippi River will be subject for a one-day seminar Friday at Lutson resort—

And Lutson resort is in Minnesota—

> —conducted by Great Lakes states chapters of the Grain Elevators and Processing Superintendents Association. Delegates will hear a progress report by James J. Tills for the Missing Link Waterway Committee.
>
> Northeastern Minnesota Organization for Economic Education initiated a programme which involves a proposal to establish a commercial and recreational waterway linking Lake Superior and Mississippi, to extend benefits of the nation's 20,000-mile system of inland waterways through northeastern Minnesota.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): It is a part of this government, that missing link.

Mr. Stokes: After they held their meeting on January 14, 1970, an article appeared in the Port Arthur *News Chronicle*. It is datelined Lutson, Minnesota, and it says:

> SIMILAR PROJECTS STUDIED BY MISSING-LINK ROUTE
>
> Current developments are substantially encouraging, proponents of the proposed missing-link waterway for northeastern Minnesota Great Lakes grain elevators and processing superintendents were told at a seminar in Luxon resort here last week. The missing-link waterway project connecting Lake Superior at Duluth with the Mississippi River near the "twin cities" to establish a new route of waterborne recreation and commerce, was initiated in 1967 by Duluth industrialist, Jeno F. Polucci, as president of NEMO Incorporated—northeast Minnesota Organization for Economic Education, Duluth.
>
> In a progress report on the project, James J. Tills, representing NEMO Incorporated, said the citizens' committee for the missing-link waterway is keeping close watch on the Army Corps of Engineers' rapidly developing Arkansas River project which will be completed this year. A recently opened section of the $1.2 billion, 450-mile waterway through Oklahoma and Arkansas has exceeded first-year traffic estimates by 25 per cent during only nine months of operation. While the final section near Tulsa is still under construction, Oklahoma wheat farmers have already reported a saving of over $12 million over two years in grain freight rates which have been reduced by other modes of transportation serving that area.
>
> Tills also expressed keen committee interest in the Corps of Army Engineers' report expected this month—and that is the one I was referring to earlier—concerning a two-year feasibility study of extending the navigation season on the Great Lakes through de-icing systems for ports and channels and long-range forecasting.

The reason I took the time of the House, Mr. Speaker, was that the very report that the provincial and the federal governments denied any knowledge of—the surveys that were being undertaken by the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers—were for no other reason than to study the ice conditions on the northwest end of Lake Superior to provide what they call "the missing link waterway," from Lake Superior down through the Mississippi chain into the Gulf of Mexico, at a time when the

St. Lawrence Seaway is having an awful time trying to make ends meet.

It is common knowledge that it is much more feasible to keep such a waterway open 12 months a year under much more favourable climates, wholly American-owned, in opposition to something that the taxpayers of this province are subsidizing at the present time, and neither the provincial nor the federal governments are concerned about it.

I draw your attention, Mr. Speaker, to the adverse effects that such a project would have, not only at the head of the lakes, but among all of the communities along the St. Lawrence Seaway, if they are allowed to divert sufficient water from the Great Lakes system in order to provide an alternative route down through the Mississippi River.

All I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is I think it is time that this government and the federal government become aware of what is going on around us—how our resources are being surveyed, without our knowledge, for projects that will be detrimental to us. I do not really believe that either level of government is interested in selling water, but, as has happened on so many occasions in the past, these things have a way of closing in on Canadians, particularly the manipulative ways that the United States government and agencies and corporations have of manipulating our resources to our detriment. I appeal—

Mr. Sopha: The Yankee shrewdness is too much for those guys; it is too much for them.

Mr. Stokes: Right. So I appeal—

Mr. MacDonald: Particularly the Liberals in Ottawa.

Mr. Stokes: —I appeal to the minister in charge of northern development to join the fight with us. See that the most precious of our resources—cool, clear water, of which we have an abundance in northwestern Ontario—does not slip into the hands of somebody else whose control would be a detriment to the people of not only northern Ontario, but the entire nation.

Mr. MacDonald: A very useful piece of research. I hope the government reads it.

Mr. Stokes: I would like to make reference to two other brief topics, Mr. Speaker, dealing with the cost of living in the north.

Last session I tried to document just how adverse an effect the cost of living was having on the people in northern Ontario and the very, very difficult time that any primary or secondary industry has in competing because of the additional cost.

I mentioned the transportation costs. I would like to draw to the attention of this House a recent increase made by Bell Telephone of Canada on all calls requiring operator assistance. I call the attention of members of this House to several areas where, if you want to call your neighbour a quarter of a mile down the road, you do not get it for nothing, as you do in Metropolitan Toronto by just dialing the number. You do not get it for 10 cents. It costs you 40 cents—40 cents to call your neighbour a quarter of a mile down the road.

Bell Telephone were before the Canadian Transport Commission last year, making a representation for an across-the-board increase of something like six per cent. The commission said: "It is completely unrealistic for you people to be asking for such an increase. You will have to justify it."

So, when Bell Telephone started trotting out the cost of providing services in areas where, because of lack of density, it was a losing proposition, do you you know what the Canadian Transport Commission said to Bell Telephone? "On whose authority and by what right do you serve areas of this province where it is not economically feasible for you to do so?" It said, "That is an inefficient operation; do not come to us asking us to subsidize an inefficient operation. If it does not pay, cut it out."

Just how unrealistic can a government agency be when they suggest to a private concern like Bell Telephone that they do not have the right to provide a service in areas where it is not economically justified? We have many areas where this government subsidizes an inefficient operation. We are doing it every day in our transportation industry. But Bell Telephone now, so they tell me, are forced to charge rural customers needing operator assistance 40 cents to call their neighbour down the road.

I do not know whether this government has been made aware of it. Certainly the federal government is aware of it, and is content to do nothing. I once again appeal to this government, and to the minister for northern affairs, to intercede on behalf of these people and see that they get a fair shake in an area where we do not have a lot of the facilities—a lot of the services that are considered matter of fact in southern Ontario. And I am talking about health and government facilities where, if an emergency crops up, the only connection we have with the outside world is the telephone.

I can tell you right now, many of the people in northern Ontario cannot afford a telephone, because of the exorbitantly high rates.

Another area: There is actually a case in my riding where, if somebody wants a loaf of bread, it costs them 78 cents. If they want sugar—$1 a pound for sugar. And this government talks about a good system of transportation and communication, a network of same, right across the province, to serve the needs of all the people.

I realize it cannot all be done overnight, but when conditions are like that—the cost of living index is such that people will be charged $1 a pound for sugar, or 78 cents for a loaf of bread, or 40 cents for a telephone call a quarter of a mile down the road—I think it is time this government became aware and committed themselves to doing something about it.

The final topic I would like to speak about this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, is the plight of our native people. I am the first to realize that, as a result of urging The Department of Social and Family Services—and in particular the Indian development branch, where in past years they did not know how to spend the $1 million surplus they ended up with, but because of pressure exerted by people in this party they got busy and they found a way of spending the surplus. I am told they are spending the entire amount granted for that purpose in this fiscal year and are looking forward to spending a like amount in the next fiscal year.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to one particular project that I think merits the support of the Indian development branch of The Department of Social and Family Services. I refer to the Indian Youth Friendship Centre in Port Arthur where a group of young Indian volunteers are headed by a board of directors made up of native people and interested citizens in the community. Indeed, the chairman of the board of directors is Herman Scarnatti, who is the deputy police chief in the city of Thunder Bay.

They have made representations to The Department of Social and Family Services for assistance in building a community centre for use by people, young boys and girls going to high school from northern reserves hundreds of miles away, for example, who are forced into a completely foreign and alien setting, quite often a hostile setting, and are asked to adjust with no assistance from any level of government or any government agency.

This group of young, interested Indians has set up the Indian Youth Friendship Centre in co-operation with the city of Thunder Bay, and indeed with some grants from the federal government and the provincial government. However, in order to do a proper job of making these people feel at home and helping them to adjust to their new surroundings, it has become absolutely essential that they have a better facility from which to operate.

Their aspirations are such that a reasonable plan should be set up for young Indian people to secure summer employment in our area—and that is the Thunder Bay area. There are many young Indians who desire to work in order to put themselves through school or for their own welfare. It was suggested that perhaps The Department of Education, Canada Manpower, Department of Labour and Department of Lands and Forests be consulted on this matter.

It was strongly suggested that all people of Indian ancestry be included in this plan to secure jobs after completion of his or her term of education. To our knowledge there are no reasonable schemes in northern Ontario whereby Indians benefit directly from their education; perhaps only a few who are serviced by the Indian affairs branch. In many instances young Indians return to the reserve or Indian community where job opportunities are non-existent; or they remain in the city on welfare.

So it seems that the Ontario government, in planning for Indians, falls short of an effective programme. Presently we are concerned with a young boy who completed his Grade 12 education course in December and will enter Confederation College in the fall. To this date he has had no response from Indian affairs or Canada Manpower for employment.

Of prime importance to the Thunder Bay Indian Youth Friendship Centre is the building of its new quarters. We have presented briefs, one to the Minister of The Department of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko); and the other to the citizenship and immigration branch, to Mr. Stanbury, the federal minister. We have been told that there are no resources available and we do not qualify under The Community Centres Act. We have taken the initiative to raise funds from my own area, which total $11,100. To start construction, a total of $60,000 must be realized.

Our parliamentary representatives are aware of the necessary work that the Indian

youth centre does for all of the Indians migrating to Thunder Bay for education, employment and medical assistance. I would like to appeal, on behalf of this very dedicated group, to this government—and I suppose the appropriate authority would be the Minister of Social and Family Services through his Indian development branch. I think this is one of the most worthwhile projects engaged in by any group on behalf of our native people—and in this case it happens to be native people who have accepted the responsibility for operating it.

It think it is a wonderful thing they are doing. I commend it to this government and to The Department of Social and Family Services and I appeal to the minister, through you, Mr. Speaker, to take this under active consideration and make it possible to do the things that are absolutely essential on behalf of the native community in our province.

Hon. F. Guindon (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, in taking part in the Speech from the Throne, it is customary to congratulate the Speaker. For me, it is much more than making the traditional remarks. The Speaker in this case happens to represent a riding adjacent to my own in eastern Ontario.

I think all hon. members would agree with me that the member for Grenville-Dundas (Mr. Cass) has carried out his duties as Speaker in a most capable, straightforward and businesslike manner. He is flexible when flexibility is needed, and very disciplined in some of his rulings when some of our over-ambitious members believe that their own personal interests are more important than our parliamentary system.

As Speaker of the Legislature he does not have the opportunity to express his personal point of view in connection with government on the various questions put forward in this House. However, his high office is an honour for his constituency, and indeed, for all our three united counties. And in spite of the heavy duties and responsibility he has as Speaker, he maintains his contact and service to his constituents with integrity, involvement and service to their needs.

For the record, Mr. Speaker, I would perhaps mention that, for the first time in the history of Canada, the Speaker of the House of Commons and the Speaker of the Ontario Legislature both represent the same riding.

Now Mr. Speaker, as representatives from eastern Ontario, along with my other colleagues, we are accused by the big city press and many of the so-called intellectuals in the opposition of having some kind of unhealthy influence over the government of Ontario. This is usually referred to as "rural domination," but really it is an attack on the eastern Ontario representations in the Legislature. It is testimony to these intellectuals of their ignorance of the changes that have been taking place in Ontario over many decades.

In reality, eastern Ontario is not a rural nothingness. In the context of Canada's population, cities like Cornwall, Brockville, Kingston, Belleville and Ottawa can hardly be called rural towns. They are, in fact, large urban centres.

Of course, we do have rural municipalities adjacent to these urban areas, and, as far as I can ascertain, these smaller towns and villages and their people hold no particularly sinister grip or unhealthy influence on the urban areas of eastern Ontario. Therefore I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that since the combination of urban-rural living in eastern Ontario is a harmonious experiment, eastern Ontario influence in the Ontario Legislature is not something to be derided, but rather a healthy development.

In addition to the urban-rural axis is the cultural integration between French- and English-speaking Canadians. It then becomes important to understand that a representative from eastern Ontario comes to the Legislature in many ways better prepared to undertsand the complexities of Ontario society.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of points that I wish to raise in connection with my own riding of Stormont, but before I get into this part of my text I would like to congratulate my colleague from eastern Ontario, the hon. member for Carleton East (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) on his appointment as Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. I know that he will carry on with the enlightened legislative programme of the former minister, the hon. member for York West (Mr. Rowntree).

I would like also to congratulate the members for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith) and Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman), who made major contributions in their speeches in connection with the challenges facing Ontario today.

Mr. Speaker, the riding of Stormont was originally pioneered by Scottish settlers and by the United Empire Loyalists, and is generally referred to as "the cradle of Ontario." As a matter of fact, it was the home riding and is the final resting place of Ontario's first Prime Minister, John Sandfield Macdonald.

During the 19th century many residents of the province of Quebec came to our area and settled, thus adding a second dimension to the culture of Stormont county.

According to recent statistics, Stormont is now the most bilingual county in Canada. While the dual culture and language are predominant, we have also welcomed, since the last war, many new Canadians. They have brought with them their skills, various cultures and customs, and have added to our way of life an international flavour. Thus, Stormont is, in many ways a reflection of the Canadian nation itself. Further, like Ontario and Canada, Stormont has shifted from a predominantly rural agricultural community to urban status with the major growth centre located in the city of Cornwall.

The growth of Stormont was steady, if not spectacular. On the whole, we were building a stable economic base within reasonable tax levels. But then came the St. Lawrence Seaway project and the construction of a generating station by Ontario Hydro and the state of New York. It was a development with mixed advantages. On the one hand, the short-term prospect was a boom in jobs and employment for Cornwall residents during the construction period. The long-term effect has meant economic instability.

While construction was in progress, many workers, with their families, came to Cornwall and settled. They bought homes and set up small businesses. This influx of workers and the pay cheques which resulted from the St. Lawrence project gave to Cornwall and the area an inflated economy. As the project was completed, jobs were phased out, payrolls disappeared and small businessmen became bankrupt.

Along the way the city's financial stability is uncertain because of the financial burden it assumed in the necessary, but hasty, construction of new schools, roads and other municipal facilities. Today municipal tax rates are about the highest in the province and unemployment is now about 13 per cent of the labour force, and, according to other figures, it could be 20 per cent—more than twice the average across the province.

In assessing the benefits of the St. Lawrence project and the Hydro development, one comes to the conclusion that it was indeed a mixed blessing. The financial result of the seaway project for Cornwall is that it has taken navigation away from the Canadian side and the closing of shops along the canal is just a matter of time. In other words, we have lost a great deal of business through navigation because, as most members are aware, the channel is now on the American side.

But in all fairness, I have to say that had it not been for some vigorous representation in Ottawa by our federal member, these shops would have been closed by now. Again, it is just a matter of time.

Another reason the city is experiencing economic difficulty is the result of the federal government's rigid policies concerning the textile industry. This led Courtaulds of Canada Limited, a major employer in the area, to lay off indefinitely over 600 employees last December 1. Yet the federal government refuses to do anything about this serious problem. Some of these workers are being retrained through the federal and provincial rehabilitation programme, but what is really needed is jobs for them now.

It seems incredible to me that the federal government could announce just recently, within a week or two, a $400 million programme to aid slow-growth areas across Canada, but ignore completely the county of Stormont. Since the legislation is there, Mr. Speaker, the need is obvious, and since some of the problems facing Cornwall are a direct result of the federal government, one does not understand why some federal assistance to Cornwall is not forthcoming.

Much has been said, even today in the Legislature, and in the previous days, about the closing of the Dunlop plant in Toronto. Both senior governments have shown deep concern, and rightly so, and every member of the Legislature, I believe, is concerned about this situation. But I could say to you that the situation in Cornwall at the present time is 100 times worse. You can imagine the impact on one city when 650 people are laid off, as in Cornwall, a city with a population of 45,000 people, the impact of such a layoff on our economy and also on the people of our city. But very little has been said in this House so far.

Six hundred people in Toronto is a drop in the bucket out of 2,000,000 people, I am sure, and I am one of the members who certainly is concerned about this. At 2 o'clock today I took time to call the unemployment insurance office in Cornwall, and here are the figures of unemployment as of 2 o'clock, March 18, 1970: We have, as unemployed employables, 1,744 men, 900 women, and through the adult training centres, 570 people.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: These figures do not include the 650 employees of Courtaulds of

Canada Limited, who have been laid off because of a policy of the federal government not to protect or to give special tariffs to the textile industry, and they have so far—

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): It is the result of the white paper's taxation policies.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: —they have not done a thing to come and help a situation like that in Cornwall. I know it is serious in Toronto, but in our city it is a disaster.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Did the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) do anything about that?

Hon. Mr. Guindon: Well, he did already. He has already spent $2.5 million in forgivable loans within a year, providing 250 jobs, but how can you expect only one government to do it all? We need the help and the support from Ottawa, and until we get it, I certainly will not be sitting in my seat.

Mr. Pilkey: Do not hold your breath.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister accept a question?

Hon. Mr. Guindon: Sure.

Mr. Sargent: I agree that he has a very sad position down there — the situation in Cornwall—but in view of the fact that the government has given them a $2.5 million forgivable loan, do you think they should give the same amount of moneys in the Dunlop case?

Hon. Mr. Guindon: Mr. Speaker, I have just said on that $2.5 million—the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) has given you, I think, a very good answer today when you asked the same question. He just said that they have to meet certain criteria.

We need industries in Ontario; we need them especially in Cornwall, because of this serious problem of unemployment.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): You give them loans to reduce their work force?

Hon. Mr. Guindon: No, no. As a matter of fact, the loans that have been received in Cornwall have provided 250 extra jobs; it would be far worse than it is now. That is the point that I am trying to make, but it is still not good enough for all of us.

Mr. Peacock: Look at the net losses you have suffered.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: Mr. Speaker, there are many in my riding who also feel that some further assistance from the provincial government is necessary, and I concur with this suggestion. I concur surely, and I would draw to your attention, Mr. Speaker, that Ontario Hydro, during the process of building the generating station, also created a head pond used as a water reservoir, which has forced some 2,000 families from their farms and villages.

Actually this has resulted in seven or eight villages disappearing completely and being relocated to town sites. Admittedly—I have to be fair—these people have been fairly compensated, perhaps, but they also were forced to vacate their farms. In many cases many of our old-established families just did not want to go, but they had to. This has meant also—and I am talking about what happened about 10 or 12 years ago—today we are reaping what has been sown.

The city of Cornwall, for instance, was compelled to build a filtration plant which it could not afford and which should have been subsidized by larger provincial moneys. Because of Ontario Hydro, many streets and municipal roads had to be relocated, at extra cost to our local taxpayers. Overpasses and streets used as connecting links had to be built, all adding to the increasing tax burden of our local residents.

We realize that the Hydro development and the seaway project are necessary for the economic growth of Ontario and Canada, but we also feel that we should not be asked to, entirely on our own, subsidize the economic interest of the rest of the province and the Canadian economy.

We feel that we should receive additional assistance from the federal and provincial governments. As an example, we wonder why the harnessing of the St. Lawrence River at Long Sault rapids did not result in special hydro rates for our people, or a block of cheaper power to be used by local industries, or as an inducement for new industries to locate in our area. Instead, the additional power was put into the grid system, with no special consideration given to our area—an area which is now paying the economic penalties resulting from this gigantic project.

I must point out, Mr. Speaker, however, that the Ontario government, unlike the federal government has not completely turned a deaf ear to our problem. The Ontario government realized, while Ottawa would not, that some compensation had to be made to the area.

First, this gave birth to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission, which was given authority

to enhance the scenic beauty of the area, giving a boost to the tourist industry and providing a large number of new jobs.

More recently—and I am repeating what I have said—the Ontario Department of Trade and Development, through ODC, has done a great deal to promote industrial activity in Cornwall. As a result, 12 new industries have settled in the area, all of them a direct result of the province's forgivable loan programmes.

In the last year alone over $2.5 million in forgivable loans have been given by the province to stimulate our economy. Had it not been for the provincial assistance, our area would be in much more serious trouble. On the other hand, the federal government could not care less.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Oh, come on. The hon. minister knows that is not so.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: It is so. They could not care less.

However, I would appeal to the federal government to spend some of its $400 million to combat regional disparity in our area. At the same time I believe the provincial government must also contribute more substantially.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: The provincial government can do so on two fronts. When I speak of the poor contribution, or the lack of assistance from the federal government, I am telling the truth, too.

The provincial government can do so on two fronts. First, through the equalization of industrial opportunity programme, by relating the amount of the forgiveness loan to the number of jobs provided, either through new plants, or through expansion of existing facilities.

You might say that this is being done now. I agree. But I wonder if there is a relation between the grants and the amount of money made and the number of jobs provided.

Second, the provincial government can help by ensuring that companies receiving its assistance be expected to pay reasonable wages—some of the wages paid in our area are not adequate in this day and age—and by applying a more rigid inspection, to make sure that these industries comply with the terms and conditions of the loan.

I would suggest to the Minister of Trade and Development that he investigate the feasibility of setting up a similar programme to that which took place in Windsor, for instance, during the 1960s, I believe, when that city was in economic difficulty resulting from the relocation of some of the automobile companies. This led directly to the creation of the greater Windsor foundation. That is an area that I will study myself in the very near future, because it would appear that it has been successful in Windsor.

Mr. Speaker, I want to turn for a moment to the impact of government on small businesses. First of all, we must consider the large number of various types of government inspectors calling on, to investigate or otherwise, the small businessman.

Mr. Sargent: Gestapo!

Hon. Mr. Guindon: This varies from five to 25 inspectors, depending, of course, on what kind of business operation is being carried on.

Obviously this adds to the overall cost of business in two ways. On the one hand high taxes are required by government to pay for the inspectors. On the other hand, there is the need for the small businessman to hire part-time—and, in most cases, a full-time—employee to look after his books and meet the demands of the government inspectors. This adds to the small businessman's operation costs and cuts down on his potential profit.

At the same time, while he cannot compete with large chain stores, he still offers credit to people in his community. The chain stores, of course, have little sympathy for the worker who might be temporarily short of cash. This worker then, in order to eat and to supply his family with the necessities of life, must turn to someone else. This is usually the small businessman, who, because of his involvement with the community and his need to compete against the large operator, extends his own financial resources in order to give credit to the hardpressed worker.

In another field: the small businessman usually assists, through financial contributions, local nonprofit charitable organizations. However, big businesses are more inclined to national organizations—

Mr. Sargent: All the minister's buddies are hiding their heads.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: —and it is very difficult to find out how much money comes back to the community for charitable purposes.

Therefore, the small businessman is an extremely important part of the economic life of the local community. Yet, over the years, governments at all levels have treated them as nonessential economic factors.

Now, on top of all this, we have the incredible proposition of the Liberal Party federal white paper. I myself, as a small businessman, find it incredible that Mr. Benson, to cover up the enormous mistakes in the white paper, merely answers his critics by inviting them to tell him what they want.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): What is wrong with that?

Hon. Mr. Guindon: Well, my answer to Mr. Benson is, "Why put the onus on the small businessman?" How can he afford to get the battery of lawyers, to get tax consultants, and to go and tell Mr. Benson exactly what should be done?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: I think the small businessmen today, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Ottawa calls the tune.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: —they have enough trouble with government looking over their shoulder without at the same time having to extend further large sums of money to hire lawyers and tax consultants to prepare briefs to be submitted to Ottawa. Surely it would be a much more simple and less costly exercise if the federals would examine the multitude of concessions made to large and wealthy corporations and then parallel some of these concessions to the small businessman.

Mr. Sargent: At both levels.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: I am coming up to another level. Mr. Speaker, the same, I suggest, applies to other levels of government—however, on a less dramatic basis.

Let us, as an example, take the case of the corner grocery store, the so-called "ma and pa" operations, if you will. They are going out of operation every day of the year as the large chain stores move in. Yet, the corner store is an important part of our economic life, as I have already pointed out.

Mr. Sopha: The best businessmen in the country.

Mr. Sargent: How much money has the minister's government ever lent one of these guys? Not five cents.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: A recent survey in the province of Quebec showed that 60 per cent of the grocery store business was retained by small independent stores.

Mr. Sopha: Well, how is the white paper going to hurt the corner grocer?

Hon. Mr. Guindon: I am not talking about the white paper now. I am talking about provincial responsibility, if the member will only listen.

Mr. Sopha: Well, when the minister changes gears he wants to tell us.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: Oh, no, I changed the level of government and I spoke about the federal government; I am talking now about things that could be done at this level. The same figure in Ontario is only 30 per cent.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: We would have to write a letter to Osaka Stan to get through to him.

Mr. Yakabuski: Ottawa calls the tune.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: Mr. Speaker, I repeat, a recent survey in the province of Quebec showed that 60 per cent of grocery store business was retained by small independent stores. The same figure for Ontario is only 30 per cent.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Whose fault is that?

Hon. Mr. Guindon: The question to ask is, "Why the difference between Ontario and Quebec?" I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that if legislation were enacted to allow the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores in Ontario, then I believe this would enable the small businessman grocery store operators to survive. That is only one suggestion I make.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: This would help the corner grocery store to compete.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: One opinion among others, and the opinion of a businessman, if you want to know.

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): He is the only one there to listen.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: This would help the corner grocery store to compete in a reasonable way with the large chain operators. It would mean not only increased income through the sale of beer and wine, but would obviously add to his sale of other commodities. On the other hand, and I am thinking

about the little man, it would allow the average worker, who may not always be able to afford the full case of beer—and we have many of them in Cornwall—to purchase three or four bottles at a time.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): There are a lot of them in Ontario, period.

Hon. Mr. Guindon: Quite frankly, I see nothing wrong with this, and in fact, I see a lot of merit in changing our regulations in this connection. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that by helping the small business operator, we help the overall economic situation, not only at the local level, but also on the federal and provincial levels of government as well.

M. le Président, si parfois la tâche du député est délicate et difficile, il est d'autres moments au contraire où elle est, comme aujourd'hui, tout particulièrement agréable.

Depuis 13 ans, en maintes occasions j'ai eu l'honneur insigne de m'adresser en français dans l'enceinte de cette assemblée législative. Chaque fois, j'ai ressenti une vive émotion devant la gentillesse et de mes collègues anglophones qui m'ont toujours prêté une attention délicate. Il suffit de retourner quelques pages du *Journal des débats* pour se convaincre que la langue française, à l'époque, était soumise à la courtoisie, à la tolérance et à l'approbation du Président de la chambre et de ses députés. En d'autres termes, la langue française n'avait aucun droit de cité.

C'est donc avec une double émotion que je prends la parole aujourd'hui quand je constate les progrès accomplis durant ces dernières années. Non seulement la langue française est-elle devenue langue officielle dans nos délibérations quotidiennes mais elle devient un véhicule d'expression par tous les partis politiques. La noblesse de ce geste longuement attendu rehausse la dignité de ce parlement. Conscients de l'imminence du danger qui sape notre pays par sa base, les parlementaires ontariens passeront à l'histoire comme des hommes prudents, éclairés et fidèles à leur devoir.

M. le Président, permettez-moi de me faire l'interprête fidèle de tous les francophones en vous priant de présenter à la législature l'expression de leurs sentiments de profonde gratitude.

Avant d'entrer dans le vif de mon sujet, je voudrais faire ici une mise au point qui s'impose afin d'éviter tout équivoque auprès des électeurs de mon comté. Souvente fois, on m'a attribué le titre de porte-parole des franco-ontariens sans doute à cause de la langue et de la culture française que je chéris beaucoup. C'est un titre officieux qui me fait honneur et qui flatte mon orgueil. Cependent, il ne faudrait pas croire que je péche par exaggération. Et à ceux de mes adversaires politiques qui voudraient m'accuser de nationalisme, je réponds ceci: tout homme qui se respecte ne rougit pas de sa race, de sa langue ou de sa culture. Bien au contraire, l'amour sincère qu'il professe et l'attachement indéfectible qu'il témoigne à la langue et à sa culture dénote chez-lui un haut degré de caractère dont il peut tirer une légitime fierté. Je serais d'origine anglaise, écossaise, irlandaise, italienne ou autres, que je manifesterais le même enthousiasme. Ce qui importe dans nos relations humaines, c'est de grandir la valeur et la dignité de l'homme. L'humble député de Stormont s'est inspiré de ce principe depuis toujours. Sans cesse, il a répudié le racisme, le nationalisme étroit qui conduisent inexorablement à la division, à l'anarchie et à la ruine. A la lumière des explications précédentes, je voudrais saisir cette chambre des besoins les plus urgents de la population franco-ontarienne. Le temps ne me permet pas de les énumérer tous. Qu'il me suffise pour le moment de mentionner les questions les plus pressantes.

En guise de préambule, je voudrais d'abord dire que sur le plan de l'éducation, tout semble fonctionner assez bien. J'ai bien dit: "*assez bien*" car connaissant l'envergure et la complexité de l'intégration de l'école secondaire française au système public, seul un miracle aurait pu en opérer la transformation sans ennuis. Il faut bien l'admettre, il existe en quelques endroits des "accrochages" déplorables entre le Comité consultatif ou Comité des aviseurs et certaines Commissions scolaires régionales. Je ne veux pas passer de jugements trop hâtifs. Peut-être s'agit-il de conflits des personnalités? Dans le cas de l'affirmative, espérons que les rivalités personnelles, les vieux préjugés ou toute autre considération mesquine ne se feront pas sur le dos des étudiants qui en assumeront tous les frais.

Il est un point, cependant, sur lequel je dois attirer l'attention du Ministre de l'Education. La communauté franco-ontarienne est visiblement nerveuse depuis la parution du rapport McKay recommandant l'abolition de l'enseignement religieux dans les écoles secondaires françaises. Elle a fait connaître sa position avec fermeté sur cette question d'importance capitale. Elle soutient avec raison que l'intégration de ses écoles au système public fut possible grâce au règlement 45 qui

garantie l'enseignement religieux, tel que cela se pratique aujourd'hui. Tout rappel de ce règlement serait synonyme de trahison et entraînerait des conséquences regrettables.

Avec la création d'un système scolaire approprié à leurs besoins, depuis la maternelle jusqu'à l'Université, les franco-ontariens peuvent-ils maintenant dormir sous leurs lauriers? Ils le mériteraient bien puisque cette lutte séculaire s'est avérée longue et épuisante. Mais ce n'est pas le temps du repos! Car si les problèmes de l'éducation sont à peu près tous résolus, on ne peut malheureusement pas en dire autant au sujet de la culture française en Ontario. Il leur a fallu travailler à leur survivance avant de penser à leur épanouissement culturel. Incapables de pousser la lutte sur les deux fronts, les franco-ontariens ont d'abord dépensé leur énergie en s'assurant un système d'éducation adapté à leurs besoins.

Conscients de la nécessité de promouvoir l'épanouissement de leur culture—car un peuple sans culture est un peuple sans âme—les francophones de l'Ontario veulent rattrapper le temps perdu si possible. Ils sont unanimes à revendiquer du gouvernement provincial la formation d'un conseil franco-ontarien d'orientation culturelle. La formation de ce conseil culturel est d'extrême nécessité et jouit de la plus haute priorité dans leurs revendiquations. En leur nom monsieur le président, je prie le gouvernement de donner suite à leur désir. Depuis le départ de M. Bériault au Ministère de l'Education, poste presque équivalent à celui de sous-ministre adjoint, et le départ de M. Rathé au Service des échanges culturelles, les francophones sont un peu perdus. La communication avec leur Gouvernement provincial dans le domaine administratif est coupée, rompue. Bien sûr, ils peuvent toujours s'adresser aux ministres et aux députés francophones mais malheureusement ceux-ci n'ont ni le temps, ni le véhicule, ni le personnel nécessaire pour mener à bonne fin un programme d'aussi grande nécessité. Il importe donc que le gouvernement forme les cadres, les structures d'un organisme spécialement destiné à cette fin.

Une autre source d'inquiétude qui intéresse d'une façon particulière les franco-ontariens de l'est, c'est le sort que l'avenir réserve à l'Ecole Industrielle St. Joseph d'Alfred. L'ouverture prochaine d'une école industrielle régionale à Sudbury—école bilingue et non confessionnelle—pose certains problèmes pour cette institution dont la haute renommée n'est pas à refaire. Sous peu, les autorités de l'Ecole d'Alfred présenteront un mémoire au ministre responsable. Nous espérons que celui-ci fera l'impossible pour assurer aux jeunes franco-ontariens qui fréquenteront cette institution tous les services nécessaires à leur réhabilitation dans un milieu adapté à leurs besoins. Les gens de l'est attendent avec impatience la prise de position du ministre devant ce problème.

Dans son allocution sur le discours du Trône, le chef du Nouveau Parti Démocrate, que je félicite en passant de savoir bien s'exprimer en français, a fait allusion au colloque tenu au Collège Glendon en Novembre dernier. Nous avons tous deux eu le plaisir de participer à une discussion animée. Le chef du NDP déclare et je cite:

> Voulant excuser le retard du gouvernement, l'honorable ministre rappela aux étudiants que les franco-ontariens ne formaient que dix pour cent de la population de la province, et il suggéra que le Gouvernement ne pouvait pas risquer de fâcher la majorité de 90% qui n'était pas de langue française.

D'abord disons que l'honorable député m'a cité hors de contexte et n'a pas rendu fidèlement le sens de ma pensée. Je n'avais pas l'intention d'excuser le gouvernement actuel mais tout simplement d'expliquer les raisons pour lesquelles, en 1969, l'épanouissement du bilinguisme en Ontario était à l'état statique, voire même peut-être a-t-il accusé un recul.

J'ouvre ici une parenthèse pour féliciter les étudiants de Glendon dont j'admire l'enthousiasme, le dynamisme et la fougue caractéristique à leur âge. Leurs accusations à l'égard du gouvernement provincial visaient à démontrer que celui-ci se faisait tirer l'oreille dans son programme destiné à promouvoir le bilinguisme en Ontario.

Ma réponse fut en deux parties. Premièrement, j'ai parlé du durcissement, du raidissement ou du "back-lash" qui a sévi en Ontario en 1969. Deuxièmement, sans vouloir excuser le gouvernement de quoi que ce soit, j'ai dit tout bonnement qu'il était impensable qu'une minorité de 10% puisse imposer ses vues à une majorité de 90%. Ce que j'ai dit hier est encore vrai aujourd'hui.

Pour soutenir mon opinion, au sujet du "backlash", j'ai donné des exemples concrets du refroidissement visible au sein de la population ontarienne comme au sein du gouvernement provincial.

Qu'il me suffise d'énumérer les quelques faits suivants:

La correspondance volumineuse réfractoire à la politique du gouvernement en matière de bilinguisme;

Refroidissement de l'enthousiasme des députés à poursuivre leur cours de français: seulement 9 sur 45 débutants;

Echec des francophones à se faire élire commissaire aux élections scolaires du Toronto métropolitain—un seul réussi à garder son poste;

Le rapport du Comité culturel St. Denis qui dort toujours sous la poussière;

Le mutisme prolongé des groupes de travail dont le mandat consistait à étudier le bilinguisme dans l'administration de la justice, l'administration municipale, la fonction publique et les services du gouvernement;

Plus récemment en Février, l'insulte public au préfet de la municipalité de Hawkesbury qui a eu le courage de s'exprimer en français au Congrès de la voirie tenu à Toronto—the Good Roads Convention;

J'en profite pour féliciter ce franco-ontarien qui a eu le courage de ses convictions et je forme le voeu que d'autres dignitaires municipaux suivent son exemple lors du prochain congrès. Dans une circonstance comme celle-là, tout ce qu'il s'agit de faire, c'est d'avoir un président ou un maître de cérémonie bilingue qui puisse répondre aux questions posées en français. Avis aux organisateurs de se procurer les services d'un président ou maître de cérémonie bilingue dans un circonstance comme cela.

M. le Président, la preuve est faite. L'esprit le moins averti reconnait d'emblée les conséquences d'un durcissement, d'un backlash, lequel poussé plus loin deviendrait synonyme de mauvaise foi.

En tout bon philosophe, il nous faut maintenant analyser les causes de cette hostilité inquiétante. Point n'est besoin de se ronger l'esprit pour en découvrir les causes immédiates. Tout observateur le moindrement perspicace a vite trouver le secret. Pendant que l'Ontario s'engage à favoriser le bilinguisme, voilà qu'éclate au Québec la fameuse affaire de St. Léonard, incident malheureux soufflé hors de proportion par les média d'information mais dont les répercussions terribles ont secoué tous les coins du pays. Sans oublier l'Ontario jamais pourrons-nous estimer à sa juste valeur le tort immense d'une minorité tapageuse à l'égard des francophones vivant à l'extérieur du Québec. Ce n'est pas tout. L'agitation en faveur de l'unilinguisme au Québec; la violence, les émeutes et les démonstrations nombreuses contre tout ce qui est anglais; la Société St.-Jean-Baptiste du Québec qui se range sous la bannière séparatiste; voilà autant de raisons qui ont causé l'indifférence, le froid et l'inimitié de nos concitoyens anglophones.

Mais il n'y a pas lieu d'être pessimiste! Heureusement, tout n'est pas perdu! A l'aurore de cette nouvelle décennie, des signes encourageants font espérer un démarrage prochain. L'adoption du Bill 63 au Québec a rassurer la minorité anglophone. En Ontario, nous fondons beaucoup d'espoir sur la formation récente de la commission permanente Ontario-Québec. Allons-y la main dans la main; il y va de notre plus grand intérêt.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Deputy Speaker, in rising to take part in the throne debate, I would like to extend to you, and through you to the members for Grenville-Dundas (Mr. Cass) and Waterloo South (Mr. Reuter), my congratulations for the impartial and fair way you have conducted the procedures in this House.

At the same time I would like to extend my congratulations to both the mover and the seconder of the Speech from the Throne; to the Minister of Health, the member for Scarborough North (Mr. Wells), and the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, the member for Carleton East (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence), on their elevation to the high offices that they now hold.

I would be remiss, Mr. Speaker, if I did not extend congratulations to the leader of our group here, the member for Brant (Mr. Nixon), for his most thoughtful and considered amendment to the Speech from the Throne. I know that all members of this House will join with us in supporting him at the proper time.

Mr. Speaker, my contribution will not be contentious, as it generally is not contentious. However, I would like to bring up a series of topics that I think illustrate some of the ways in which both the procedures of this House and the functions of government may be substantially improved.

For example, year after year I have brought up the topic of electronic voting, and I will continue to bring up this topic, Mr. Speaker, until the time the government—or we, when we form the government—takes care of the problem. It is about time, Mr. Speaker, that voting in this chamber was brought into the 20th century and into the electronic age. We should not be wasting our time by the time-honoured, old-fashioned, archaic way of having our names called, rising, bowing to you, and then sitting down. Let us install push buttons on our desks with an electric recorder on some wall in this Legislature, and a miniature recorder for the Clerk of the House, so that the time consumed in voting could be reduced to a minimum.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): The leader presses first, does he?

Mr. B. Newman: Other Legislatures, Mr. Speaker, have adopted electronic methods of voting. Why should not we in Ontario? We in Ontario cannot be in the forefront with respect to this, so let us at least follow those who have implemented such a method of voting.

Mr. Speaker, I am now going to speak on a topic that has been spoken on by practically every member of the House. However, I am going to bring in a new recommendation, a new pollution control suggestion. Mr. Speaker, there is little doubt that the general public is ahead of us, thanks to the concerted efforts of the mass media, in its awareness of the effects of pollution and the consequences of our continuing with our present policies in regard to the pollution of our air, water and soil. I am also concerned with noise and heat pollution, although these concepts are harder to grasp than the others and tend to be overlooked in favour of the more obvious pollutions, such as sulphur dioxide and fly ash in the air, sewage and detergents in the water, and litter, garbage and pesticides in the soil.

What is needed, Mr. Speaker, is a formula that people can cotton to easily for the purposes of comparison. I think that Pollution Probe set a marvellous example when it published the comparative table of phosphates in the various brands of detergents. All of the people who thought that this was a too intellectual way of getting at the problem have been proved wrong. Housewives are seen running their eyes down the list at the supermarkets that display these lists, or carrying their own lists with them. Most by now, know that Fels Naptha and Ivory Snow are safe, and the sales figures of these two products are a reliable index of the concern of the shopping public regarding detergent pollution.

I want to extend this idea, Mr. Speaker, into an overall formula that will relate all businesses and industries in Ontario under a simple four-column code, with a figure of merit for water, air, soil and heat pollution. This is WASH—a WASH index. The WASH code will set a figure of merit, or if you prefer, a figure of demerit, for every potential offender under these four heads. Thus Domtar might be set at 92, 81, 67 or 48 on a 100-point scale for a pulp and paper mill in a given location. There would be a real incentive to maintain a good public image by getting these figures down.

Some industries might be high for A—that is air pollution—and lower for the W, which would be water pollution. Some might have little or no heat or soil pollution depending on the nature of the work carried on. But all would want to see their index come down to the lowest figures all around.

These figures would be revised at least quarterly and could be used by firms concerned for favourable promotional purposes. The existence of the reading would not, of course, reduce the need for stiff disciplinary action by way of legal action against environmental pollution offenders. Where money might sometimes be provided for pollution control or fines on a "let us just get by" basis, the sensitivity of the corporate image is something else, and we should make every effort to turn this sensitivity into public good. For example, Mr. Speaker, if the public is so concerned about pollution, it could give mills that manufacture paper a given period of time within which they must reach a certain pollution index rating or a WASH rating, or they would not purchase papers from that given mill.

I would likewise suggest to government that it set an example. For example, all departments of government should send out a directive that no department should be using detergents having a phosphate content over a given figure. Likewise, departments that purchase large volumes of paper—and this government certainly is noted for its purchases of extremely high volumes of that given commodity—could refuse to purchase paper from a mill that does not attempt, within a given period of time, to overcome the pollution problem and bring their water, air, soil and heat pollution within a set government limit.

In this regard, I would like to give a particularly sensitive example, one that is likely to call forth reaction. I refer to the corporate image, if you like, or that entity, Mr. and Mrs. Joel Aldred who most members will have followed on the silver screen, or perhaps in the board room.

The image of the Aldreds is open to question on the very grounds I have spelled out. It has come as no surprise to me to discover that Mr. Joel Aldred has been selected to voice the commentary for the new Ontario Water Resources Commission film called: "The Choice is Yours".

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. B. Newman: After all Mr. Speaker, Mr. Aldred has had a distinguished record of service for the party, and this little bit of patronage might in other circumstances almost have passed unnoticed. Unfortunately, even

as Mr. Aldred's dulcet tones echo through the auditorium of the "Sportsmen's Show," showing the horrors of water pollution and the effects upon our environment, pointing the accusing finger, particularly at high phosphate detergents, Mrs. Aldred is simultaneously entering our living rooms through the magic of television exhorting us to purchase Bio-Ad.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. B. Newman: You know that Bio-Ad is an extremely heavy detergent made by the Colgate-Palmolive people. Bio-Ad happens to be next to the top on the Pollution Probe table of phosphate contents.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: Look at the cigarettes he also advertises.

Mr. B. Newman: That is right, by the way; there are also the cigarettes that the gentleman advertises contributing more pollution to the environment!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. B. Newman: Possibly we should pay him not to advertise.

Bio-Ad has 49 per cent phosphates in its make-up. Now when Arthur Godfrey found out about this in the United States, where the product is known as Axion, he repudiated his commercial and has made a modified series of advertising spots which, while still unsatisfactory, at least acknowledge the contribution that Bio-Ad is making to the untimely termination of life on earth.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. B. Newman: One is tempted to say, Mr. Speaker, if Mr. Aldred does not get us with tobacco, Mrs. Aldred will get us through the lack of oxygen. That the OWRC should be a party to this is deplorable. The Aldreds' credibility gap is just too wide to bridge.

Mr. Speaker, my leader had made a suggestion in this House that the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) call a conference of all states, the nearest states of the union, the border states, in an attempt to discuss various topics of mutual concern. In addition to this, or barring the lack of action on the part of the government, I would like to suggest that since environmental pollution is no respecter of jurisdictional boundaries, the hon. Premier set up committees of this Legislature, that is committees composed of members whose ridings border on states of the union and the provinces in Canada, and have them meet with their American or provincial counterparts to discuss on an annual or bi-annual basis matters of mutual interest and concern.

To illustrate my suggestion, I would say that the members for Essex South (Mr. Paterson), Riverside-Sandwich (Mr. Burr), Windsor West (Mr. Peacock), Essex-Kent (Mr. Ruston), Windsor-Walkerville, Lambton (Mr. Henderson), Sarnia (Mr. Bullbrook), Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Wishart), and I think one other would be Algoma (Mr. Gilbertson), and with any other members whose ridings I may have omitted, meet with their corresponding number or counterpart in the state of Michigan.

Other committees could be set up for the states of Minnesota, Ohio, New York and the provinces of Manitoba and Quebec.

Sir, education costs are a topic on the lips of practically everyone across the length and breadth of this province. I want to speak on the subject of subsidized rental accommodation for those who need it, because high rents are taking a disproportionate amount of their incomes, but before I get into this, I want to point out why education costs, which impose such a burden on the property owner, have become a principal cause of high rents, and hence the need for subsidies to certain classes of people.

Thanks to the gradual integration of school districts throughout the past 100 years, the whole decision-making processes of education have shifted to professionals, people who are to be found not at the local level anymore but in centralized headquarters remote from the actual schools themselves.

Much of the curriculum in our schools is shaped by the curriculum branch of The Department of Education at Eglinton Avenue West in Toronto. Through curriculum guides and such devices as Circular 14, which tells which text books and general books will qualify for grants, the curriculum branch moulds the general pattern of education throughout the province. On top of this, are laid philosophical guidelines such as those found in the Hall-Dennis report and the Keiller McKay report on religion in the public schools.

What it all adds up to is a much more standardized and uniform kind of educational framework within which the children and teachers have more freedom to move than they used to have, but where the horizontal relationship between the local taxpayer and the school system has been worn to nothing. This erosion will be accelerated when educational television comes in in a big way with

the passage of the bill that is now promised on the order paper and with the opening of Toronto's Channel 19, the first of many such ETV stations across the province.

Now these developments mean that the local people, who are still paying the piper for education through property taxes, are no longer calling the tune. I do not want to get into the debate as to whether the new regime is better than the old. All I want to point out is that the centre of gravity in education has shifted from the municipality and that fund raising should follow that decision making. It is a cardinal principle of good government that the level at which the policy is made ought to be the level at which the taxes are raised.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): He who spends must raise!

Mr. B. Newman: The present formula dodges the issue. School boards merely make known their budgets then pass on their levies to the municipalities, which must still raise the money in the old way through taxes on real property. We have now moved so far from equity in this matter that real hardship is being caused.

The tax is also very regressive in that it is being levied upon people and firms which do not benefit from the services paid for. Nor is this a good example of redistribution of wealth in the public interest.

It is arguable just how much the tax system of a province, or a country, ought to be used as a social tool. It is certainly arguable, however, that the property tax ought to be the means of raising money only for services attendant upon that property. Services such as roads, sewers, watermains, sidewalks, lighting, garbage collection and local improvements. These are the legitimate uses of the property tax, but in today's new conditions, education is not a legitimate use of this tax. The money ought to be raised through other means of taxation.

Mr. Speaker, we in the Liberal Party are committed to increasing the province's share of the educational tax burden to 80 per cent of the cost at the local level, over the five-year period of our first term in office. That was the goal in our election platform in 1967.

Today, we have seen the percentage forced up. Not because government wanted this to happen, but because the advent of the various county school boards and the injection of supplementary equalization funds which caused it to happen anyway.

However, we are as yet, by no means, up to the 80 per cent mark, and meanwhile, local property taxes are soaring and, as they go up, so do the rents of the private properties. It is all passed on. Consequently, people who have nothing to gain from the services are footing the bill. In the name of equity and justice, the people who are really suffering hardship because of this should be subsidized in the payment of their rent to the degree and in the circumstances that I shall outline.

Mr. Speaker, with the acute shortage of housing throughout the metropolitan areas of this province—yes, even in some of the smaller municipalities—the plight of the person with a large family, or one on a limited income, is more acute than ever. Some are fortunate enough to get Ontario housing units, some of those geared-to-income, so to speak. In The Department of Trade and Development analysis, rent incomes do not go beyond 40 per cent or, in rough figures one-third of the total income of the family renting the accommodation. Social scientists say that not more than 25 per cent of one's income should be spent on housing. Canadians pay in rent proportionately more of their consumer expenditures than people in most countries in the world.

Many—far too many—people pay more than 50 per cent and some up to 75 per cent of their total income solely for housing. The minimum wage earner is one example. The underemployed is another. The part-time employee is a third. The limited income individual is a fourth. I would dare say that many other categories could be listed.

Those who were fortunate enough to get geared-to-income housing were really being subsidized. Those who were not, were being financially penalized. If one fortunate group can be subsidized by living in Ontario Housing Corporation geared-to-income homes, then why should not those who were not so fortunate and who are paying a disproportionate amount of their already too-meagre incomes be likewise subsidized?

A limited-income senior citizen or pensioner, for example, should not have to pay more than 25 per cent of his pension for housing. The balance of the tab should be picked up by The Department of Social and Family Services.

During the past few months, Mr. Speaker, the citizens of Canada have been made increasingly aware of the meaning of the term "fixed income." For the past number of years in this Legislature, I have been urging the

provincial government to take action to help those in Ontario who are in the most solidly fixed incomes of all; that is those who are obtaining old age security. It is incredible that during that time the only answer I have received is that time-worn provincial cliché: "It's a federal responsibility".

It is true that the escalation clause in the Act providing for old age security provides for only a two per cent cost of living increase per year, and that the cost of living has been rising at a rate of five per cent annually. But this does not give this provincial government the right to close its eyes to the plight of the senior citizens of the province.

Once more I would like to reiterate, Mr. Speaker, that no senior citizen should have to pay more than 25 per cent of his income to any landlord. Obviously, the landlords cannot gear their rent to suit the person on old age assistance or security, so it is up to the government—specifically, The Department of Social and Family Services—to step into the breach.

This must be a programme totally removed from the usual welfare syndrome. Whether the government likes it or not, a simple change in the name of the department does not change the concept of the welfare treadmill. I call upon the "office of aging" to set a programme whereby all pensioners, whether they live in apartments, rented homes, flats or rooms, receive a supplement so that rent is not eating up to three quarters of their meagre income.

A person receiving the maximum of $111.41 per month is in no position to pay for even a room in a rooming house. A small room in an urban area rents for $16 a week; a simple multiplication procedure will show that this amounts to approximately $69.33 per month, or well over one half of the individual's monthly pension. At that, that person is lucky. A room at that price could well be one of the cleaner, though smaller types that the city has to offer. After rent and tax this individual has only $39.06 left for food, clothing and entertainment for the whole month. This is one of the more fortunate senior citizens. This $39.06 is the maximum that a person on old age security, and living in a rented unit of this kind, can expect to have.

From there the figure goes down. How different it would be if The Department of Social and Family Services would undertake to provide rent supplements for people like this. This, I feel, is the only workable alternative to the failure of public housing to adequately provide for our senior citizens. It is an immediate solution; it requires a minimum amount of organization, and when weighted against the total estimate of the expenditures of the government, it would cost very little money.

I propose that the "office of aging" of The Department of Social and Family Services set up a bureau to deal with rent supplements. The names of those receiving old age security are readily available to that branch. I would suggest that along with the application form received by a person when he becomes entitled to his basic pension, the application for supplement would also go in that envelope, and a description of the rent supplement plan.

It should be automatic that qualification for the supplement will enable the pensioner to receive the rent supplement. He can then apply to The Department of Social and Family Services giving them the necessary statistics, and after one home visit should receive the rent supplement himself. The supplement would cover the amount of rent per month in excess of 25 per cent of the total pension received.

I hope that we can think about this question in a non-partisan manner, Mr. Speaker, because Ontario, instead of blaming Ottawa, must take steps to remedy this problem immediately.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring another topic to the attention of the members of this House, and particularly to the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle). I know he is not able to be here because he has other duties to perform, but I hope he will take the opportunity to look at *Hansard* and read my comments. Mr. Speaker, the need for provincial parks will be an ever-increasing need in the future, if the Doxiadis report on the megalopolis concept of one continuous band of development from Minneapolis to Chicago, Detroit, Port Huron, Windsor, Sarnia, London, Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal, is a forecast of what lies in store in the future development of the southern part of Ontario.

I can see that unless The Department of Lands and Forests purchases as much available land as possible along the waterways that are involved in this Minneapolis-Montreal concept now, it will be too late, and it will be too late in the not too distant future. Had the department followed my suggestions when I first entered this House, practically all of the land necessary to provide parks for this region could have been purchased for the price of just one piece of property today. Let us buy what we can today. Even though we may not be able to afford to develop it

immediately, we should, so to speak, stockpile it.

Let us take over the undeveloped islands—and I am going to be parochial to this extent—the undeveloped islands in the Detroit River and hold them for future park and recreational development.

Do it now, or our American friends will own a greater and greater share of our province's water frontage!

Mr. Sopha: The only place left will be Polar Bear Park.

Mr. B. Newman: I have one other topic that will only take a few minutes, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make just a few short comments on the method of salesmanship that is being employed by many Canadian companies today. The method, in my estimation, is just plain fraud or misrepresentation, and should be looked into by The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

I would like to bring your attention to a letter I actually received, and it is a notification to a prize winner. When you read the back of the envelope, it says:

> Notice to addressee: The sweepstakes prize you have already won is being held in your name. To claim it you must return the enclosed registered claim card at once.

That is all you have to do—return the enclosed claim card. There is no other mention of any other qualifications to receive that prize. Then when you get to the brochure that is enclosed in the envelope, we have this, which comes from the prize headquarters:

> To claim your brand new station wagon loaded with all the extras, or a smart new Maverick sedan or a Sanyo colour TV, or a Yashica super 8 movie camera, or whatever prize you have already won in the Canadian luxury living sweepstake, mail the official prize winner's claim card.

All you have to do is mail it in and get the prize. I am still waiting for my prize, Mr. Speaker. To whom do I complain?

Mr. Sopha: You have to send in the top of the sponsor's head.

Mr. B. Newman: I could not find it.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Or a reasonable facsimile thereof!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. B. Newman moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will carry on with this debate and await the outcome of the contest.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock, p.m.

No. 22

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, March 19, 1970

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Thursday, March 19, 1970

Murray-Selby Shoe Company labour dispute, statement by Mr. Bales ... 817

Establishment of training centre and trades training and industrial programme at Guelph, statement by Mr. Grossman ... 817

Intervention in application of Transair to air transport committee, statement by **Mr. Haskett** ... 819

Bird-Stevens case, statements by Mr. Wishart and Mr. Bales ... 819

Report of York county grand jury, statement by Mr. Wishart ... 825

Increase in unemployment in Ontario, questions to Mr. Bales, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Deans, Mr. T. Reid, Mr. Pilkey ... 831

Threatened resignation of nursing staff at Milton hospital, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Nixon ... 833

Rationing of heavy water for Ontario nuclear plants, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 833

Responsibility of regional development councils in Ontario planning, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Nixon ... 833

Bird-Stevens case, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. MacDonald ... 834

Preparation for defense re Emmett Lester case, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. MacDonald 835

Duplication of courses such as at Lakehead University and local community college, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Pitman, Mr. T. Reid ... 836

Cancellation of summer course at Lakehead, question to Mr. Davis, Mr. MacDonald ... 838

Indian representative on board of education, question to Mr. Davis, Mr. MacDonald ... 838

Committee re tenants' complaints in Porter Avenue OHC complex, questions to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Singer ... 838

New employees hired by Ontario Jockey Club, questions to Mr. MacNaughton and Mr. Bales, Mr. MacDonald ... 839

Information booklet re drugs and their use, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid, Mr. Pitman ... 839

Programme to put doctors and dentists in designated areas, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Gisborn, Mr. Martel ... 840

OHSIP premiums for Indians and war veterans, question to Mr. Wells, Mr. Ferrier ... 841

Air pollution tests at Malton, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Trotter ... 842

Problems arising re three northern Ontario conferences, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Stokes ... 842

Transportation problems in Ottawa, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Mackenzie ... 842

Loss of government money when Copaco went into receivership, question to Mr. MacNaughton, Mr. Gaunt ... 843

Studies re employment problems of older workers, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Deans .. 843

Access to 16-year-old students of school records on himself, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid ... 843

Birth control pills dispensed to Indian and Eskimo women, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Martel ... 843

Ottawa University and Dr. Jacques Flamond, question to Mr. Davis, Mr. Lawlor ... 844

Presenting report of Registrar General, Mr. Welch ... 845

Fourth report, standing private bills committee, Mr. Winkler ... 845

Motion to authorize provincial auditor to make certain payments pending voting of supply, Mr. MacNaughton, agreed to ... 845

Ontario Educational Communications Authority, bill to establish, Mr. Davis, first reading 845

Schools Administration Act, bill to amend, Mr. T. Reid, agreed to ... 846

Royal assent to certain bills, the honourable the Lieutenant-Governor ... 854

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. Singer .. 854

Recess, 6.00 o'clock ... 860

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1970

The House met today at 2 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: This afternoon in the east gallery we have as guests students from Danforth Technical School and we will have, in the west gallery, those from Bayview Junior High School in Willowdale; and later today we will have scouts from Willowdale and Islington with us.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. D. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that new initiatives have been taken in an effort to settle the dispute between the Murray-Selby Shoe Company of London, and Local 481 of the Canadian Food and Allied Workers Union.

The parties in this dispute met directly several times before the union applied for conciliation services from The Department of Labour on February 25. Meanwhile, the company indicated it intended to close the plant. However, a conciliation meeting was held on March 17, at which time the position of the parties were canvassed in great detail.

It would not serve the cause of resolving this dispute if I were to outline the various positions, but I can advise the House that discussions occurred today between the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White) on the one hand, and the principals of the company on the other. As a result, both the company and the union have agreed with my department that a further meeting to negotiate the dispute will be held tomorrow in London.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report the proposed establishment of a training centre at Guelph as a further step my department is now able to take in our constant endeavour to improve the rehabilitative features of the Guelph reformatory programme.

Most members will know that, in keeping with our statement of purpose, we have strived to reduce the population of this institution and have, in fact, succeeded in bringing it down from an average of over 1,000 inmates a few years ago to just over 700, and we are constantly working to reduce this number even further.

In the last few years we have opened three new training centres at Monteith, Rideau and Fort William—now Thunder Bay, which, in addition to reducing the population at Guelph, have added to the training centre facilities already in existence at Brampton and Burtch.

At all of these centres young adults, up to age 24, are given intensive vocational and academic training, as well as necessary social training, in a programme that seeks to modify those attitudes and behaviour patterns which have led to antisocial behaviour. We find, invariably, that, in the smaller institution, the staff-inmate interaction is much improved, which makes for a more effective rehabilitation programme than in the larger institution.

It should be noted at this stage that Ontario is fortunate in that we are speaking of 700 as being a large institution. In many jurisdictions correctional authorities, when speaking of large institutions, are thinking of institutions for as many as 3,000 men.

The new training centre on the grounds of the Ontario Reformatory in Guelph is in addition to the one presently in the planning stages for the Maplehurst complex, and the new training centre at Guelph will be financed by the sale of a portion of the farm property.

Concurrent with our attempts to reduce the size of the population at Guelph reformatory, my trades and industries advisory committee has been studying the trades training and the industrial production programmes of the institution. This committee, which was established in 1966 under the chairmanship of Mr. Ford Brand, has made several studies and recommendations which have been of great value.

The present committee is under the chairmanship of Mr. Stan Hagerman, retired president of Stewart-Warner Corporation, and is composed of: Ford G. Brand, recently retired vice-chairman of the Toronto Transit Commission; John David Fienberg, member of

the board of Consolidated Building Corporation; Henry Weisbach, executive secretary of the Ontario Federation of Labour; Dr. Lita-Rose Betcherman, director of the women's bureau of The Department of Labour; Walter F. Davy, director of the industrial training branch of The Department of Labour; Ralph E. Sewell, chairman of the board of Coca-Cola Limited; Rev. Martin W. Pinker, chairman of the minister's advisory council on the treatment of the offender; S. A. Norton, senior administration of the applied arts and technology branch of The Department of Education; Oakah L. Jones, president and general manager of the Consumers' Gas Company; and Alex McKinney, director of the Ontario Ploughmen's Association.

The committee studied the present programme at Guelph and was of the opinion that a modern trade training facility should be built, which would be more relevant to modern needs than the present emphasis on general agricultural production and training.

The committee emphasized that its recommendation was based on its awareness of a very effective programme presently being carried out in our training centres, where with smaller populations, the attention which can be devoted to individual students can work towards developing to the full the student's potential for academic upgrading and for acquiring a marketable skill.

The department has been most fortunate in having on the trades and industries advisory committee highly qualified advisors from commerce, industry, trades, government and education. In working towards the fulfillment of its recommendation, we shall be embarking on a venture that will totally transform our present programme at Guelph and will be a landmark in our constant efforts to ensure that our correctional sevice remains the most progressive in Canada.

At the same time, we will ensure the continued operation of the Guelph dairy herd. This herd, besides providing an economical milk supply for our own and other government institutions, is one of the highest quality herds for Holsteins in the country and a well-developed line of high milk producers. The herd is a definite asset to the province of Ontario, not only as a training facility for the nearby veterinary college and the agricultural college at Guelph University, but also as a basis for the development of high quality exports both of milk producers and of germ plasma for proven blood lines.

There have been, as a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, a number of Canadian champion milk producers from this herd over the years. Most notable, I should say—and this is to let the hon. members know that, as the biggest farmer in Ontario, I am aware of these things—most notable amongst them are Jenny and her six daughters which is the only mother-daughter—or, as they say on the farm, dam-daughter—combination in Canada, which has produced a total of 1 million pounds of milk or more.

Incidentally, this is enough to leave the traditional two quarts a day on the family doorstep for 58 years, they tell me. I think all of the members will agree that this indicates a most valuable herd and one which we must continue to operate for the benefit of the public of Ontario.

Plans for the continuation of research on this herd, which has been carried on for a number of years, have been discussed with representatives of the agricultural college at the University of Guelph, and with my colleague the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart), whose department has been involved in this programme.

In addition to this research on the milk producer, members of course are well aware of the extremely valuable research being carried on with the Charolais beef cattle in Burwash for the provision of animals suitable for northern Ontario.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to our director of farms, Mr. E. G. Wright, who has been responsible for the development of such high-class herds and has directed the department's co-operation in the research.

Mr. Speaker, I have gone to some great length about this particular aspect in which we are involved. That is to prove that we are not only proud of the work done in this field, but we know that there are many people who are concerned about this particular project. We want them to know that we are not only concerned about it as well, but we are making sure that it will be continued as it has in the past.

We are most happy at the outcome of the studies, which have received the approval of my colleagues in the government. This approval will now enable us to proceed with the radical reduction of the inmate population at Guelph reformatory, with all that this promises for an advanced programme of rehabilitation at this, the most difficult of our correctional institutions. I am sure that all members will receive this announcement

with great enthusiasm, as will all people involved in this work in Ontario.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, on March 6 last, I announced in the House that the province of Ontario had intervened in the application of Transair to the air transport committee for a franchise to fly a scheduled jet air service from Winnipeg-Thunder Bay-Toronto and between Toronto and Sault Ste. Marie. The main thrust of our intervention was to urge the air transport committee to have a public hearing, so the plans of the Canadian Transport Commission and Air Canada with respect to the phasing-out of Air Canada's turboprop services in Ontario could be made public and the over-all plan to supplement these services by regional air carriers could be established.

On March 9, the air transport committee issued decision No. 2954, granting to Transair authority to:

(a) serve Sault Ste. Marie and Toronto as a continuation of the route, Winnipeg-Kenora-Dryden-Thunder Bay on not more than a once daily frequency in each direction, restricted to the use of turboprop type aircraft; and

(b) operate a service between Winnipeg and Thunder Bay and Toronto on a once-daily frequency each way with 737 jet aircraft or aircraft of similar type.

This decision was arrived at without a public hearing. On the following day, on March 10, in the *Globe and Mail*, there appeared an announcement that Air Canada intended to reduce its service between Sault Ste. Marie and Toronto. For these reasons the province of Ontario is appealing decision No. 2954 to the federal Minister of Transport, requesting that the minister reverse the decision of the air transport committee with respect to the service Thunder Bay-Sault Ste. Marie-Toronto and order a public hearing.

I now table a copy of the intervention of the province of Ontario, and also a copy of decision No. 2954 of the air transport committee of the Canadian Transport Commission against which we are appealing.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry. Did the Minister of Justice wish to make the statement today that he mentioned yesterday? I presume, if so—

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice and Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I undertook to do so.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald) has, on two previous occasions, directed questions to me in respect to this particular case, the case of Regina against Comeau, on the complaint of Bird and Stevens, and I have undertaken to advise him respecting his inquiries.

At the same time, the hon. member in his comments on March 3, in this House, made extensive allegations against the government, this department, the Ontario Provincial Police, the crown attorney and the justice of the peace respecting what he considered to be the mishandling of all matters relative to this case. At the same time, in his comments on March 3, the hon. member adopted a number of allegations that were contained in correspondence which he read into the record of the Legislature.

I am now in a position, Mr. Speaker, to reply to the hon. member and, in doing so, I will have to deal in a specific way with the multitude of inaccuracies that he has, either intentionally or unintentionally, permitted to be placed upon the record. It will be necessary, Mr. Speaker, to take considerable time to put this matter straight; but since it is of importance and significance, I know that the hon. members of this House will recognize and receive the information in the spirit in which it is put forward.

In dealing with this matter, Mr. Speaker, I will have to mention the names of various persons who have been involved in this episode and I will have to, perhaps, describe some of the details relevant to the incident out of which these allegations have arisen. I find it distasteful to have to bring personalities into the matter, but the type of allegations that have been made do not permit of any proper explanation unless the entire context is set forward so that the public may understand exactly what has taken place and how the facts relate to the allegations.

On Saturday, April 5, 1969, at 7.05 p.m., the Ontario Provincial police detachment at Hearst received a call from Claude Comeau, the owner of the Queen's Hotel in Hearst, who reported that an Indian lady had just broken a window in the hotel and that he intended to seek payment of damages from the party who was involved, although he did not wish to lay any charges. The police made due note of this call.

At 7.15 p.m. on the same evening, 10 minutes later, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bird and Miss Elizabeth Stevens, a sister of Mrs. Bird, reported personally to the Ontario Provincial Police office and complained of being assaulted by Mr. Comeau at the Queen's Hotel. Mr. Bird complained that Comeau

had punched him in the face before evicting him.

Elizabeth Stevens complained that she had been hit by Mr. Comeau while Mr. Bird was being removed. Mrs. Bird complained that she had been locked out of the hotel and stated that she had thrown a hair spray can at the door breaking the window in the door.

The police officer, J. R. T. Code noted that Mr. Bird had a small cut over his left eyebrow which did not require medical attention and he also noted that Miss Stevens had a slight reddened area near her right cheekbone. Miss Stevens was well composed and was sober while Mr. Bird seemed upset.

The police officer took all statements from the complainants and immediately proceeded to the Queen's Hotel and interviewed Mr. Comeau, who denied having assaulted anyone. Mr. Comeau, at that time, stated that Mr. Bird and another man had begun to fight in the lounge of the hotel and that he, Mr. Comeau, and his bartender, Mr. Breton, had immediately taken steps to break up the fight and they had thereupon attempted to evict the persons who were involved. The police officer then proceeded to interview other persons who were in the hotel respecting this incident, but he was unable to establish exactly what had occurred at that particular time because of the many conflicting versions and the absence of some persons.

The only area of agreement amongst all the conflicting stories was that a fight had broken out on the southeast corner of the lounge and that some persons had been evicted from the hotel.

Due to the conflicting statements and the fact that the police officer could not satisfy himself as to what exactly had happened, he advised the complainants that they should place their complaint before the justice of the peace. He then called the justice of the peace, Mr. W. C. Trowsse, to the detachment office and Paul Bird and Elizabeth Stevens then swore informations charging Claude Comeau with assault under section 231 subsection 1 paragraph (b) of the Criminal Code of Canada and the summonses were then issued to the defendant to appear in Hearst at the provincial court, criminal division, at 10.30 a.m. on April 30, 1969.

And I should like to interject here, Mr. Speaker, that in certain of the allegations put forward it was said that Miss Stevens and Mr. Bird were directed to go to and seek out the justice of the peace. I stress the point that was completely wrong, completely misstated. The provincial police called the justice of the peace, brought him to the office at the time of the complaint and after investigation. It was under those circumstances the complaint was prepared and signed and that the summonses were issued.

The following day, April 6, 1969, the police officer continued his investigation of the incident. Through his investigation he ascertained that on the previous evening a fight had broken out between Jean Bordues and the persons at Mr. Bird's table as a result of comments that had been made by Mr. Bordues and a man named Fernand Lacroix who had allegedly been pestering the people at Mr. Bird's table. The police officer made detailed measurements of the lounge in which the fight had taken place and noted all the appropriate particulars of the premises in order that he could properly relate the statements of the various witnesses and perhaps thereby resolve much of the conflicting evidence.

I may say, Mr. Speaker, again interjecting, that all this material is taken from the detailed records as to time, place and detail taken from the police constable's diary.

On April 7, 1969, the following day, the police officer served the summons upon the defendant, Comeau. On the same day, the detachment office was visited by two representatives whom the police officer believes to be representatives of the Ontario Human Rights Commission, although there is some doubt in his mind whether or not one of the representatives may have been a representative of the Union of Ontario Indians. In any event, these representatives asked for and were provided with the information relating to this incident. At that time, the police officer was advised that these individuals and the people they represented would be obtaining a legal adviser for Mr. Bird. It will be noted that this advice was provided to the police officer on April 7, two days after the offence.

On April 28—I make note of these dates, Mr. Speaker—on April 28, 1969, S. A. Caldbick, QC, the crown attorney for the district of Cochrane and the senior advisory crown attorney for the province of Ontario, received a telephone call from James D. Karswick, a lawyer in Toronto, and this was the first contact that Mr. Caldbick had with this case. He, at no time, had been approached by any of the persons who were interested in the prosecution of the matter. The police officer, perhaps understandably, had not drawn it to the attention of Mr. Caldbick since, as he states, he was advised two days after the

incident that other arrangements were being made to provide a legal adviser to the complainant.

Mr. Karswick indicated that he was advised there was some reluctance on the part of the authorities at Hearst to prosecute the case, and asked if the crown attorney had any objection to Mr. Karswick appearing for the complainant. Mr. Karswick did not ask Mr. Caldbick to prosecute the case, nor did he intimate to him that this was the desire of the Union of Ontario Indians or anybody else—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Why did he have to ask him? It was his job to do it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Karswick indicated he was going to do it.

Mr. MacDonald: It was his job to do it.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Goodness gracious!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He did not ask—

Mr. MacDonald: That is the whole nub of the issue right there. It was his job and he was ducking it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Nor did he indicate that it was the desire of the Union of Ontario Indians, or anybody else, but indeed, it seemed very apparent to Mr. Caldbick that Mr. Karswick had been retained and intended to carry on with the prosecution.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister's case has collapsed right now.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In the light of Mr. Karswick's telephone call, Mr. Caldbick then advised the assistant crown attorney, Mr. Cloutier, that Mr. Karswick would be conducting the matter on behalf of the complainant and that Mr. Cloutier should make the necessary election that the matter proceed as a summary conviction case, rather than by indictment, in order that the private prosecutor could conduct the matter on behalf of the complainant.

On April 30, the matter came on in accordance with the summons, and the assistant crown attorney had the matter adjourned until May 26 in order that Mr. Karswick could be present. On May 26, the assistant crown attorney appeared and made the necessary election so that the matter could be dealt with on a summary conviction basis, since the private prosecutor would not have the authority to make that election. This was a necessary legal step in the proceeding and was done not to release the crown attorney from any responsibility, but because of the fact that only the Crown can make such an election in order to accommodate counsel.

The judge, who had to sit in another court at Hornepayne on the afternoon of this day, agreed to come back at 7 p.m. He did so, and carried on with the trial until after midnight. It was then resumed on June 10. On June 16, when the evidence was completed, the judge found the accused Comeau guilty on both charges of assault and he was fined $50 on each charge.

In the light of these facts, Mr. Speaker, may I now deal with some of the specific questions and allegations that have been raised by the hon. member for York South in his comments about the matter.

Mr. McClellan, whose correspondence has been read into the record, made specific allegations which appear to have been put forward by the hon. member for York South in a manner that presumes that they are accurate. Mr. McClellan says, and I quote:

> Immediately following the assault, Mr. Bird went to the Ontario Provincial Police station in Hearst to inform them of the incident. He was interviewed by Officer T. Coad—

I say, presumably, that is J. R. T. Coad.

> —who advised him that if he wanted to lay charges, he would have to go to the justice of the peace.

This is Mr. McClelland's statement, and I am still quoting:

> Mr. Bird, who was still bleeding from the facial wounds inflicted during the assault, then left the Ontario Provincial Police station and proceeded to the office of the justice of the peace. This was the total extent of the assistance which Mr. Bird received from the provincial police.

The police officer, in attempting to advise the complainant, did so only after he had received the complaint and only after he had interviewed the defendant and the other persons who were still available after the fight had taken place at the hotel. The complainant, Mr. Bird, did not have to leave the detachment office but according to the justice of the peace and the police officer, the justice of the peace was asked to come down to the police detachment office which he did and the complainants swore their informations in the detachment office where they had originally come to inform the police of their complaint.

The suggestion as to the lack of assistance from the provincial police should, perhaps, be related to the next paragraph in Mr. McClellan's letter, which reads as follows:

> You may wish to investigate, sir, why the assault was not even investigated by the Ontario Provincial Police, why Mr. Comeau was not even interviewed by the Ontario Provincial Police. Let me assure you that if Mr. Bird had committed the assault and Mr. Comeau had laid the charges, Mr. Bird would have been arrested. There was no police investigation of the incident between the day of the assault, April 5, and the first day of the trial, May 26. The pre-trial report from the prosecutor was not even prepared until one half hour prior to the commencement of the trial and this consisted only in the interview with Mr. Bird at the police station.

That is the end of that quotation from Mr. McClellan.

That paragraph, Mr. Speaker, seems to consist of a collection of completely inaccurate statements. Mr. Comeau was in fact interviewed within an hour after the complaint had been made to the police officer at Hearst. Not only was Mr. Comeau interviewed, but other witnesses who were still present at that time were interviewed and a general investigation was made immediately on the evening that the complaint was registered with the police. It is a complete misstatement to say there was no police investigation between April 5 and May 26; because the police officer not only did some investigation immediately on the evening of the complaint, but he went back the next day to ascertain the further details from the witnesses whom he could identify and he went to a considerable extent to resolve the conflicting statements relative to the incident.

He not only identified the other witnesses who were present and who were involved in the fight, but he also, to the best of his ability, attempted to isolate the cause of the fight. It should also be noted that one witness by the name of Trudel who was not then available was ultimately located and he was in fact summonsed on the instructions of the assistant crown attorney since he had not been located by Mr. Karswick who came into the matter within the next day or so, or who at least was going to be retained according to the advice given to the policeman by the representatives acting on behalf of Mr. Bird and Mrs. Stevens.

Allegations have been made by the hon. member and by those upon whose information he has chosen to act, that the crown attorney would not prosecute this case. It is implicit through the entire proceedings that the crown attorney was never approached and, indeed, did not even know of the case until April 28. I think it must be obvious, Mr. Speaker, that a crown attorney who is responsible for a district the size of the district of Cochrane, cannot be consulted by the police on a day-to-day basis.

In the present case, the police officer who had advised that the complainant would be retaining his own legal adviser, quite reasonably felt that it was going to be dealt with on the basis of a private complaint and, perhaps, it was at this point when the impression arose which has been expressed by Mr. McClellan and others in a most undefined manner.

If the Union of Ontario Indians or the Ontario Human Rights Commission or any other individual, wants to seek the advice or the assistance of the crown attorney, all he has to do is contact the crown attorney and bring the matter to his attention. The crown attorney will then decide, according to the circumstances of each case, as to the action that might seem appropriate. If he had been contacted on this occasion the crown attorney, I am sure, would have undertaken the prosecution as he does with virtually all the cases that are upon the list for trial in the criminal courts. The difficulty arises from the fact that the complainants, within hours after the incident, had given the impression to the police officer that they were going to have their own lawyer.

It is significant, I think, Mr. Speaker, and I interject this, that these complainants did not go to the police, they first apparently went to someone representing or some representative officer of the Ontario Human Rights Commission, they did not seek in the first instance, as far as we can ascertain, the police.

Mr. MacDonald: That in itself may be rather significant.

Mr. J. Renwick: That is because maybe the police should have laid the information themselves.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: If they had gone to the police that was all they needed to do.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister just told us the police were not going to lay a charge; he cannot have it both ways.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Keep working at it. The member for York South will catch up to the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman).

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, they gave the impression to the police officer that they were going to have their own lawyers; that is their prerogative if they wish to do so. Then all that the crown attorney can do is to provide the technical legalities that will pave the way for the private prosecution, and indeed this is expressly contemplated in section 14 of The Crown Attorneys Act.

I have made this statement to Mr. Karswick, and I have made it to others that have enquired of me, Mr. Speaker, that we cannot act on intuition in these matters. If people who have a concern will make it clear to those responsible then something may be done to assist them. All of this correspondence and, indeed even the letter from Mr. Karswick, are based upon advice that was received from other individuals and from which inferences are drawn that are completely unjustified.

The last question I would deal with is the suggestion that is made in the correspondence that has been tabled, and it relates to why the justice of the peace proceeded on the charge of assault rather than on the charge of assault causing bodily harm. The latter offence, Mr. Speaker, is an indictable offence and cannot be proceeded with as a summary conviction matter in the election of the Crown. The indictable offence is, of course, an exceedingly serious matter and it will not generally be laid unless the bodily damage suffered is of some extent. The description of both the justice of the peace and the police officer of the injuries exhibited by the complainants did not, in the opinion of the justice of the peace, warrant the indictable offence and it was for this reason that the justice of the peace, in exercising his discretion, proceeded on the assault charge.

I can find no fault whatsoever in this discretion which he exercised since he would have to make it upon the basis of the physical appearance of the complainants who were then before him. In any event, Mr. Karswick, at any time, could have laid the more serious charge if he felt that the circumstances warranted it. Indeed, he could have directed comments to this feature of the case at the time of sentence since the injuries would be very material to the sentence once the conviction had been registered. I am advised, however, that comments were not directed by counsel for the complainants to the matter of physical damages.

More recently, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for York South has asked whether it would not be appropriate for the crown attorney to have taken over this case once it came to his attention, and I would again point out that it first came to his attention on April 28 when Mr. Karswick had already been retained by the representatives of the complainants and when his only contact was on the basis of the complainants' solicitor requesting permission to act on behalf of the complainants.

If all of the concern and if all of the expressions that have been made since the trial of this matter had been placed before the proper authorities such as the crown attorney, at the time when the incident arose, they could have been reassured and the crown attorney would have been only too glad to have proceeded with the matter.

Mr. MacDonald: That is pure stuff and nonsense!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I find no negligence or improper conduct on the part of either the Ontario Provincial Police or the law officers of the Crown, and even in hindsight I doubt whether any of them could have acted more effectively when all the facts are considered objectively.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I was asked a question by the hon. member for York South in reference to the same matter.

Mr. Speaker: I might say that if the hon. minister is going to answer a question this is not the proper time, the question period is the appropriate time. If he has a ministerial statement I will be pleased to give him the floor.

Hon. Mr. Bales: I have prepared it in the form of a minister's statement on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, as a supplement to the statement made by the Attorney General in reference to the inquiry from the hon. member for York South, as the members of the House are aware the human rights commission receives a wide variety of complaints that fall outside the strict confines of the human rights code. The commission seeks, as a service to the community, to deal with such cases by way of referral or whatever other course seems appropriate. I am advised that the commission's officer in northwestern Ontario received a complaint from Mr. Bird and ultimately referred Mr. Bird to the Union of Ontario

Indians, who gave him assistance in retaining legal counsel.

Mr. MacDonald: When did he receive the complaint?

Hon. Mr. Bales: In this case the commission's officer was simply acting within the bounds of established referral policy.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): No more statements?

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of Minister of Labour.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Mr. Speaker, on a point of personal privilege!

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps we will not start the question period until this matter has been completed so that it does not cut down—

Mr. De Monte: As you know, Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday I took part in the debate on the Speech from the Throne wherein I put forward to this House certain concepts and points in connection with the workmen's compensation board, which I felt were necessary for the information of the members and for the good of the public of Ontario.

Yesterday at 3 p.m. Mr. W. R. Kerr, Director of Rehabilitation Services for the workmen's compensation board, held a press conference wherein he attacked me personally and put forward some figures to refute the figures that I had given to this House.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that the workmen's compensation board is responsible to this assembly and to no other person or body, and that it is incumbent upon it to report to this House through the Minister of Labour.

My point of privilege is this, Mr. Speaker: if every civil servant were to hold a press conference every time a member of this House criticized his department the debates in this House would degenerate into a debate between a member in the department of government—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is entitled to raise a point of personal privilege but not to debate a matter, and I think he has raised his point of personal privilege.

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Speaker, if I may go on, I wish to make my point.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member may go on if he is not going to engage in a debate.

Mr. De Monte: Well then I therefore request, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Kerr be brought before the committee on privileges and elections to explain his unusual behaviour and why he took it upon himself to breach the ancient privilege of a member and the ancient privileges of this House.

It is also a breach of my privilege, Mr. Speaker, that the minister sees fit to instruct a civil servant to issue a press release in rebuttal of my debate rather than standing up in this House and rebutting it himself as he should.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. De Monte: Mr. Speaker, the minister may speak after I have made my point.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has now made his point.

Mr. De Monte: I have not finished my point, Mr. Speaker. I have one more point to make and I request your permission to make this point because I feel my privilege as a member of this House—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will make his point.

Mr. De Monte: If the minister questions my figures then I suggest to him that he refer the whole matter to the standing committee on privileges—

Mr. Speaker: This has nothing whatsoever to do—

Mr. De Monte: —and appoint a committee—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

The hon. member's point of personal privilege was that some member of the civil service had attempted to infringe on his rights of free expression and to attack him in the paper. It has nothing whatsoever to do with the minister answering questions or not answering questions.

Now if the member has something further to say with respect to the point he raised that is quite all right and he has the floor, but if he is going to use this as a vehicle to attack another member of the House for something done by someone else, then of course it is not in order at all.

Mr. De Monte: You may be right, Mr. Speaker, but I have one further point.

May I also state, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Kerr misled this House and the public in stating that the maximum amount payable under The Workmen's Compensation Act—

Mr. Speaker: Points of privilege are only points of privilege of the member and with respect to things occurring in this House. Now Mr. Kerr, I presume, is not a member of this House. He certainly was not on the floor of the House and therefore that part of the hon. member's point of privilege, in my opinion, is out of order. If he wishes to rephrase it he may do so.

Mr. De Monte: With the greatest of respect, Mr. Speaker, I say that he breached my privilege and the privilege of this House in misquoting the amount which is the maximum set out by the Act, and Mr. Kerr should have known it. I deem that to be a breach of my privilege.

Mr. Speaker: I take it that the hon. member has made his point. I think it is probably a sound point.

Mr. MacDonald: Where was the minister? Why does he not speak up?

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): The minister is an irrelevant ornament.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

As far as I am concerned I would say the same to the hon. member as I said yesterday, and perhaps I will have the occasion again to say, and that is that the Speaker, of his own volition, does not have any right either to call people before the bar of the House or to refer matters to the standing committee. That must come from the House as a gathering.

Mr. J. L. Brown (Beaches-Woodbine): Does the Minister of Labour not have control of his department?

Mr. Speaker: So therefore, while I take note of the hon. member's point of privilege, which I think is a good point, at the moment there is nothing I can do. If the hon. member or his party wish to propose a motion, then of course in due course that would be processed and dealt with by the Speaker.

Mr. Lewis: The minister reports to the workmen's compensation board!

Mr. De Monte: I certainly do not want to turn this question into a debate, but with the greatest of respect, the minister should have brought that out and not have expected the civil service to bring it out.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Lewis: The minister is a servant of the board.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister, I do not think, is entitled to enter into this as a matter of debate, but in the past we have allowed it. Unless the minister feels that his privileges have been—

Mr. Lewis: Let him defend himself.

Hon. Mr. Bales: As I heard the hon. member, he said that I had instructed somebody to give a press conference and refute his argument. I did not do any such thing.

Mr. De Monte: Well then why are they refuting my argument? Why are they not refuted in this House?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Lewis: Well what kind of a minister is he? He is a lackey of the board.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: It is this government that is in trouble. Why do they not catch on to it?

Mr. Speaker: The oral question period has now commenced. The Leader of the Opposition has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I ask your indulgence, perhaps your advice if I might. There have been questions asked, particularly on the report of the grand jury, by the Leader of the Opposition and the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer), and that report has caused a considerable amount of interest generally by presenting an important number of recommendations. I have a statement in answer to the questions. I wondered if I might also give it today.

Mr. Speaker: By the way, the House probably noticed that I have kept asking for statements by the ministry because I had been advised that the Attorney General had two statements. I think that if the Minister of Justice and Attorney General has a statement with respect to policy and something of interest in his department, that it is more proper that it should be given now rather than take up part of the question period, and I will give him the floor.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I must say that this statement is even longer than the last one.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Just the facts.

Mr. MacDonald: There is a lot of cleaning up needed to get this government on the rails again.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: But the subject, Mr. Speaker, is of much greater importance than the last one.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, the Attorney General made available copies of his last statement. Has he copies of this one?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I believe they are coming forward at once.

Mr. Singer: That is where all the money is going, printing in the ministerial departments.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I have received two questions from members of the Legislature respecting the presentment of the grand jury for the present sittings of the court of general sessions of the peace for the county of York, which is dated March 13. Some publicity has been attendant upon this report, and as a result of that, there has been a proper concern in the Leader of the Opposition and some of his associates. I believe it would be appropriate, Mr. Speaker, in order that once again the facts may be made clear, that I make a statement on the subject matter of the report for the benefit of all members of this House.

Firstly, Mr. Speaker, may I point out that the authority of the grand jury in discharging this particular type of function is set forth in section 46 of The Jurors Act of Ontario which reads as follows; I quote:

> Subsection 1—The judge presiding at a jury sittings of the supreme court and at a sittings of the court of general sessions of the peace shall instruct the grand jury that it may inspect all or any of the institutions in the county or district that are maintained in whole or in part by public moneys, and every grand jury that makes such an inspection shall prepare a report or presentment indicating the conditions found to be existing in each of the institutions inspected, but where such an inspection has been conducted within six months prior to the date of the commencement of such sittings, no inspection shall be made without the specific consent of the judge.
>
> Subsection 2—The time that may be devoted by a grand jury to the inspection of institutions is subject to the control and direction of the presiding judge.

That is the end of the quotation of the law.

The first point I would make, Mr. Speaker, is that the function of the grand jury is to inspect the institutions in the county that are maintained in whole or in part by public moneys, and it is not a function of the grand jury to inquire into all of the matters related to the administration of justice. While the enthusiasm of any citizen in making inquiries about such matters in commendable, I must point out that a grand jury which is appointed to serve for a matter of a few days to two weeks could hardly be expected to obtain all of the information and receive all of the advice that would be appropriate to make constructive comments upon the highly involved problems that relate to the various responsibilities of the government.

Historically, the function of the grand jury was to inspect these public institutions which are supported by public funds to ensure that the public funds were being spent in a proper manner and that the buildings were adequate for the purposes, in the light of the tax revenues available from the public to sustain those institutions. In our jurisdiction, it has never been the function of the grand jury to digress into these other areas for which there is not authority to conduct an inquiry.

However, Mr. Speaker, despite my own views as to the propriety of the particular undertaking of this grand jury, may I direct my comments to the specific allegations which have been raised by this particular group of gentlemen. I am not certain as to where they received their information, but certainly that advice which they received representing the position of the crown attorney in the public service is completely erroneous if the presentment of the jury properly reflects that advice. I note that an assistant crown attorney, Mr. Ewaschuk, is mentioned in the report as being one person who provided guidance and advice to the grand jury, but I cannot believe that he could have been the source of much of this information since it obviously does not reflect the knowledge and maturity that I would presume a gentleman of Mr. Ewaschuk's experience would have in these matters.

The grand jury suggests that 26 crown prosecutors are adequate to deal with the amount of work which is presently available in the criminal courts in the Metropolitan Toronto area. The complement for this office provides for 30 assistant crown attorneys and more will be provided if the government is satisfied that there is the work there to warrant these additional civil servants. The surveys we have made and the information

upon which we have based our requirements indicate that there are many areas where a better use could be made of the time of, not only these particular civil servants, but also others in our department, and in the voluntary restraints which we have all adopted in the administration of government services we are directing our minds toward improved methods rather than toward increased staffs.

It is rather elementary for any person to suggest that the hiring of more people will automatically produce a more expeditious handling of a workload. This is, however, a very trite approach to the problem which we do not feel is adequate and which we do not feel would be effective. On this point, therefore, I would state that the number of crown prosecutors is not 26, but the complement is 30, and these positions, if any of them are vacant, will be filled as appropriate gentlemen may become available.

Mr. Singer: Well, how many are there?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Thirty.

Mr. Singer: We do not allow for 30 places.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The comments respecting salary structure, are, in my view, based upon a completely false premise. Salaries are not standardized according to the number of years of service, and are according to merit, despite the impressions which may have been given to this particular jury, or indeed the impression that may exist in other quarters.

Because this is of such significance, Mr. Speaker, may I set out for the members of this House, the criteria for these legal officers as expressly set forth in the specifications of my department and The Department of Civil Service. These are the factors that apply in the words of the specifications:

(a) For crown attorneys, factors such as the workload in relation to population, courts served and law enforced agencies involved.

Personal qualities:

(a) Ability to recognize and analyze legal problems and provide effective solutions;

(b) Ability to exercise judgement in the advice rendered to the government in a manner consistent with justice and equity;

(c) Ability to exercise judgement necessary to maintain and protect the interests of the government and the public and at the same time, protecting the rights of the individual;

(d) Ability to co-operate with those whom he advises and the ability to encourage the co-operation of these persons;

(e) Evidence of dedication to the principles of the administration of justice and the law;

(f) Demonstration of an understanding of the responsibilities of the public servant.

If a man cannot meet these qualifications, Mr. Speaker, he would not be of significant use to the people of this province in the administration of justice. There is no mention in any of these criteria of the number of years that a man must be in the public service, although experience is obviously a factor which will be considered in the promotion of an individual through the legal officer series.

Mr. Speaker, to further indicate what I think is the most reasonable approach to the establishment of these salaries, we should look at the seven levels of legal officer which have replaced the dozens of old legal classifications that existed up until early last fall. After considerable and detailed study of the whole matter by the officials of my department and the officials of The Department of Civil Service and the civil service commission, seven levels of legal officer were arrived at with appropriate salary levels. These levels proceed from $9,118 at the lowest entry level, to a maximum of $26,089 at the top, or the seventh level.

In addition to these positions, of course, there are the more senior positions, which are designated by titles. These salaries would not include such positions as the crown attorney for Metropolitan Toronto and the county of York, or other more senior positions within the main office of the department. If we look at the entry level, Mr. Speaker, we will see that a man who has just received his call to the bar in this province may enter our legal service at the salary of $9,118.

If he has been articled with the department and has prior experience in the government service which will be of use to him in his work, he will be started at the rate of $9,849 per year. If he is an honours graduate, and has demonstrated a scholastic ability in addition to having been articled with the department, then he could start at a level of $10,644.

Further, I would point out that this is the entry level; at the end of one year he would move into the next level, which begins at $12,445. This, again, is presuming that his work merits that promotion. I cannot, in all good conscience, suggest that a lawyer with one year's experience should be promoted any faster than that which we have provided in this new arrangement.

I would like to interject, Mr. Speaker, that if the grand jury, in making comment on the salary levels, had perhaps considered the levels at which young lawyers are taken into legal firms shortly after graduation, they would find, I think, that our salaries were not low as the report would indicate; it was critical of the level of salary which we offer to our crown attorneys. I take the trouble, therefore, to set them out in detail and to give the classifications and the figures which apply to those classifications.

Further, Mr. Speaker, may I point out that, under our new arrangement, there is no promotion of a lawyer within the top five levels of the legal officer series unless a recommendation respecting that promotion has been made by an appraisal committee consisting of the deputy attorney general, the deputy minister of civil service and the deputy minister of the department involved or, in the case of The Department of Justice, one of the assistant deputy attorneys general. The assessment made by this committee is based upon the man's ability and his performance, as well as the responsibilities which he discharges in the public service. Here again, it is not based on the rather stilted criteria which were evidently in the minds of the grand jury.

Of the 28 lawyers in the crown office in Metropolitan Toronto, I have noted—

Mr. Singer: The hon. minister said there were 30.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —that over 14 of them —and I would hope the hon. member for Downsview would follow the statement for a moment.

Mr. Nixon: We are. The hon. minister said 30.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I know that over 14 of them received an increase of at least $2,000, effective October 1, 1969, and that three-quarters of them received over $1,500 increase as of that date. They will receive a further increase of anywhere from $500 to $1,000, effective next October 1. These rates are very comparable with those paid in the profession generally for this type of work and I think they are commendable and completely adequate.

Moving on, Mr. Speaker, to another comment of the jury in the second observation. Great stress is placed on the turnover of the younger men in this office. We fully recognize that there is such a turnover and, indeed, we feel that one of the strengths in the administration of criminal justice is that those who go into practice at the criminal bar should have experience in the crown office, so that they will fully understand many of the problems inherent in this area of responsibility.

While we seek to retain as many of these younger men as possible, we do not look upon it as a loss to the administration of criminal justice that these men should go outside the public service and practise their profession on the other side of the bar. At the same time, we recognize completely that Toronto is perhaps one of the most attractive and highest-paid areas of the bar in our country. It is obvious that there will be a turnover of staff in an area where the assistant crown attorney is going to be in constant contact with the criminal bar, where his training and experience will ultimately place him in good stead, if he should wish to go into private practice.

It is also a most important factor in judging any matter of this kind that you consider whether salary is really the thing that will keep any person in the public service. I am certain Mr. Speaker, that there are very few members of this Legislature who are devoting their lives and their careers to this public service because of the amount of money involved.

Mr. Nixon: Just talk to some of the former teachers!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think the same principle is essentially true of the individuals in our public service. If they are not motivated by a desire to serve the public and a dedication to the challenging work of the public service, then no amount of money is going to keep an individual in this service, if that is his only consideration.

There is no way that the public service could ever compete with all of the professions and with the incomes which may be derived through those professions. But we do provide a challenging career for those who have an interest and a dedication to the challenging work performed in a context with the most interesting problems and a dedicated public service within which to find solutions.

In the light of these comments, Mr. Speaker, I would move on to the next item, recognizing completely that we have had a turnover in this office for years, and we will continue to have a turnover. It does not concern us, because the men who are doing the work are competent and are, in most cases, dedicated.

The grand jury observes that the assistant crown attorney has to buy his own subscriptions to the various law reports. I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that I buy my own subscriptions, and I pay my own bar fees, as well as my fees for membership in various other associations related to my profession. This is true of every professional person in the public service.

We provide law reports in our law libraries, but we certainly are not in any position to buy these reports for every individual lawyer. This, in my mind, is completely impractical and I would dare say that it would be completely impractical in the view of any practising lawyer. The cost involved in providing all of the highly specialized reports to each individual lawyer and each individual office would be astronomical in comparison to the benefits which would thereby be recognized.

It is rather unusual that the grand jury should make comment upon the inadequate number of private offices for assistant crown attorneys. I have been in correspondence with a committee which is made up of the Chief Justice of Ontario, the chief justice of the high court, the senior judge of the county court of York and representatives of the bar in Toronto. It has been urged upon me that the crown attorney's office in the courthouse has been utilizing far more space than is consistent with the proper use of the courthouse. It has been recommended to me that the assistant crown attorney should be moved to other quarters.

Perhaps the grand jury was not aware that many of these assistant crown attorneys function, not at the courthouse but at several courts throughout Metropolitan Toronto, and indeed a great bulk of their work is carried on at the old city hall.

Mr. Singer: The grand jury did not specify other quarters were needed. They just said they needed adequate quarters; whether at the city hall or the courthouse does not matter.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Right. The very serious question arises as to whether or not it is appropriate to provide all of these men with private offices at the courthouse in Metropolitan Toronto when, in fact, their duties will obviously take them, for the great bulk of their time, to other parts of the city quite removed from the Metropolitan Toronto courthouse. Indeed, the suggestion that has been made indicates that it would be far more appropriate to provide offices for the assistant crown attorneys closer to the court which they are serving, and we are looking at this matter at the present time.

I do not know what criteria the grand jury used in considering that the library was inadequately stocked, but certainly the library which is provided to the crown attorneys is quite outstanding, and would, I believe, far surpass the law libraries of most practising lawyers in this city. It is a specialized library designed for the criminal courts, and we have never, at any time, refused any funds for the development of that library if assistance was requested through the crown attorney, who is the man responsible for that office.

I cannot quite understand the grand jury's observation respecting the fact that since the retirement of Mr. Graburn, there are not any Queen's Counsel on the staff of this particular office. These lawyers are no different from other members of the profession and are not in a privileged position insofar as this particular recognition is concerned. In the last honours list, I appointed four crown attorneys of this province to the silk and, as gentlemen in the Toronto office become qualified for that recognition, they too will be provided with it on the same criteria that I have described in previous years.

Mr. Nixon: That is a mystical statement.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Perhaps. The member asked the question.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Be careful, the member next to you has a QC.

Mr. MacDonald: Just because he asked the question does not justify a mystical statement in reply.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I agree.

There are several comments relating to the preparation of the cases and, here again, I am not certain as to where the jury received its information. I would point out that in practising law and, indeed, in the main office of my department, the preparation is done in the early morning prior to the opening of court and most lawyers find that a considerable amount of preparation can thereby be accomplished. This requires, of course, a degree of co-operation with the police forces, but this has certainly not been a problem in other offices and I think could be adequately resolved if any particular assistant crown attorney wished to do so.

We have established no formal basis for training an assistant crown attorney, because this really contemplates that there would have

to be persons who would be something less than assistant crown attorneys before they could be admitted to prosecuting in our courts. In actual fact, as every assistant crown attorney is aware, the new gentlemen in the office commenced their experience in the lower courts and in those courts where the summary conviction matters are dealt with, rather than the serious criminal offences.

This is the only way in which any counsel can become conversant with his profession and, as he gains experience and gains the confidence of his superiors, he will then be assigned to the higher courts and to the more serious types of cases.

I would also point out that last summer we instituted two one-week courses in Toronto to which assistant crown attorneys—and, indeed, some of the crown attorneys—were invited, in order that they might sit together for one week and discuss many of the problems that are common to the offices of crown attorneys throughout Ontario. The course was well attended and the lectures obtained a very fine response and interest. I believe that this type of introduction to their responsibilities, together with their progress through the various levels of courts, is more than adequate to provide the type of experience that is desirable for our law officers.

It is suggested that we should not have *per diem* crown attorneys and that we should have full-time assistant crown attorneys to cover all contingencies. This, of course, is not practical because it would mean that we would have to maintain a staff of lawyers that would be sufficient to cover all peaks. When there were lulls there would not be sufficient work to keep these men gainfully occupied.

The whole purpose in having the *per diem* assistant crown attorneys is to have lawyers available who can cover off the lower courts if the full-time people are completely engaged in the higher courts. I am sure that the grand jury must have been advised that these *per diem* assistants can only be paid for their services in the provincial courts, at a preliminary inquiry, or at a coroner's inquest, and that they may not be retained for prosecutions in the superior courts, except with special authority and a special counsel.

The grand jury suggests that there is some relationship between the amount that is paid to the legal aid counsel and that which is paid to an assistant crown attorney. The grand jury has overlooked the fact that the lawyer who is providing legal aid is supporting an office and a staff. In the surveys which we conduct from time to time to establish appropriate levels for the legal aid tariff, it has become very apparent that at least 40 per cent of a practising lawyer's income will be devoted to his overhead, and in many cases that percentage exceeds 50 per cent. It is completely misleading to suggest, therefore, that the fee that a legal aid lawyer charges is anywhere analogous to the salary which is paid to an assistant crown attorney.

Similarly, the salary which is paid to an assistant crown attorney does not reflect the contribution which is made by the government for his superannuation benefits, his hospital insurance, his medical insurance, his sick leave benefits, and all of those other factors which represent approximately 25 per cent of the value of his salary. Items such as these are, in most smaller law firms, paid for out of the income of the law firm. I think it is obvious, therefore, that any comparison between law fees billed and salary paid is incorrect.

The grand jury has suggested that a law clerk could perform the work of co-ordination between the courts and the assistant crown attorneys and that a lawyer is not needed for that purpose. I think it is interesting to note that a lawyer had to be introduced into this position because it was impossible for a non-legal person to understand all the ramifications and to deal, on an equal basis, with the various assistant crown attorneys in sorting work assignments.

There are some suggestions respecting changes in the keeping of records and the recording of information. These are procedural matters which I am sure the various assistant crown attorneys, in their considerable experience, could sort out to their mutual advantage.

I agree completely that the relationship of the crown attorney's office to the police is vitally important. I am not, however, entirely agreed that the crown attorney should be brought into the police responsibility at the stage when is contemplated by this grand jury. The crown attorney, in all cases, must be responsible for ensuring that any charge is properly brought before the courts. And, indeed, he should accept the responsibility for doing anything that is necessary to have a prosecution stayed if he feels it is contrary to the principles of the administration of criminal justice.

Each assistant crown attorney is responsible to the crown attorney for whom he works and that man certainly is familiar with the procedures that are available in cases where that type of action may be advisable. However,

it is the police officer who lays the information and who, in the first instance, accepts the responsibility for seeing the charges are laid. The assistant crown attorney is always available to provide advice to any police officer who may seek it in the usual way—

Mr. MacDonald: Double talk!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —and indeed, this is the practice that is followed throughout the province.

Mr. MacDonald: Oh no, not in Hearst.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: However, I cannot conceive that it is the responsibility of the crown attorney or his assistant to review and supervise the laying of charges and the screening of charges at the stage contemplated by the grand jury.

I believe that I have covered these matters in rather exhaustive detail, Mr. Speaker, but I cannot let the well-publicized comments of this grand jury go unanswered when they are based upon inaccurate information which was most regrettably placed before them, or which unfortunately happened to come into their hands.

It was also unfortunate that some of the information that came into their hands must have been placed before them without explanation, or with a misexplanation, and if that did arise, then it is certainly no reflection upon the grand jury that they came forth with the recommendations which they did.

In the light of the comments which I have made and in the light of the systems which we have developed in the last few years, these lawyers—that is, the crown attorneys—in my view are paid a salary quite commensurate with their responsibilities. I do not intend embarking upon a campaign of hiring additional people at this time, for that, in my view, is not an effective method of dealing with the problems which may exist.

I trust that this will answer the questions that were brought forward by the hon. members, but if there were any other matters relative to this, they may, of course, direct their questions to me. I apologize for taking so long, Mr. Speaker, in speaking before the House.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, further to the statement that the Attorney General has just made, does he intend to meet with the grand jury on any occasion, particularly the one that they asked for themselves to explain this matter directly? Secondly, will he provide funds to pay for the legal counsel that they hired independent from that which is normally available to the grand jury?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure. I had these questions directed to me by the members of the press. I have no objection to meeting with persons interested in the administration of justice. As I pointed out in this statement, this is an area into which grand juries have no authority to go, but if there are questions in their recommendations, I will certainly consider them.

I think it is now for the judge to decide what further functions that grand jury shall perform and how long it shall remain as a grand jury. But I have indicated that I would certainly be glad to discuss the recommendations. I do not get the question about payment. Who was to be paid?

Mr. Nixon: David Humphrey, the lawyer who advised them and was retained by the grand jury on an independent basis.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, as I pointed out in the statement to the House, the grand jury has no authority to go into matters except as laid down by law, and I do not think I should establish a precedent if a body goes outside its jurisdiction and engages counsel on its own authority without any legal authority. I think I would be establishing a very dangerous precedent to say in such cases I would pay counsel that they would see fit to hire.

Mr. Nixon: In this specific case where it was done, it has brought forward criticisms that have been expressed by the grand jury, and perhaps by others, as to the system of prosecutions.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, in the light of the answer I have already given, I would have to take that under very serious advisement before I would contemplate any such step.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. In view of the unemployment statistics that have been released by the federal government today indicating a rapid increase in unemployment in Ontario, would the minister describe to the House what programmes are available to him and the administration to combat unemployment as it gets into the very serious areas which apparently we are approaching at the present time?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, in answering that question I think it would be helpful if

I gave the actual figures for Ontario at this time. These just came in today.

The work force in this province increased by 21,000 in the last month to 3,003,000 and and that is an increase of 41,000 over a year ago. The number employed in February was 2,867,000, which is an increase of 9,000 over last month. The rate of unemployment in Ontario is 4.5 as against 4.2 in January. In Canada it is 6.5 as against 6.1.

The number of training projects in this province has increased. For example, in our apprenticeship programmes there are now 1,000 more in training in the apprenticeship field than there were a year ago—some 18,860. The number of requests for training have increased substantially, as have the completed projects. At the present time we have a trainee commitment of 30,444 as against 17,156 a year ago. These are in various short-term training projects throughout the province. There is a large number who completed their training last month, and I expect the training quota will be increased again next month.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: in view of what the minister has answered, can he assure the House as far as the predictions that are available to him are concerned, and based on the statistics of our province and the programme he has just described, that we need not fear an increase in unemployment that appears to be in the trends that have been made available to us for the past three months?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question, certainly we are very concerned when we see an increase in unemployment that is 0.6 per cent over last year, and it is the fear of unemployment or our concern as to increased unemployment that has led us to be critical of the federal programme. We are doing all we can to meet this problem and to try to assist these people by training and to locate them in other jobs.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth has a supplementary?

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): I wonder if I might ask the minister which of the programmes he mentioned, if any, are specifically aimed at rehabilitation or retraining for persons in the age group of 40 to 55 years?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, we do not develop training programmes for people just by age groups.

Mr. Deans: But you must, because they are having the most difficulties.

Hon. Mr. Bales: We develop them on the basis of their retraining for suitable jobs. The member is well aware of our Age Discrimination Act, and its importance because people can fit into many programmes regardless of their age.

Mr. Deans: May I ask the minister by way of another supplementary question, whether he is not aware that it is more difficult for persons in that age group to be fitted into the retraining programme, and this has been proven by those who have applied?

Hon. Mr. Bales: We are well aware of that.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Supplementary to that, Mr. Speaker, does the minister know what the teenage unemployment rate is now? Is it three times the average?

Hon. Mr. Bales: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not have those figures broken down by age.

Mr. T. Reid: Would it be possible for the minister to provide the House with figures by age groups, including the under-20 age group?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Our figures really come from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and I would have to find out whether that kind of information is available through them.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary?

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, in the statistics that the minister quoted in terms of total unemployment, are short-term layoffs involved—such as the auto industry, which has a week off now and a week off at some point later on? Is that kind of layoff involved in the statistics?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, the statistics which we have and from which I have quoted come from the labour force survey which is conducted each month. It is done on the basis of sampling throughout the country and throughout the provinces as to those who are out of work at that particular time.

Mr. Pilkey: Could the minister check and inform the House whether short-term layoffs are involved in the statistics that he quoted?

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): The member could look, they are federal figures.

An hon. member: The member should check himself.

Mr. Lewis: Has the minister added in the 700 Dunlop workers?

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Health. Does he intend to intervene in the threatened resignation of the entire nursing staff at the Milton hospital, which is expected to take place on March 24, if there is not some mitigating circumstance?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, at this point in time I do not intend to intervene. I would have to check this over with the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, who have some responsibilities toward our hospitals, and we would have to see what the situation is.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: is the minister aware of a special investigation into the situation at the Milton hospital being undertaken by the hospital commission and, if so, is this report now available, either for the minister's guidance or the guidance of the members of the House?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is available for the minister's guidance, Mr. Speaker; I do not think it is available to the members of the House, it is an internal document.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary: Is the minister then of the opinion that this troublesome situation will be worked out satisfactorily at the local level without the intervention of either the minister or the commission?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know that I am prepared to answer that emphatically at this point, Mr. Speaker. We certainly hope it will be worked out. The commission stands ready to assist the hospital board or the nurses if its help is so desired.

Mr. Nixon: But the minister is aware that the hospital closes in five days according to the way the situation stands now?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that we will not let the hospital close.

Mr. Nixon: All right.

Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Premier in the absence of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr). Is he aware of the statement made by G. M. McNabb, assistant deputy minister for energy development in the federal administration, as follows:

> The heavy water plant at Glace Bay cannot be brought into operation in time to prevent rationing of heavy water for the two nuclear plants in Ontario.

If he is aware of this statement, has he undertaken through his minister to determine what effect this will have on the production of energy in the province?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I was not aware of this statement, it has not been drawn to my attention. There is no doubt we have been aware that there was potential difficulty in this area, because we have known of the difficulties in the production of heavy water, but I was not aware of that statement the leader mentioned.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: now that the minister is aware of it, would he check through to see what effect this will have on our programme?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes.

Mr. Nixon: A further question, Mr. Speaker, of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, based on the report that he and his colleague, the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), made in Jarvis. Are we to gather from the wording of the report, the implications in the report, that overall planning for the province will be the responsibility of the regional development councils if, let us say, the thrust of the report is carried through to its completion?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I do not know how the hon. Leader of the Opposition would draw that conclusion.

Mr. Nixon: Would the minister agree that the present overlapping of planning responsibilities shared by himself and his colleagues the Treasurer and the absent Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall), is brought to some focus in the report that he presented, in which it is indicated that this sort of overlapping must cease and that one group or the other must take an initiative and a lead in the matter?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I am aware that my critic in the Liberal Party, the member for Waterloo North (Mr. Good), made a speech along these lines the other night, and I suppose the Leader of the Opposition is now trying to get him off the hook for such a fatuous statement. Just ridiculous! Just ridiculous nonsense!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, before the hon. minister blows his last remaining fuse, may I ask him how he intends to displace the broadly based feeling in the province that this government has been ineffectual in bringing about any suitable planning on a province-wide basis?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, I think we can handle that quite well over here.

Mr. MacDonald: Like the government did in Middlesex South?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Despite the best efforts of the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Waterloo North, I do not think—

Mr. Nixon: The minister's efforts are not good enough.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I do not think that feeling is abroad. I think the people of this province have great confidence in this government.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my first question is of the Attorney General in the light of his earlier statement with regard to the Bird-Stevens case.

Since most of the information that I put on the record was from letters by people involved, such, as, for example, Ross McClellan, who wrote to the Attorney General in the latter half of December, will the Attorney General indicate whether or not he has done Mr. McClellan the courtesy of replying to those letters and giving him the details following the investigation?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would certainly check this, Mr. Speaker. I try to answer correspondence I receive. I am not sure I have that file before me at the moment but if I have not answered—

Mr. MacDonald: The last letter was December 31. Has the Attorney General replied to him since then?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not know at the moment. I will find out. There were a great many misstatements and inaccuracies. Perhaps I have answered him in the statement I gave today.

Mr. MacDonald: But why was he not given the courtesy of a reply, and why did the Attorney General not investigate it until I prodded him for the umpteenth time two weeks ago?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I cannot be certain, but I think that copies of Mr. McClellan's correspondence came to me through Mr. Karswick or others. And I did reply to—

Mr. MacDonald: They did not; he wrote to the Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I recall writing to Mr. Karswick on at least two occasions, and very promptly, explaining to him some of the things which I have set out in this statement. But the inaccuracies and the misstatements kept coming forward, finally being repeated by the member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Attorney General if he would kindly read the file so he would know what is on it? In so doing he would discover that he got a letter from Mr. McClellan on December 17, he replied to it on December 22, he got another letter on December 31, and nothing has been heard of since. The Attorney General has just finishing doing the investigating and he has never done him the courtesy of giving the man the information. Am I correct?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Perhaps then the question is answered, Mr. Speaker. I got a letter from Mr. McClellan on the 17th, I replied on the 22nd.

Mr. MacDonald: Right!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: And Mr. McClellan wrote again.

Mr. MacDonald: Right.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That usually puts an end to correspondence.

Mr. MacDonald: Oh, does it? That is why we need an opposition here to dig the facts out.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Apparently I told Mr. McClellan—I trust I did, in my prompt reply from the 17th to the 22nd—that he was off base. He answered, but whether I should go on corresponding in that type of thing I do not know.

Mr. MacDonald: Would the Attorney General kindly read this letter and find that in his letter, a copy of which I have, he indicated he would look into whether the OPP had done its job? Having looked into it—of course only after I prodded in the last two weeks—has he replied to Mr. McClellan?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, for the last time, anyone who is so inaccurate and would go so far as to put it on record, and give to the press completely inaccurate statements, hardly deserves an extended correspondence.

Mr. MacDonald: Anybody who is so inaccurate—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: We have not gotten to the end of this yet.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Trade and Development, may I ask the Prime Minister how he can reconcile the fact that now the Toronto city council, its mayor and some of its aldermen, have indicated they did not provide a draft position paper to the minister some two or three weeks ago, regarding Harbour City, as indicated by the minister. Who is telling what in terms of this story?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I am going to undertake to answer all questions for every minister who may not be in the House. The member will have to wait until the minister gets back and he will answer it.

Mr. MacDonald: Moving to other topics, I would like to ask the Attorney General: Inasmuch as legal aid has been denied to one Emmett Lester, now incarcerated in the Don jail on a charge of possession of stolen bonds, will the Attorney General have some of his assets, which have been frozen while this case is on, made available so that he can fight his own case, or make alternative means available so that his defence can be prepared?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, if I recall this case, I think Mr. Lester is in jail subject to a substantial amount of bail, on a charge of having stolen securities, stolen bonds. For the hon. member to ask whether I will release his assets, the whole question is, are these assets his—these large amounts of securities, in the hundreds of thousands of dollars? I do not think I am in the position to release them until we decide whether they are his.

Mr. MacDonald: I wonder if the Attorney General would answer the question?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: I wonder if the Attorney General would now answer the question I asked him? Since this man has been denied legal aid, will he provide some alternative means of preparing the defence if he does not wish to release some of the man's assets for that purpose?

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Surely he should have some defence.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is asking if I would review the decision of the legal aid director and his advisers, I would be glad to look at it. But I certainly would not want to indicate by that answer that I am reaching the decision that he should be provided legal aid.

Mr. MacDonald: As a supplementary question: supposing upon a review there is no granting of legal aid, is the man not entitled to the means of preparing his defence? And if it is not legal aid give him another alternative. Simple justice!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I said, Mr. Speaker, I would review it. The Legal Aid Act does provide that the accused, even though he has a criminal record, shall not suffer through lack of counsel by reason of financial inability.

Mr. MacDonald: Right! That is the point. To the Minister of Justice I thought it would be obvious from the outset.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I said I would review the matter.

Mr. MacDonald: No, the Attorney General did not. At first he said—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Another question of the Attorney General. We are dealing with fundamental points which cannot even be seen by the government. What action does the government contemplate in light of Mr. Justice Dalton Wells' criticism yesterday that the law forced him to jail Harvey Little instead of referring him to a mental hospital for psychiatric treatment?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to make any comment on the remarks of the supreme court judge, the chief justice of the high court, certainly not at this time.

Mr. MacDonald: Why not?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: If the hon. member wants to insist on an answer he can put his question on the order paper; I will take it from there.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): He has a lot of eggs to lay today.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): It is Easter time.

Mr. MacDonald: To the Minister of Education: how does the minister justify the expenditure of public funds for the kind of duplication of courses as are available, for example, in the diploma courses at the Lakehead University and are also provided by the local community college?

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): He was expecting that one, I am sure.

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): I am glad the hon. member asked that. It gives me an opportunity to explain this, perhaps in a little greater detail than in today's paper, in the article written by Mr. Munro in the *Globe and Mail.*

Once again we have to be somewhat historical in our approach to this question. Lakehead University, as the hon. member is well aware, started out really as something of a technological institution in 1948 with the basis of its educational programme related to the technological field. As it matured, Mr. Speaker, it moved into the position of offering degrees, but still had courses in technology available as part of its programme.

At the time of the creation of a community college concept, Mr. Speaker, the decision had to be made as to whether or not the young people and adults in the Thunder Bay area, and those areas that the community college would serve, would have available to them the total range of college programmes that was available to students elsewhere in the province. These are not confined to technology, which is the area of some duplication and potential greater duplication. The decision was made, Mr. Speaker, that these young people and adults should have the same educational opportunities as exist elsewhere. So Confederation College was set up, established, and has moved ahead very substantially in the last three years.

To give some idea of the number involved, Mr. Speaker, at the present moment enrolment at Lakehead University is 2,363. Of this total, 1,823 are in degree programmes—no conflict here whatsoever. Of the remainder, 540 are in diploma programmes including technology. But of the latter group—and this is where we get down to the area of possible duplication, Mr. Speaker—a possible 197 or 8.3 per cent of the total enrolment of the university are in courses somewhat similar to Confederation College. These are the engineering technology programmes, basically. Of this figure of 197, many go into the third year, which is not offered at Confederation College.

So we move over to Confederation College, Mr. Speaker, that other great institution at Thunder Bay. The total enrolment there is 637. Of this number, 36 or roughly 5.6 per cent of those in attendance are in courses similar to those at Lakehead.

So we go into the other areas of duplication—planned utilization—and I think the member for Peterborough would acquaint the House with the fact that the total provincial average for net assignable space per student in the university community is about 130 square feet per student. You go to the Lakehead University in its present current year, and the square-footage is 148.5. With the 1971-1972 enrolment we anticipate it will be in the neighbourhood of 110.6 square feet of net assignable space per student. Confederation College is at about 70 square feet net assignable space per student, and when it moves into its new accommodation next fall, we expect the percentage will be the same.

Mr. Speaker, because of the situation in Thunder Bay, and because of the anticipated growth of the university and of the college—but knowing the potential does exist for some area of duplication in the field of technology—we have asked, very specifically, the chairman of the commission on post-secondary education to assess the situation. I understand very recently they have established meetings for April 13 and 14 with the heads of both institutions, because I think there is a general consensus, Mr. Speaker, that they can rationalize these, so that the duplication that is there—in potential I admit this—will not take place.

Mr. Speaker, I think one can very fairly state that understanding the complexities and

the problems in the northwestern part of the province of Ontario, those responsible in that area have made a very genuine effort to meet the needs of the students, and in a way that I think is quite acceptable as far as the general taxpayer is concerned.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question, could the minister indicate whether the commission on post-secondary education is now going to be the body which will decide whether duplication exists? What will be the procedure, what will be the situation, either in the case of a community college or a university?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I think if the hon. member for Peterborough will read the terms of reference, they are sufficiently broad to cover all areas of this kind. But because of the growth of Confederation, some plans that they would like to make, and some plans at the Lakehead University, we have specifically asked them to consider this problem, and I anticipate that we will get some recommendations from the commission prior to its final report.

Mr. Pitman: Might I ask the minister, if that commission is going to make regular reports as he suggested at the beginning, when is he going to make these reports available to the Legislature?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I have always been agreeable to make most reports that I have available to the members opposite. The moment I have the report on this particular item, after I have had a chance to assess it and study it very carefully, of course I would be quite prepared to consider making it available to members of the Legislature.

Mr. Pitman: When will the minister let us know?

Hon. Mr. Davis: There have been no reports yet.

Mr. Pitman: There is supposed to be, according to the statement the minister made.

Hon. Mr. Davis: No.

Mr. Pitman: Yes, I think he will see there is.

If I might have one more supplementary question: Does the council of regents have any role to play in this particular development, and does the minister have any projections as to what each of the colleges is going to be doing—either ones that existed back in 1966 throughout 1967 and 1968? Are there any specific projections which he has of student enrolment which might be made available, and which might give us a little more idea of what is going on in these colleges?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, we have some projected enrolments; we have met them, I think really pretty closely around the province. If the member wants the situation at Thunder Bay, the estimated enrolments for 1973-1974 are 3,910 for the university. We have been close to these prior to this time, so I anticipate we will not be far off in that two-year period of time. The estimated enrolment is 1,420 for Confederation College.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question: Did the president of Lakehead University, Mr. William Tamblyn, submit a written protest to the minister when Confederation College announced its plans to duplicate the diploma programme already offered by Lakehead University? And if so will the minister table President Tamblyn's protests concerning the present costly duplication?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, without commenting at any great length on the editorial comment in the latter part of the question, I think that the answer I gave initially would indicate that that editorial comment was not totally accurate. I would say that President Tamblyn has had many communications with the department; we have met with President Tamblyn and the president of Confederation College on two or three occasions. They themselves have made a very genuine effort, not totally successful, to rationalize this situation. I am not intending, Mr. Speaker, to table any correspondence from President Tamblyn. As I have indicated, Dr. Wright and those associated with him are in the course of giving us some suggestions as to how we might rationalize this for future plans.

Mr. T. Reid: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker: Did Lakehead University offer part of its campus to Confederation College for a permanent site a few years ago, so that such duplication that does now exist could at least be co-ordinated? And if so, why did Confederation College locate more than two miles away from the university?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member is a bear for punishment.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, there was some discussion between the board of governors, I believe, of Lakehead University and Confederation College. There were discussions as to a possible site, with some mention,

I believe, of a certain amount of property on the Lakehead site. Whether this included further land that the Lakehead wished to acquire—it was three years ago and, quite honestly, I do not recall. The board of governors of Confederation College, in its wisdom, determined that for the viability of that institution, where there is really not the duplication of physical plant, it was wise to locate it where it is presently situated.

Mr. T. Reid: But the offer was made?

Hon. Mr. Davis: There was some discussion.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a short question of the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Davis: The member will get a short answer, too.

Mr. MacDonald: In view of the large number of secondary teachers available, will the Minister of Education be canceling the summer course at the Lakehead this summer?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I would be delighted to get the source of information from the member for York South, as to his assumption that there is a large surplus of secondary school teachers, because our figures at this point do not indicate that there will be a large surplus of secondary school teachers. I think I know the origin of the question and some conversations that led to this. I can only say that when there is an established surplus, as far as we are concerned —that also includes northwestern Ontario, of course—we will take into consideration the emergency course that we are offering at the Lakehead for this coming summer.

Mr. MacDonald: In short, there will be no cancellation for this summer, or it is up for review?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I think one can assume that perhaps it will be too late to determine whether there is, in fact, a significant surplus of teachers for northwestern Ontario. I doubt that this can be—

Mr. Lewis: Why does the hon. minister not take a sedative and cool down?

Hon. Mr. Davis: —determined prior to any time—that we could cancel this. I am sure the member for York South would not want to disappoint 200 or 300 prospective teachers whom we will have to admit in the not too far distant future. He would not want to be part of that policy I am sure.

Mr. MacDonald: To the Minister of Education: is the minister contemplating amendments to the legislation to reduce from two-thirds to 50 per cent the vote required to have an Indian representative on a board of education, so that you can avoid the anomaly in Kent county where you had a 9-7 vote, but not enough to be two-thirds, and therefore Indians were excluded?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, with respect to proposed legislation from the department, I am sure the hon. member for York South will look at these matters—when I bring them before the Legislature—with great care and interest. He will find out if there is any consideration for that at that precise time.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question for the provincial Treasurer in his capacity as acting Minister of Trade and Development—at least, so I was told by Dr. Rose the other day. It is in reference to this special housing committee.

My question is: is the government in a position to indicate when and how it is going to reconstitute the special committee that was established to look into the complaints of the tenants in the Porter Avenue OHC housing complex?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member, I would say that I have provided the Minister of Justice and Attorney General with a very comprehensive file, including a verbatim report of the committee that the hon. member was a part of, requesting that he advise the manner of conducting further hearings—whether it should be the basis of judicial enquiry or some other form of committee—for the purposes that the hon. member is well aware of.

I handed him that file this morning because I only received it from the vice chairman and managing director of the Ontario Housing Commission last night.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a supplementary. Would I be correct in concluding that this matter is out of the hands of the Minister of Trade and Development and in the hands of the Attorney General?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: No, I think not. But when propositions of that kind are made to ministers, particularly when the chairman of the *ad hoc* committee—I guess that is a good way to describe it—Dr. Albert Rose, recommended that it should be the subject of a judicial inquiry, I think any minister would seek the advice of the Attorney General and

his staff as to whether it warrants a judicial form of inquiry before he moves. In my capacity as acting Minister of Trade and Development that is the course I chose to pursue.

Mr. MacDonald: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I trust that the account that is given to the Attorney General will be a little more complete, because Dr. Albert Rose said that it should be either a judicial committee or a committee of citizens, one or the other.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, let me pursue this by saying that I am quite confident the Attorney General will either advise me personally, or pass along the advice of those that advise him, as to which form the inquiry should take. Dr. Rose did propose either a judicial inquiry, or a citizens' committee, as the member suggests.

That is the advice that I think the minister himself would have wanted, if he were here, from the appropriate officer of the government.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. If the inquiry is pursued, either by means of a judicial inquiry, or a citizens' committee, would the minister not agree that it would be more reasonable that it be an inquiry into all housing controlled by Ontario Housing Corporation, and not just be limited to one development situated in the riding of the member for York South?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, yes I would. I would agree with the hon. member on that.

Mr. Singer: By way of further supplementary. Would the minister not agree that, when and if the inquiry is pursued, it would also be reasonable, if there is going to be some partisan political representation amongst the inquiries, that that partisan political representation be amongst all parties represented in this House?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Of course, you see the very questions that are being asked here today would almost prompt one to consider that the matter should be decided by judicial inquiry, so the political elements will be taken out of it and it will be dealt with on a matter-of-fact basis.

Mr. Singer: And they will be.

Mr. MacDonald: I will not argue that further now.

I have a question of the provincial Treasurer in his capacity as the minister responsible for the Ontario Racing Commission.

Have the new employees that have been recently hired by the Jockey Club to replace the normal work force been licensed by the Ontario Racing Commission?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer that factually. I would have to assume so, but I will have to find out for the hon. member.

I would assume that that is correct, of course, because it is a regulation.

Mr. MacDonald: If it is a regulation—and one assumes that the regulations are being lived up to—then I have a final question for the Minister of Labour.

How can the Minister of Labour sit idly by when a government agency is licensing strike-breakers to smash a legal strike?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, this matter is under negotiation at the present time.

Mr. MacDonald: Under negotiation? Your law is violated and you sit idly by!

Hon. Mr. Bales: That is not the case.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: When will the booklet by The Department of Education summarizing the latest information available on drugs and their use—referred to in the memorandum of J. F. Kinlin, an assistant deputy minister—be available for distribution to the schools?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, we hope this booklet will be available some time fairly early in April.

Mr. T. Reid: I would like to ask a supplementary on that. Why is it necessary to wait for the publication, or the availability, of that booklet—which could be postponed or delayed—why is it necessary to wait for that publication before sending to the schools "a list of books, films and other resources?" Why can you not send out the lists that are now available right now to the schools, instead of waiting for the booklet to come out?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, the material that is being sent out, including the booklet and the list, is all interrelated. We are still in the process of obtaining some of the material that will be appearing on the list. The list itself is not totally complete; we expect it will be available about the same time as the book.

Mr. T. Reid: A final supplementary on this: Is the information in the forthcoming booklet a compilation of articles, or is it being

written by members of the minister's staff, or by members of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, or by members of the drug addiction research centre? What is the nature of the booklet?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I would say the nature of the booklet is more in the form of a compilation. It is not being written directly by members of the curriculum section.

Mr. Pitman: Might I ask a supplementary, Mr. Speaker? I wonder if I could ask the minister when he expects to have the educational television programme on drug addiction prepared and ready for use in the schools?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, this, too, is in the process of development. As far as the time factor is concerned, I am discussing this, hopefully, some time this afternoon with the director of the branch.

I perhaps will be in a position to give some more precise timetable by—I was going to say by the beginning of the week, that is no good—by the time we resume again.

Mr. Pitman: A further supplementary. Is it going to be mainly for secondary, or mainly for elementary school students? I ask this in view of the fact that the drug problem is now centring in the upper elementary grades, rather than the secondary schools.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I would think the programme, or programmes, will be directed to those areas where they will be most effective. My understanding of it is that it has application to the latter grades of the elementary system and to the early grades of the secondary school system as well. I do not think one says it stops at the end of Grade 8.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary on the original which I forgot. Is it true that the information in the booklet and the information that has already been sent to the schools, and further information, is not going to be available to the students in the secondary school libraries? Is this information going to be available to students when they want to see it, or only at the discretion say, of the principal or his staff members in the school?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I cannot become too definitive until it is finalized. I would anticipate that some of the material will perhaps be generally available. Some of it will be in the nature of films and tapes and so on—there will not be copies obviously for every student within the school facility—

Mr. T. Reid: I said available.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —so that I anticipate it will be up to the principal, or the head of guidance, or whoever is responsible—perhaps the phys-ed people—to make this material available to the classes in a way that they think is appropriate.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister of Health has a reply to a question previously asked by the hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Thunder Bay asked me a question some time ago about our programme to put doctors and dentists in designated areas or underserviced areas in the province. I would like to tell him that there are now 60 medical students and interns on the medical undergraduate bursary programme—31 in their second year of training, 22 in their third year, and four in their fourth year. In addition, there are three people who are on internship.

These people will all enter practice on completion of their full medical training or internships. In addition to the undergraduate bursary programme, two graduate physicians will enter practice in 1970, 14 physicians have applied, or indicated that they will apply, 122 additional inquiries have been received to date, and we expect more applications from the ads that we are now running. At the present time there are 43 areas approved as underserviced for physicians, and 30 additional areas are now under review.

As far as dentists are concerned, a total of 25 dental students are on the undergraduate bursary programme—eight in their second year, nine in their third year, and eight in their fourth year. These people, of course, will start their return of service on graduation, also.

The dentists who will be entering practice in 1970 under this programme will include 14 Czechoslovakian dentists presently undergoing retraining, eight fourth-year dental students and three practising dentists, making a total of 25. In addition, there have been 44 enquiries from dentists across Canada for information about this programme to date, and we hope that some of them will be applying in a formal manner.

At the present time there are 29 areas approved as underserviced for dentists in the province, including three Red Cross dental buses and, of course, the two Department of Health railway coaches. There are 20 areas that are also under review for consideration as approved areas.

I would also like to tell the hon. member in the House that the first two practitioners

located under this programme will be in Kapuskasing and they are Dr. D. Sou, a Malaysian graduate from the University of Ottawa, and Dr. J. Pogany, an Australian dentist. Both of these will be established in practice in Kapuskasing under this programme.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Cochrane South, I thought, was on his feet previously.

Mr. Gisborn: It is a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Unless it is a supplementary. Supplementary?

Mr. Gisborn: Yes, a supplementary to that statement. Does the minister not agree that the results that he has just given are worthy of the prodding from the member for Thunder Bay in the last couple of years?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, the results here are the actions of this government.

Mr. Pilkey: Reactions, reactions!

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member for Sudbury East, with supplementaries.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Can the minister indicate whether he has been able to get any dentists or doctors interested in the Noelville area, which I have been writing him consistently about over the last five or six months?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, the member is quite correct; he has been writing me. We have been carrying on a correspondence about this. It is one of the areas, and we are hopeful that out of this programme will come someone for that area.

But there is an area of choice for those who are on this programme. They can choose from among the areas that are designated and it is up to the designated areas to provide certain incentives. There are, perhaps, some things that we will have to work out in this regard, but we do want to attempt to get people for all these areas.

Mr. Martel: Under the plan, as I understand it, the municipality has to provide the residence, but according to the information, The Department of Municipal Affairs does not allow the municipality to own the homes. How can small municipalities possibly afford to provide the type of facility necessary for doctors, when in fact, they cannot own the residence?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think the hon. member's question is not really supplementary to—

Mr. Martel: Certainly it is. It is basic to the original question. Is this a supplementary?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Yes it is. When I asked the minister if he could indicate to the House how successful the programme had been to date, he also agreed to bring a report to the House with regard to the facilities for the practicing doctors and dentists. I wonder if he might care to elaborate on that aspect of the question—the facilities to attract the necessary practitioners?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, the matter that the hon. member for Sudbury East raised is presently under discussion with The Department of Municipal Affairs. I have been told by our people that there are other ways of getting the facilities there.

A community group in the municipality that is interested in having a doctor or dentist there, can organize together and get the facilities themselves. They do not necessarily have to be under the direct ownership of the municipality, and some communities are taking this kind of action.

But we are also talking with The Department of Municipal Affairs about, perhaps, being able to make arrangements so that the municipalities themselves can take action in this regard.

Mr. Stokes: A supplementary. How do you reconcile that statement with the programme that you announced here and which appeared in the *Ontario Gazette* about six weeks ago, specifically set up to assist municipalities in the construction of such facilities and the upgrading of existing facilities that proved inadequate?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not just sure exactly what the hon. member is talking about that was announced in the *Gazette*. I think he may be thinking of the provision of health facilities, such as rehabilitation centres, and so forth, that a municipality or group there can establish. They are entitled to a two-thirds grant, the same as for a hospital. That may be what he is talking about.

Mr. Speaker: Now the hon. member for Cochrane. A supplementary?

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): My question, Mr. Speaker is a question of the Minister of Health. Is the federal government paying OHSIP premiums on behalf of Indians

and recipients of DVA or war veterans' allowances in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I will have to get the exact answers to that. It is a very clouded area.

We are hoping that they are going to be paying some of these, but I could not give the member the exact answer at this minute.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Parkdale was on his feet.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. I had one for the Minister of Labour, but he is under the wing, so I will settle for the Minister of Health.

Is it true that the minister's department is carrying on air pollution tests for the federal government inside the airport at Malton and if so, will the report be tabled here?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is my recollection, Mr. Speaker, that perhaps someone from our department is working on a group project doing these tests. I do not think our department alone is carrying on these tests.

As to the disposition of that report, I could not tell the hon. member now. But I will endeavour to find out.

Mr. Trotter: By way of supplementary, if the hon. minister does get the answers, does he think he will be able to table the report here, so we would know how bad the air pollution is inside the airport?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I cannot really answer that until I find out. It may be that we are co-operating with the federal government and it will be their report. I will have to find out whose report it is and then find out who has the right to table it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. Stokes: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Is the Prime Minister prepared to indicate to the House what action will be taken as a result of the three northern Ontario conferences that were held last fall and the special cabinet session which was held on November 19 to deal with the problems that arose as a result of those conferences? Is he in a position to say whether the government will proceed, say within the next few months, with concrete proposals for the relief of some of the problems that were indicated at those conferences?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, those conferences and the courses of action that the government proposed were mentioned in the Speech from the Throne and we propose to go ahead as outlined. This will be done after the Easter recess.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Ottawa Centre.

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): Two questions of the Minister of Transport. Having regard for the recommendations in the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Transportation Study, does the minister have any programmes under consideration which could assist the city of Ottawa, either now or in the near future, with their pressing transportation problems? And would he give us the details?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, at the time of the work being done on the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Transportation Study, and when it was tabled, it was intimated that there were tools learned in that overall study that would be applicable to comparable studies in other urban areas.

I think that is as valid today as it was then. What was learned in that study can be of inestimable value to us in the on-going study of a comparable nature in the Ottawa-Carleton region today.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside. A supplementary question? The member for Ottawa Centre.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Speaker, is the minister saying that he has programmes under way which will assist them, either now or in the future?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, that is what we said, that we had programmes under way.

I said that what we learned in the course of the MTARTS study would be of inestimable value in further studies in other urban centres—that we have developed tools for measuring traffic problems and the resolutions of them. I think that is just as valid today as when we announced the MTARTS study about two years ago.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): A two-part question to the Minister of Health regarding the study of DDT and other pesticides begun last June in Norfolk county.

First, has the minister a report on the blood samples taken from Norfolk residents last summer? And, second, what amounts of DDT, arsenic, lead and mercury were found?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would have to take that question as notice.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): I have a question of the Treasurer. Is the Treasurer in a position to relate to the House the exact amount of money the government lost when Copaco went into receivership?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I do not know the exact amount of money.

It would appear that the charge against the government guarantee may well be between $800,000 and $900,000. That is as close as I can tell the hon. member today. The receivership has not yet been wound up, but it will be wound up very shortly. The final figures will be made known then.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: A question of the Prime Minister. Can the Prime Minister indicate whether any studies are being undertaken by the government to determine what programmes would be suitable to compensate for, or to alleviate, the difficulties faced by those persons in the age group 45 to 60, who are finding employment possibilities very difficult?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am not aware of any studies directed at that specific age group. No, I could not tell the hon. member of any studies that are directed to the age group of which the hon member is speaking.

Mr. Deans: Could I then, by way of a supplementary question, ask the Prime Minister if he would consider initiating such a study?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It might very well be done in terms of our approach to the whole question of unemployment.

I am sure that it enters into the studies that are done, for instance, in the establishment of retraining programmes. Certainly I think it is an area that is going to require it. And, since this particular group are the ones that suffer most, it would appear that there may be an increasing number of them in the future if the present trend in this province continues. So that I do not think there is any doubt it will receive attention.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: I have a question for the Minister of Education. Is it the policy of the minister's department to allow every student on his 16th birthday to have access to every record the school has kept on him? This suggestion was made by one of the members of his department a week or so ago.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Yes, Mr. Speaker, that speech was made, I believe, by the superintendent of the curriculum section in Ottawa some week or 10 days ago now. Obviously it has become urgent to the member for Scarborough East very recently.

Mr. T. Reid: It is urgent to a lot of teenagers.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I am just referring to the time factor. Actually, I think—

Mr. T. Reid: I could have asked it a week ago—if the minister would come more than once a week.

Hon. Mr. Davis: In fact, I have the speech here, because I thought the member would be asking. If the member wants to read it, it is a very good speech.

I think that he suggested, Mr. Speaker—he went beyond that—that all of us should have access to records, whether school records, credit records, and so on. He made a very general statement that we should all have access to records about ourselves from any agency.

Mr. T. Reid: What about 16-year-olds in school?

Hon. Mr. Davis: With respect to whether 16-year-old students within the school system should have access at their 16th birthday to school records, Mr. Speaker, I indicated some few months ago the whole question of records—their access, and so on—was under study. We will be referring to it in legislation in very short order.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. Would that legislation be brought forward before the summer of this current year?

Hon. Mr. Davis: It very easily may be.

Mr. Singer: That does not necessarily mean that it will.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: Is the Minister of Health aware that birth control pills are being dispensed to Indian and Eskimo women by lay

dispensers and that these women have not had medical examinations prior to these? And should it not be incumbent that they receive proper medical attention and examination before these pills are prescribed by lay dispensers?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that and I would be happy to have the detailed information from the hon. member.

Birth control pills are a prescription item and you have to have a prescription from a duly qualified medical practitioner.

Mr. MacDonald: The law is being violated.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well all right, I am not aware it is being violated.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister's colleagues are all laughing about it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Give me the information and we will look into it. Certainly birth control pills cannot be dispensed by lay people in this province.

Mr. MacDonald: Well they are.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Excuse me, Mr. Speaker. That is not the right word. It should be that they cannot be prescribed by lay people, because certainly they are dispensed by pharmacists. But they have to be prescribed by a medical practitioner.

Mr. Martel: I will send the minister the information. The troglodytes over there think it is a joke.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Education.

An hon. member: No, they think the minister is a joke.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: No, the member is the joke.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Education . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order! This is the members' question time. Please give the members a chance.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister of Education explain why hospital and medical coverage is cancelled when an individual transfers from a family benefits programme to take adult education and retraining?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Well, really, Mr. Speaker, I must be honest and say I do not quite understand the question and I do not really know that it relates to a policy within our department. But I will certainly take it as notice and find out and put this in writing, as much information as I can, for the hon. member.

Mr. B. Newman: If I may, I would like to explain the question to the minister so that when he does dig up the information . . .

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked his question and the minister has taken it as notice.

Mr. B. Newman: The minister still does not understand, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: That is the end. If the minister . . .

Mr. B. Newman: I would like to educate him.

Mr. Speaker: If the minister does not understand what the member has in mind then the member will be able to ask a supplementary question. The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: Question to the Minister of Education, Mr. Speaker: will the minister look into, and investigate, the case of Dr. Jacques Flamond, who has been fired from the University of Ottawa—so he states in the Ottawa *Citizen* of the day before yesterday—on the basis of his radical RC views?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I know the member really does not want me to interfere in the internal operations of that great institution, but I will endeavour to find out any—

Mr. Lawlor: Oh, I do not know.

Hon. Mr. Davis: . . . but I will endeavour to find out any factual information which may come my way and I will be delighted to pass it on to him. I do not want this to be construed as an undertaking to investigate.

Mr. Speaker: This completes the oral question period.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present the annual report of the Registrar General for the year ending December 31, 1969.

Mr. Winkler, from the standing private bills committee, presented the committee's fourth report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr4, An Act respecting the city of Niagara Falls.

Bill Pr22, An Act respecting the town of Oakville.

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments:

Bill Pr29, An Act respecting the city of Niagara Falls.

Your committee would recommend that Bill Pr34, An Act respecting the city of Kitchener, having been withdrawn, the fees and penalties be remitted.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves, seconded by Hon. Mr. Welch, that the provincial auditor be authorized to pay the salaries of the civil service and other necessary payments pending the voting of supply for the fiscal year commencing April 1, 1970, such payments to be charged to the proper appropriations following the voting of supply.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves, seconded by Hon. Mr. Welch, that this House will, following the Easter recess, resolve itself into the committee of supply.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a question associated with that resolution: Is it the intention of the government to arrange for the Treasurer's speech in connection with this motion to be televised across the province in full colour?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, this is being worked upon. I wanted to speak to the other two parties before any decision was made and the member will hear from me in due course.

Mr. Speaker: I may say that the office of Mr. Speaker was contacted and advised that the negotiations were underway, and I intimated that so far as I was concerned I thought the members generally had no objection, and that is the last I have heard of it. The Prime Minister has indicated what the present standing is.

Mr. Nixon: Another question associated with the notice of motion that has been put forward: can the Treasurer or the Premier indicate what estimates will be considered, in the eventuality that we do not consider further discussion of the resolution or carry on with the budget debate immediately?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We will have a list, Mr. Speaker, before we rise for the Easter recess.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves, seconded by hon. Mr. Welch, that this House will, following the Easter recess, resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves, seconded by hon. Mr. Robarts, that, on Tuesday, March 31, the routine proceedings of the House be set aside so that the budget may be presented by the Treasurer, immediately after the message from His Honour presenting the estimates is read, following prayers.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: And that is in case we televise it.

Mr. Nixon: Just a point of clarification: It is understood that we resume with the routine proceedings once the hon. minister's comments on the presentation of the budget have been completed?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, I would presume that that is correct. The purpose of the motion is in the event it is televised, so that the television timing and so on can be arranged for. This is the purpose of this motion, as I understand it, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: What it means, Mr. Speaker, is simply that we are suggesting that the budget come first on that day, and then if there is time left before 6 o'clock, we will revert to the question period.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

ONTARIO EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

Hon. Mr. Davis moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to establish the Ontario Educational Communications Authority.

Mr. Speaker: I presume notice has been given of this?

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Just a very brief explanation: this bill will not come as any great surprise to the members opposite. It has been discussed—that is, its introduction—for some months. It relates to the understandings with the federal Department of the Secretary of State and the CRTC. This will be the authority given the responsibility for the development of educational television directly, although the objects are sufficiently broad to include other matters that we can discuss during second reading.

THE SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION ACT

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Schools Administration Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, at the present time The Schools Administration Act, section 35(c), subsection 3, states that a local school board "may" appoint an Indian band representative to the school board on the recommendation of the Indian band concerned. The discretionary power now lies with a white school board, and the discretionary power in my opinion ought to lie with the Indian band, as the bitter experience of Moraviantown and Walpole Island bands of the Kent county board, a few days ago, too clearly confirmed. This bill does just that.

Mr. Speaker: Before the orders of the day, I would like to refer to a matter which was raised in the House yesterday and to which I gave a short answer of my views at that time. I have since had the matter researched and am prepared to give a ruling, or at least an answer, to the question raised by the member for Downsview, which is as follows:

The member for Downsview yesterday complained of the refusal of the provincial auditor to make his report on certain actions of The Department of Public Works available to the member. While I agree completely with the statement that the provincial auditor is an officer of the House, which makes him subject to order and direction by the House, I cannot agree with the proposition that this makes him subject to direction by an individual member.

I suggest that there are several procedures open to the member to obtain the information he requires:

1. He may put a notice of motion for a return on the notice paper. Such notices need not wait for the private members' hour, and customarily are not debated. Usually, if it is decided that the return should be made, it is simply made by tabling the required information before the order of the day. Or,

2. He might ask an oral question. While I realize that it is the provincial auditor, not the minister, who is directly concerned, as the report specifically deals with The Department of Public Works, the question could be directed to the minister, asking him to make a copy of the report available to the member. Or,

3. He might ask the public accounts committee to require the auditor to deliver to it a copy of the report in question. I have no doubt that this direction would be complied with.

The hon. member also asked me, as Speaker, to call the auditor before the bar of the House. For the guidance of the members, I must point out of my own volition I have no such authority. The proper procedure is for the member who makes the complaint, when he feels such action desirable, so to move. The motion is then subject to debate and vote of the House in the same way as any other motion.

Mr. Nixon: When is such a motion in order?

Mr. MacDonald: May I ask a question, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Singer: Is there an answer to my point of privilege?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South had the floor first.

Mr. MacDonald: My question, Mr. Speaker, is: what exactly is the mechanism by which you get immediate action for a motion to return, rather than having to wait for consideration during the private members' hours?

Mr. Speaker: I would suggest that that mechanism rests entirely with the ministry concerned, and in fact I have no connection with or authority over that and I cannot answer that question. I presume that normally returns are made when the material is available.

Mr. MacDonald: In short, the House cannot then ask for an immediate return. It goes on the order paper. The minister sees it, and if he chooses not to answer, or if he chooses not to see it, nothing happens.

Mr. Speaker: That would be my understanding.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, that is a useless procedure.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, you gave three alternatives. The first was this motion for return, and am I not correct in assuming that that can only be made if there is unanimous consent? That is the first one.

Mr. Speaker: No, I believe you are wrong.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker I challenge that. The second point is asking the ministry involved, and if that were practical, then the whole point of the independence of the auditor would be depleted because it may be embarrassing to the ministry involved.

Mr. Speaker: I would be glad if the members wish to ask any questions of clarification, but I certainly do not propose to allow any debate on rulings.

Mr. Singer: And the third suggestion the Speaker was making was that the public accounts committee would ask for the information. Could the Speaker indicate why the public accounts committee has greater rights than the rights of an individual member? It escapes me completely.

Mr. Speaker: Of course, as I understand it, all the committees of this House are emanations of this House and represent this House, and therefore are quite the proper authorities to deal with matters perhaps such as this. In any event, it is not for me to set out the rules and proceedings and power to the committee, because after all that is their prerogative to interpret the rules of the House with regard to their rights and authority, and I think that there is no difficulty in ascertaining what those are. So therefore, as I say, I do not think that this is a proper case for a debate on the ruling which has been given. If the hon. member wishes to make some other point of order or privilege, I will be delighted to endeavour to find out what I can do to aid him.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, on one further minor point. Could I have a copy of that, because I plan to comment on it at the first opportunity I have?

Mr. Speaker: I will be glad to furnish the hon. member with a copy.

Mr. Singer: In time for my remarks which will come later this afternoon.

Mr. MacDonald: As a point of order, Mr. Speaker, flowing from this, can this topic be referred to the standing committee on rules for study and clarification? My reasoning of it, just to give a very brief explanation: It seems to me that on the proposition of a motion for return, if there is no mechanism for implementing it, the minister can ignore it or act on it only when he sees fit. It is really useless, and therefore it seems to me one has to find some more effective mechanism for letting a House express its views.

Mr. Speaker: I would think that it is a very fair comment which I might have made myself, but nevertheless what I was doing was giving what I have found to be the customs and rulings of the House at the present time. As I will go on to say as I deal with another point in a moment, I think there are several things yet that should be dealt with by our committee on procedures, because they are many loose ends and there are many matters which are not being dealt with, I think fairly, as the majority of the House would wish. There are other matters that some of the members of the House do not wish and other members do, and of course that is then a matter for the committee to thrash out. But some, such as these, I think might very properly be referred there.

Before I deal with the motion which was made yesterday by the member for York South and the member for Riverdale (Mr. J. Renwick) and ruled out of order, I would like to say to the House that in discussing it with the member for Riverdale and thereafter with the Leader of the Opposition, I have come to the conclusion that our present rules are not of the best for dealing with a subject such as this.

I understand that the committee referred to by the hon. member for York South is studying the particular matter, and I also know that last fall there was an interim report submitted by the committee which deals with this particular point. It is my intention, subject to the approval of the House to deal with the point in a combination of the two —the present rules, plus the suggestion, in part at least, of the committee on procedures which was reported in an interim way last fall. I think, perhaps, that under the circumstances, may be the best way to deal with this particular item today.

Mr. MacDonald, the leader of the New Democratic Party, has given me notice under standing order No. 38 (A) of a motion to adjourn the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance as follows:

> Mr. MacDonald moves, seconded by Mr. Renwick, that the House do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public

importance, namely the sudden drastic decline in economic activity symbolized by the elimination of 800 jobs as a result of the announced shutdown of the Queen Street, Toronto, plant of Dunlop Canada Limited, and of the Murray-Selby Shoe Company Limited at London, Ontario.

After carefully considering the subject matter, I have come to the conclusion that I must rule this motion out of order for the following reasons:

1. While it is obviously a matter of public importance, at least in one local area, it does not meet the requirements for such a motion —that it be a specific event of recent occurrence which is being brought before the House for the first time at the first available moment, which is a justification for this extraordinary procedure. The main basis for this motion is a contemplated shutdown of the Dunlop plant on Queen Street. This matter has already been brought to the attention of the House on several occasions and debated at some length by the member for Riverdale in the throne debate, as well as at considerable length in question periods.

While the proposed shutdown is obviously of public importance in Toronto, I agree with the rulings made by my predecessors that it must be of more than local importance, and I am of the opinion that the motion submitted does not comply with this province-wide requirement.

In addition to that, I understand that the announcement by the Minister of Labour today, of course, was not relevant to the Dunlop plant, but my understanding of the announcement, which I heard for the first time with the members here an hour and a half ago, was that there were negotiations now under way at the plant in London, and that they had been reopened.

I would propose, at this time, following in part the recommendation of the committee to allow the proposer of this motion a time not exceeding five minutes to speak to the matter and then a representative of each of the other parties.

Normally, there is no debate on Speaker's rulings, but the committee recommended that the Speaker hear the speakers first rather than make his ruling. Our own rule provides, as we have it now, that the Speaker must make his ruling.

So therefore I have made the ruling, and I invite the mover of this motion to speak to it for a period not exceeding five minutes, and I invite the spokesman from the official opposition and then the government spokesman. At that time, then, Mr. Speaker's ruling will be opened to appeal but not to further debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not know just what you propose and the manner in which you propose to deal with this, but I must say that I cannot obviously accept this as a precedent for changing the rules on the basis of an interim report which has not been accepted by the House. There are recommendations that remain in that interim report and some of them we worked under for some months. There is a committee sitting to decide which of these, by agreement, we can perhaps adopt as permanent rules. And while, as I say, there is five minutes allowed—and I do not suppose it matters to me one way or the other in this particular instance—I think there is a precedent being established here as to whether rules, or changes in the rules, are being made on the floor of the House. Of course, the House can do anything it likes by unanimous consent. I suppose in this particular instance we can say that we agree unanimously that this change be made. As I say, in this particular instance I have no particular objection, although I think it is a very bad principle. Should we decide in a case like this to abandon the rules of the House? We may not agree with those rules, but they are the rules under which the House functions and I do not think it is a good practice to change the rules in this way.

I hope that we will be able to find the rules and changes that we can adopt so that those of us who are conducting the business of the House can know specifically what the rules are and what rules are going to be followed and that they are not going to be changed, or be subject to change.

That is my only comment sir, on your comments.

Mr. Nixon: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am sure that the Premier will recall an occasion about six months ago when, on a similar motion, which by our rules, strictly interpreted, "if it is not permitted by Mr. Speaker," there would have been no discussion whatsoever. The result was, in fact, a statement of position, on behalf of all three parties, which was permitted at that time.

Now if the Premier feels that a precedent is about to be set, I would suggest to him the precedent was set last autumn on at least one occasion and, if my memory serves me correctly, on two occasions, when Mr. Speaker, while not being prepared to admit that a matter of urgent public importance was being

brought forward, requiring the adjournment of the House so that it might be discussed, he did permit discussion on all sides associated with his ruling. Perhaps it might be convenient at this time, rather than assume that a new precedent is being set associated with specific five minute speeches on all sides. We are simply carrying on with the ruling that was established already in this House in 1969.

Mr. MacDonald: Speaking to the point of order—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If you will permit me for just one moment, I can only say I do not think I was present at that time. The member makes my point, which is that if a thing is allowed in this House once, when anybody wants to use it on some future occasion it is said: "Well of course we have a precedent." I am a little leery of establishing precedents which alter the rules of the House without entering the caveat that I have entered.

In other words, I have said that while I will agree to this this afternoon, I will not take this as a precedent when the question arises some other time.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I just want to speak on the point of order that has been raised.

I can understand the Prime Minister's reservations about moving until we have had some collective consideration of this issue, but the Leader of the Opposition is correct. We did have some, if you will, experimentation last fall with no firm commitment for the future, and it seemed to me that experimentation was in the pattern of all that went on last fall. The reason why I welcome what Mr. Speaker has done this afternoon is that I suggest to you that our earlier rules of the House were absolutely intolerable in this respect.

This particular right for a motion on the matter of urgent public importance . . .

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The hon. member is out of order, Mr. Speaker. We are not debating what the rules of the House are, or how bad they are, or what his personal opinion of them may be.

Mr. Speaker: As far as I am concerned . . . if I may have the floor for a minute. As far as I am concerned, I am of the opinion that what has been said on all sides of the House . . . the parties are not very far apart in their stand.

I agree entirely with the Prime Minister that this is not the way to change rules, but I also agree with the other two party leaders that between experimentation and desire, perhaps, to have some working arrangement and not to waste a great part of the afternoon in useless fulminations against the Speaker's ruling, this might be a way.

It is an experiment. I have discussed it with the clerk and it is our opinion that it need not form a precedent, but it might be a good way this time of seeing whether the recommendation of the committee, which came in last year and was not acted upon, might have some merit. If we find that it does not have any merit, then of course the committee will produce something else, or the old rule will be re-established. In that I would support the Prime Minister in his view that if nothing is done by the committee, and this does not seem to be proper, that there will be no further deviation from this rule.

I would say this to the hon. Leader of the Opposition and the hon. member for York South: the problem is that the government, in theory and in practice, must run the business of the House and they must programme it, and we all know that. And if these matters are to crop up and come into the ordinary and orderly running of the House, it is almost impossible for us to get our work done here. Therefore I lean very strongly to the view expressed by the Prime Minister as a general principle, although on this occasion I have, as the vernacular would say, stuck out my neck and thought that I might like to try something else entirely, as far as I am concerned, on Mr. Speaker's initiative.

So since there has been no objection to the unanimous dealing with it in this manner, I would say to the member for York South that he might consider the points of order, points of privilege, and what not, completed, and he might take his five minutes at this time.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I have just one more point to make which I think is necessary—and heaven only knows I dislike these quibbles—but this is what happens when you do not follow the rules in the way the rules read.

Is this five minute debate to go to your ruling, sir, or is it to go to the motion? Because if it is to go to the motion, then, of course, your ruling will be violated in five minute periods by three speakers. If the discussion is only to go to your ruling, then, of course, that is the only thing that can be discussed, your ruling on this question.

Mr. Speaker: I think that I pointed out when I started that normally there is no debate on Mr. Speaker's rulings, that the vote

comes immediately. I thought that I said at this time, for this particular instance, that happened once before, that there would be the five minutes for each party to set out its views with respect to Mr. Speaker's ruling. I think that is inherent and I think I started out by saying that.

Now, if we cannot agree on that, then, of course, I do not have unanimous consent and the matter will be dealt with without debate by a vote on Mr. Speaker's ruling.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I am going to appeal the ruling, and I am going to for this reason.

I submit, sir, that your interpretation of this motion is a narrow and a legalistic one which misses the main point. The main point is not strictly Dunlop or Murray-Selby, or Cosmos Imperial Mills in Hamilton, or any one of a dozen other instances one might cite across the province of Ontario. The point of the motion is that these symbolize something and this is the point of the motion, namely, "the sudden drastic decline in economic activity symbolized by the elimination of 800 jobs." So that I repeat: this is narrow legalistic quibbling with regard to one or two cases.

What I think is a matter of urgent public importance is the decline of economic activity in this province. Now, does one have to go any further than today's papers?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Why can the member not discuss that on the Speech from the Throne?

Mr. MacDonald: Well, I am not going to argue this. Today the papers have come out indicating that we have got jobless at a six year high. In Ontario it has reached 4.5 per cent. Unemployment has increased another 12,000 across the province of Ontario in the last month from 124,000 to 136,000. The DBS figures indicate that in Metro Toronto alone it is 65,000. Now that is a bad situation that is going to worsen and surely if this is not a matter of urgent public importance on the eve of this House lifting for an Easter recess, I do not know what else could be.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: The member is asking for a special debate.

Mr. MacDonald: Right.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Why can it not be done on the Speech from the Throne?

Mr. MacDonald: Because the Speech from the Throne . . . Everybody who is involved in it has had a chance to speak on this and they do not have another chance to speak on it.

Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to be distracted by the Minister of Mines. I want to deal with the substance of the issue: the decline in economic activity.

Now, part of the decline in economic activity is the responsibility of the federal government and, indeed, to give credit where credit is due, this government . . .

Mr. Speaker: I was going to ask the hon. members to keep on the Speaker's ruling.

Mr. MacDonald: Do not get too anxious and make it as legalistic and as narrow again in your interpretation.

I said part of it is the responsibility of Ottawa and this government has laid blame at Ottawa's door by representations during the federal-provincial conference. But the interesting thing, Mr. Speaker, is that they will talk and they will blame Ottawa because it is Ottawa's responsibility. But something that is within the jurisdiction of this government here, they will not act on.

Mr. Speaker, The hon. member is debating Mr. Speaker's ruling which is about a matter of urgent public importance; not what the various governments are doing about it but whether or not the ruling is correct. He started out well and has stated that it is a legalistic, narrow interpretation. Now he must, I hope, keep along the same lines.

Mr. MacDonald: I am saying, sir, that your ruling is wrong and I am giving—within the five minute limit—some facts to indicate why I suggest your ruling is wrong, why we have got a serious situation in the province of Ontario of a sudden drastic decline in economic activity symbolized by this kind of layoff. And my point is that the layoff is the responsibility of this government or, at least, this government will not move in terms of permitting this House to investigate the reasons for the layoff. We have been trying for days and we have been faced by calculated evasion on the part of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: No, no, but it is Mr. Speaker's ruling that you are appealing, not the actions of the government.

Mr. Lewis: But the evasion is part of the motion.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, this debate in my opinion is completely out of order and it just illustrates exactly the reason I rose to my feet on a point of order; Mr. Speaker—the eternal endeavour to evade the rules of this House. We just see it day after day after day—the flouting of the rules, the attempt to have them mean nothing, to twist them and this is obvious, quite obvious.

Mr. Speaker: It is quite obvious to me that there is not unanimous consent to this procedure in the House. It is very obvious to me that that is so and it must be obvious to everyone.

Mr. Lewis: On a point of order. How can you suddenly invoke the absence of unanimous consent when you have allowed the debate to begin?

Mr. Speaker: Very easily. I have done so because . . .

Mr. Lewis: You are now exceeding your authority. The Prime Minister is now dictating to the House the procedures . . .

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister is doing nothing of the sort.

Mr. Lewis: The Premier does not want to spend five minutes on this issue.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order!

Mr. Lewis: The Minister of Labour sits close-mouthed and the Premier . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order!

I am still prepared, and it is obvious to me that what has been said earlier this afternoon is quite correct and I think that this is a good time to get it clarified. Then, if we depart from the written rules as we have them, we are in trouble. I was prepared, and I always like to be openminded, to see if it could work and if we could get it . . .

Mr. MacDonald: The Prime Minister accepted it and now he is repudiating . . .

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister accepted it under certain reservations and now he has said that as far as he is concerned, he does not agree with the debate and therefore I do not have unanimous approval.

Now, the hon. member has two more minutes in which he can confine himself to my ruling and I will be pleased to let him finish. Otherwise I shall consider that we do not have unanimous approval and I certainly will ask for Mr. Speaker's ruling either to be appealed from or sustained.

Mr. Nixon: Are you continuing on the basis that we have or have not unanimous consent?

Mr. Speaker: We have unanimous consent to debate Mr. Speaker's ruling but not the government's action and the same will go for the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Speaker, you are drawing a legalistic distinction which is impossible. I have noted for the second or third time that the heart of this motion is:

> The House do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the sudden drastic decline of economic activity symbolized by the elimination of certain jobs.

Now that is the heart of it. That is specific. We have tried to get information from this government. We cannot get the information. We are being faced with calculated evasions.

Now if you set down rules that we can talk about it for five minutes, but the Prime Minister can intervene and change the rules even on this experiment, we are in chaos and it goes from bad to worse. You authorized the debate and the Prime Minister accepted it, but the Prime Minister asked for a veto right to step into the debate at any point that he likes.

Mr. Speaker, I challenge your ruling and the challenge stands. Obviously there is no point in going any further on it.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order!

Well, the hon. member is tying us up in any event but I would again point out that before we started this—because I wish to be fair to the hon. members who struggle with this on that side of the House—I expressly stated that there is normally no debate on a Speaker's ruling, but today I would allow this type of short debate on the Speaker's ruling. Now this was not a general debate. It was distinctly said by me that that was what it would be. I continue to hold that firm opinion and I would like to say that judging by what has happened so far today, that the experiment has not been successful, that it is impossible to arrange for a debate on set-out terms and therefore most certainly this is not going to be any precedent because the precedent has not proved right.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Now I would call to the attention of the member for York South one

further thing, if I might, that this particular rule is a very peculiar rule and that is why I wished to have an opportunity to be advised on it. The rule is very peculiar and whether Mr. Speaker gives a narrow legalistic interpretation or not, it depends not on his views and not on the views of the member for York South, but on what the precedents of this House and the House at Westminster, where we take our precedents, set out. They set out exactly what has been incorporated in this particular ruling. I do not defend it as my ruling; I defend it as the ruling based on the precedents that this House follows.

Now if the hon. Leader of the Opposition wishes to have an opportunity to speak to Mr. Speaker's ruling, this is the only time in my tenure of office as a Speaker that I will allow the debate on any ruling of the Speaker. But I want to be fair and I think that he is entitled to have his comments on Mr. Speaker's ruling.

Mr. Nixon: Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not think you are even being fair to yourself because the only thing that justifies this exchange is the fact that the hon. member for York South has challenged your ruling. It has always been your position, sir, and I believe your predecessors', that before such a vote is taken in the House, even though your rulings are not debatable, you give the leaders of the three parties an opportunity to put their position, so that before they vote for or against such an important thing as Mr. Speaker's ruling, their views are on the record. Sir, I would submit to you that this is not a new precedent. It is simply a matter of reasonableness that should be continued.

It may be that a party does not want to express its views as to the reasons why they will support your ruling or vote against it. But in my case, sir, I am glad to once again have the opportunity to put to you, sir, the reasons why this party is going to vote against your ruling.

The fact that you have given a five minute time limit has simply been a means of drawing some order out of what has been in the past simply a group of sometimes ill-considered and usually vociferous points of privilege and points of order. So I would say, sir, the fact that you do not consider this an individual matter, a single matter of urgent public importance, is the reason for our objection to your ruling.

The wording of the motion is not specifically the closing of the Dunlop plant which has been under consideration here for several days this past week. This is simply a symptom of the problems that have come to the point today in the headlines of the metropolitan daily, which indicate that unemployment has reached levels unprecedented in the last six years. While we have had an opportunity to get some further information from the Minister of Labour in the question period, this of course has not been satisfactory in that there has not been allowed the exchange of views that the debate which is envisaged by the motion of the member for York South would permit.

So I believe that it is an urgent matter and has come to public attention only today and that the matters ancilliary to it with the closing of the plant and the individuals including the 700 employees of Dunlop and the others mentioned in the motion, simply add depth to the concern that we all feel for the economic depression that may be about to afflict us in our communities right across this province.

There is one further matter of some concern and that is that such a debate would surely pinpoint the failure of the government opposite to come to grips with the real problems of unemployment as we face it and more than that, having failed to come to grips in recent years with the similarity of the problems as they come forward. For this reason, sir, I would submit to you that this is an ideal time when you should, in my view, have allowed the kind of debate that the rules would permit if you would simply recognize this as a matter of urgent public importance.

We in the official Opposition believe that it is such a matter and for those reasons we tend to oppose, or we will oppose, the ruling that you have handed down.

Mr. Speaker: Before the Prime Minister, or the government House leader replies, may I say that I think that what the hon. Leader of the Opposition has said, and how he has handled it, is the way that I envisaged this particular five-minute debate would be handled. Does the leader of the government wish to make any—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well Mr. Speaker, in the first place I would say that I have no objection to the comments made by the Leader of the Opposition. Certainly it must be the right of each leader to rise and say how he proposes to vote on any question that is put before the House. He just has to do it.

Mr. Singer: Why—

Mr. Nixon: Why—not how, but why. Because when you get up and vote, that is how we are going to vote.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is right, but my objection, of course, to the procedures on this five minutes was that we completely left the subject of the Speaker's ruling. However, be that as it may, I will use some portion of my five minutes to say that as far as this side of the House is concerned, we will support your ruling and my reasons for so doing—

Mr. Martel: Quite obvious!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —are that there is ample opportunity to debate these matters. This is not something that suddenly came upon us in today's daily press. This government has expressed its opinion on the whole matter on several occasions. We have had debates here that are not yet completed that will go on tonight, and if necessary, tomorrow, where anybody can speak on these matters if they choose. That is, I think sir, where the purpose of this rule is overlooked, and to have a rule which would permit anything that appeared in today's paper to be interpreted as a matter of immediate personal urgency can, in fact, I will tell you, sir, completely disrupt the business of this House—

Mr. Nixon: It is not just anything.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —because we could have one of these motions, we could have two a week, we could have—

Mr. MacDonald: I thought the Premier was disturbed about this when he was in Ottawa?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —four a week, and the whole point that I make to you is, sir, that there is ample opportunity in the established procedures of the House for these matters to be dealt with, for any member to express his opinion on them. I realize that the whole purpose of this operation is to attempt to make it appear that we do not care about some of the things that are going on.

Mr. Nixon: Not that the government does not care, but that they are not taking proper action. Surely they care!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would point out to you that we have put before the public some very long and reasoned statements concerning what we think about the present economic situation and some of the trepidations we have. But that is apart from what I should be discussing now, because in supporting your ruling I am supporting it simply because I think that even though this matter may be of urgent public importance—and I think it is—I do not think it need be the subject of a special debate when there are others ways and other opportunities for this to be discussed.

We will enter the budget debate within 10 days. Members will then have before them the complete position of the government from a budgetary point of view. We will have some very meaningful debates in considering the budget; they will come up during that general debate, which will be conducted in an orderly fashion, with time available to every member of this House to express his opinion. That, sir, is the way we should operate, and I therefore will support your ruling.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Speaker has ruled that the motion presented by the hon. member for York South to him this morning, according to the rules, and then by Mr. Speaker to the House this afternoon, is out of order and is not acceptable, under the terms of rule 38A, I believe.

The hon. member for York South challenged?

Mr. MacDonald: I did!

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Mr. MacDonald: My first sentence.

Mr. Speaker: I realize you do.

The hon. member for York South has challenged the ruling.

On appeal, Mr. Speaker's ruling was sustained on the following division:

Ayes	Nays
Allan	Bolton
Apps	Braithwaite
Auld	Breithaupt
Bales	Brown
Bernier	Bukator
Boyer	Burr
Brunelle	Davison
Carruthers	Deans
Davis	De Monte
Demers	Edighoffer
Downer	Ferrier
Dymond	Gaunt
Evans	Gisborn
Gilbertson	Good
Grossman	Innes
Guindon	Knight
Hamilton	Lawlor
Haskett	Lewis
Henderson	MacDonald

Ayes	Nays
Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton)	MacKenzie
Hodgson (York North)	Martel
Jessiman	Newman (Windsor-Walkerville)
Johnston (Parry Sound)	Nixon
Johnston (St. Catharines)	Paterson
Johnston (Carleton)	Peacock
Kennedy	Pilkey
Lawrence (Carleton East)	Pitman
Lawrence (St. George)	Reid (Rainy River)
MacNaughton	Reid (Scarborough East)
Morningstar	Renwick (Riverdale)
Morrow	Renwick (Scarborough Centre)
McKeough	Ruston
McNeil	Sargent
Pilkey	Singer
Price	Smith (Nipissing)
Pritchard	Stokes
Reuter	Trotter
Robarts	Worton
Rollins	Young—39.
Rowe	
Rowntree	
Simonett	
Smith (Simcoe East)	
Smith (Hamilton Mountain)	
Snow	
Stewart	
Villeneuve	
Welch	
Wells	
White	
Whitney	
Winkler	
Wishart	
Yakabuski	
Yaremko—55.	

Clerk) of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 55; the "nays" are 39.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the Speaker's ruling upheld.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, His Honour is standing by to give assent to one bill. With your permission I will bring him into the chamber.

The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario entered the chamber of the legislative assembly and took his seat upon the throne.

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald (Lieutenant-Governor): Pray be seated.

Mr. Speaker: May it please Your Honour, the legislative assembly of the province has, at its present sittings thereof, passed certain bills to which, in the name and on behalf of the said legislative assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk Assistant: The following are the titles to the bills which Your Honour's assent is prayed:

Bill 1, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

Bill 5, An Act to amend The Proceedings Against the Crown Act, 1962-63.

Bill 39, An Act to amend The Labour Relations Act.

Clerk of the House: In Her Majesty's name, the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to these bills.

The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to retire from the chamber.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate to the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I rise, leading with my beak, and I would like to simply review some of the problems that I brought forth yesterday.

I had suggested that we adopt a system of electronic voting in this Legislature. I had gone to some extent on the pollution problem —I made mention of a pollution, or an environment index, rating. I called it WASH, for water, air, soil and heat—in other words a WASH rating.

During those comments I made certain remarks that were not liked by certain individuals. Mr. Speaker, may I say that if there is someone that wishes to clean up on me, I only hope that he uses a phosphate-free detergent and not Bio-Ad.

I also made mention, Mr. Speaker, of the need and the plight of the senior citizens. I suggested a method of helping them and that was by means of rent subsidies.

I wish at this time to extend my congratulations to the Minister of Lands and Forests

(Mr. Brunelle) and also my thanks, for announcing, or having one of his officials announce, in our local press yesterday, that the park that we had sought for many a moon, now is going to be a reality on the south short of Lake St. Clair, the north shore of Essex county. Mr. Speaker, we really appreciate that. As I made mention yesterday, we hope that the minister will look into the overall concept of purchasing as much land as possible bordering our waterways, so if the Doxiadis report becomes a reality, we in this province will have a stockpile of land that we can use for both park land and for recreational purposes.

I specifically mentioned islands in the Detroit River that should be expropriated as soon as possible, so that we can get rid of the Wyandotte Chemical dump there; American-made pollution on our Canadian island.

I brought to the attention of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) the misrepresentation and, in my estimation, the fraudulent activities of certain promotional companies attempting to mislead the individual that he is going to win some type of prize.

The first one that I made mention of was the Canada Luxury Living Sweepstakes. There is another one, Mr. Speaker, that disturbs me very much. That is one put out by a very reputable magazine, the *Reader's Digest.*

Why a magazine of this sort has to resort to the tactics that they do, I cannot understand. They certainly are misleading in their advertising, or in their promotion of their product. I think it is a real disgrace Mr. Speaker, that this magazine has to resort to intentionally deceiving approaches. It makes one mad enough to cancel his subscription—or maybe if he was considering a subscription, not to buy that type of magazine.

If *Reader's Digest* would only send to me the amount of money that they spent on postage, I would consider myself having won a prize. I would suggest to the members of this House and to the public, when they get this type of unsolicited mail, stuff it right back in the prepaid postage envelope. Send it right back to the company and let them pay for the postage. We have enough of that garbage shovelled at us by the various promotional companies that have no intention—I should not say no intention—but certainly to deceive us in their approach.

I think the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs should look into all of these prizes and contests and so-called promotional gimmicks that are used by some of these companies to see if the prizes that they mention are actually given. I doubt very much that they are, because I can recall, at one time, having a check on one of the individuals that was listed as having received the prize. That individual was nonexistent.

Mr. Speaker, I was going to make comment on revision or restructuring of Ontario Hospital Services and OHSIP. However, on the order paper, standing in the name of the member for Humber (Mr. Ben) is a resolution that points out just exactly what should be done as far as Ontario Hospital Services and Ontario Medical Services are concerned. I am going to read the six points that he mentioned, because Mr. Speaker, I think it is very important to those that have the opportunity to read *Hansard* to see the proposal that was made. The resolution of the hon. member (Mr. Ben) reads:

> That, in the opinion of this House the following reforms are immediately necessary in the Health Services legislation of this province:
>
> (1) Premiums be abolished. The costs of all health services, including hospital services, be met from the total personal income and corporate income tax paid to the province.
>
> (2) That all health services, including hospital services, be combined under the control of a single commission.
>
> (3) That coverage for medical services shall extend to 100 per cent of negotiated and controlled Ontario Medical Association fee schedules, which will detail specialized services at appropriate rates related to the degree of training, skill and excellence required.
>
> (4) The proper coverage should include all paramedical services, including chiropractic, and also the cost of prescribed drugs.
>
> (5) That private carrier participation in the Ontario Health Services scheme, OHSIP, shall end by September 30, 1970.
>
> (6) That meanwhile, refund of administration costs to private agents should not exceed 6 per cent of the gross premiums collected by that particular agent.

I think the resolution is worthy of, not simply consideration, but implementation—barring the government's stubborn attitude to implement what has been suggested here.

I certainly think that they should undertake immediately to restructure the two health services—the medical and the hospital—so that

they would at least be on a parallel basis. In other words, you would have the three-tier type of structure—a fee for a salaried couple; a fee for a single person; and a fee for families—both in the medical and in the hospital and that the premiums be on a monthly basis or at the least every two months. So that an individual who has to pay for hospital services on a pay-direct plan, does not find himself doling out $50 and $60 at one time.

I only make these other suggestions, Mr. Speaker, in case the government will not act on the resolution of the hon. member for Humber.

There also is one other small item that I think must be taken into consideration very seriously by the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis). That was in the question that I put to him this afternoon. An individual who is on a family benefit programme and is receiving medical and hospitalization coverage wishes to upgrade himself and so takes a retraining programme, a provincial upgrading programme. As soon as he does that, his medical and hospital services are cut off.

It is not fair to the individual who wishes to get himself off a government social and family services programme, wants to be self-sustaining, wants to be a taxpayer by upgrading himself, but is denied hospital and medical services, or has to make payments for that by taking from the meagre allowance that is given the individual by The Department of Education in the retraining programme.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on at some length on this topic but I am only going to read very little because of the time. I could make mention that living costs have risen in the last three years by 14 per cent while in the same period old age pensions were raised by six per cent. To maintain the purchasing power of three years ago, the pensioner would require about $119 a month rather than the $111.41 that he now receives. In other words, we are shortchanging the old age pensioner by approximately $7 per month. Mr. Speaker, I am fully aware that the old age pension is a federal responsibility but I bring this up now to show how inflation has affected, and looks as though it will continue to affect, our pensioners in the future.

British Columbia has come down with a scheme that seems to alleviate this problem, and I would think that the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) should likewise act. He should provide a supplement to everyone who is now receiving the maximum guaranteed income supplement, or some portion of that, as predetermined by The Department of Social and Family Services, and supplement that individual's income to the extent that his total allowances will be $150 a month. This would only mean that the province of Ontario would pay one half of that increase; the balance would be paid by the federal authorities.

Mr. Speaker, in previous years I made mention of a new method of calculating pensions of civil servants, school teachers, and any kind of municipal, provincial or federal employee. Naturally we cannot go into the federal field, so I will limit my remarks to both the provincial and municipal employees. Normally their pensions are based on earnings in the last three, the last five, the last six, the last seven or the last 10 years, and sometimes on the best three, five, six, seven or 10 years. The economy has grown and inflation has deteriorated the value of this pension, just as it has that of the old age pensioner. Pensioners do not have a strong labour union to negotiate pension increases for them. These people who have retired now are left to the whims of the elected officials, the politicians who are always trying to keep costs down.

It is said that we cannot change pension calculations of the retired, those receiving a pension. I cannot buy that, Mr. Speaker. Almost every contract negotiated by the UAW —or should I maybe say every contract negotiated by them—contains cost-of-living increases to the pensions now received by former active UAW members.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Great outfit!

Mr. B. Newman: These pension increases are paid for by the public—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That woke the member up.

Mr. Pilkey: Woke me right up!

Mr. B. Newman: I make mention and repeat that these pension increases are paid for by the public, by increasing the selling price of the automobile or auto part. In other words, these pensions will continue to be increased as the incomes of wage earners increase.

Why not, Mr. Speaker, employ that same principle to civil service pensions on municipal and provincial levels? Why not calculate their pensions not on the years of service when they retired, but on the same years of service as if they were retiring from their employment today or each year?

In other words, a person whose pension was based on the last five years of service and who retired in 1960 and has had his pension based on his earnings in 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960, living today and using the principle I suggest, would have his pension based on 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969 incomes. There would never, under such consideration, be the need for indexing or for a cost-of-living increase. The pensioner would not have to worry about the ever-increasing costs. He or she would be able to live out his or her years in dignity and with peace of mind. Such consideration would end, once and for all, the need to supplement persons receiving any type of pension benefits. It would be a sort of guaranteed annual income, ever-increasing as wages increase, as the economy and/or the productivity improves.

Following the rejection of this principle, I would like to suggest that that pension then be based always on the current annual income, as if the individual were retiring each year. Using some percentage of that annual income, I can recall, if I am not mistaken, that one jurisdiction uses the figure of 55. A person retiring today, having fulfilled the full length of his service to the given community, receives 55 per cent of today's annual income. Were that person to be fortunate enough to live for 20 years, 20 years from today he would be receiving 55 per cent of the income paid at that time, that is 20 years from today. It would always put him in the same position in the open market.

I likewise think, Mr. Speaker, that the workmen's compensation board benefits paid should be based on today's salaries and today's wages; they should not be based on something that an individual received 20 or 30 years ago. I do have the case of one individual in my riding, who for over 30 years had been receiving workmen's compensation benefits, and prior to the time that I pressed his case, was only getting $18.75 a month. He is not getting that today—it is substantially more—but were we to use a principle of basing it on today's income always, that person would still have that same percentage of today's income. There would never be the need for any type of indexing. There would never be the need for periodic adjustments because his compensation would be adjusted annually.

Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to see and to hear the Premier (Mr. Robarts) make mention of an expanded programme of job opportunities for the school-attending and university-attending students of Ontario. Myself, I would probably call that the "GO JO" programme—government of Ontario job opportunity programme. I would like to see the programme expanded as quickly and as rapidly as possible, as I have already received well over 75 requests by students in my own riding asking where they could possibly get a job. This is only the beginning, and this is four months before some are going to be released from school.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): The Prime Minister needs the member to write his stuff—he is doing a good job.

Mr. B. Newman: I certainly think that all efforts should be expended by this government and all governments to see that we find some type of employment for these students who are now seeking employment, as a means of supplementing their either meagre incomes, or trying to get sufficient funds to continue their education at university level.

You either find them the job and allow them to make some type of income, or you supplement them by giving them a larger award and a larger grant when it comes to their continuing education at the university. Since we are going to give them the money anyway, let us put them to use throughout the province of Ontario, and there are thousands of ways in which they could be put to use. Pollution in itself could employ thousands throughout the province of Ontario.

While we are talking on this matter of job opportunity, I think it is the perfect time now for the government here to eliminate that five per cent sales tax on production machinery, to assist the industries in Ontario to get back into full-scale operation so that this would enable them to employ more people and in turn make that many more job opportunities available to our younger generation.

Mr. Speaker, I could speak on at some length on a whole series of topics. In fact there are so many topics for which you could condemn this government that it would almost take any individual a full session to get them all on the record.

I could make mention of subsidizing transportation for senior citizens. We are going to have to do that. It is being done in Toronto, it will have to be done in other municipalities; and the funds are going to have to be provided to furnish some financial assistance on the part of this government.

I could speak on an improved minimum wage, because today's minimum wage is not sufficient to support even a poverty level of existence.

I could speak at some length on mobile housing and the slowness with which this government is approaching the problem of housing. Mobile housing is not the complete answer to the housing problem, but it can be a partial answer. It can be one of the assists that can aid in overcoming the problem of accommodation.

I could, likewise Mr. Speaker, speak on workmen's compensation. When they say they do not delay, that is hogwash. Mr. Speaker, I have a man in my riding, with both legs amputated, who has been waiting nine months for a settlement. That is not delay? The workmen's compensation board is trying their darnedest to prove that something else caused this amputation. They are going way back into his medical history, working like the dickens trying to find some basis to come along and say: "Well it was some type of condition in the body that eventually required the amputation of the two limbs."

Mr. Speaker, the case is so open, so evident, that I think workmen's compensation should be a little more humanitarian in their approach. They have got to look upon the individual as an individual and not as a statistic and they have got to help. They do not help. They would rather put the individual on some government benefit programme, so whether it comes from one pocket or another, they are still going to get some type of assistance. But the man is injured on the job—in some type of industrial operation—and industry should be paying for the individual's upkeep and for any expenses involved in that individual being able to live a half decent type of life.

Mr. Speaker, I could also speak on Ontario Housing Corporation, hoping that they could come up with some type of a scheme where an individual who is renting their accommodations today could build an equity so that that equity could be used to either purchase a lot from Ontario Housing Corporation on the HOME Plan, or the means to actually purchase accommodations, whether it is the accommodation in which he lives or some other accommodation.

So you can see, Mr. Speaker, for the few reasons that I have outlined, that this government has not attempted to meet the needs of the people. I think that all members of this House, all clear-thinking members of this House, will support the resolution, or the amendment to the motion of the Speech from the Throne, that we will support my leader and vote for his amendment. Thank you.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether you want to call it six of the clock now—perhaps not. I would anticipate, Mr. Speaker, that I may well talk past—

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): There are not too many here anyway to hear the member.

Mr. Singer: Perhaps the Minister of Agriculture and Food, Mr. Speaker, can take back some of my words to his colleagues and hopefully we will make a little progress every now and then.

Mr. Speaker, the first point that I wanted to deal with in this debate related to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence). I had him standing by, I thought. I sent him a note a couple of days ago, and I thought I had him standing by, but he seems to have escaped.

However, since the points are reasonably obvious and fairly brief, perhaps they would be appropriate, and I might urge the Minister of Agriculture and Food to use his good offices and convey to his colleague the words I am going to say about him.

These relate particularly, Mr. Speaker, to the investigations commenced by the member for York West (Mr. Rowntree) when he was the minister in that department, and carried on and reported by the present minister into the two land development schemes that were discussed at some length in this House—the Meadows Land Development plan and the Whiterock one.

It is very interesting to watch the peregrinations the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has gone through as he has moved from the backbench through the office of Minister without Portfolio, until now finally he arrives at the peak. And things, I suppose, look different, depending on which particular seat of power that you occupy. Now that some of the buck stops at him, he has changed many of his views.

I remember full well, when we discussed in the legal bills committee the law of landlord and tenant and the amendments to it that were introduced by the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), how the present minister led the fight against rent review boards. I suspect —I do not know because even the Minister of Agriculture and Food has not told me—that the present Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs in cabinet led exactly the same fight, and I suspect as well, Mr. Speaker, that the reason that the amendments to The Landlord and Tenant Act were delayed so

long was because the cabinet was split as to whether or not there should be rent review boards. In fact, they so beclouded the issue that the Attorney General the other day indicated clearly that the whole problem has become completely fuzzy in his mind and he said that tenant advisory boards were the same as rent review boards.

Well, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, when he was the Minister without Portfolio, and in the legal bills committee, made a great issue about the fact that people in this province should be governed by law; that if we in this Legislature had a policy to enunciate, we should enunciate it by passing statutes. That is a pretty reasonable statement for a lawmaker or a lawyer to make and it is a statement that on most occasions I would subscribe to. On the other hand, I did feel there was some substantial merit in having a rent review board.

But the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs waxed on at great length as to how unfair rent review boards would be and how unreasonable it would be to ask a landlord to come before a rent review board; force him to come before a rent review board; to be able to subpoena his attendance; to be able to force him to produce documents and then to be able to level the full force of public criticism against him when, in fact, he had broken no law.

And the minister went on to say at some substantial length that this, to his mind was, unfair, and I think he alluded, while perhaps he might not have specifically said it, that this was the sort of thing that some of the dictator-like countries did in Europe before World War II. They singled out certain people who had not broken any laws and said that because they carried on certain functions or believed in certain things, they were people to be condemned. Now, this was the thrust of his argument at that time.

But let us look at the same gentleman now when he is the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Let us look at what he says and does in relation to Meadows Land Development and insofar as Whiterock. He brings forth a series of reports—not very elaborate but he brings forth reports—saying, "We have now completed our investigation." He gave me a copy of a letter that he sent to the Meadows Land Development Company, to the attention of Mr. C. A. Meadows, sending back the documents and saying: "The investigation into the affairs of your company has now been completed."

Mr. Meadows, the president, has made satisfactory commitments to the department, and accordingly, "we are returning all of the documents to you and it is not contemplated that any charges will be laid under The Real Estate and Business Brokers Act."

Well, that is fine. It would sound first class, Mr. Speaker, as though they had been given a clean bill of health, as if they had done nothing wrong. But when you look at the report, and the minister was good enough to furnish a copy of the report to me, it outlines in some detail many of the facts complained about here in the Legislature in regard to Meadows land and it indicates that the advertising was misleading and perhaps deceptive and perhaps was subject to general question.

By and large, since Mr. Meadows has now agreed that he is going to be a good fellow, we will forget about it all provided he continues to be a good fellow and gives back to those people who feel they were aggrieved, the moneys they might have invested, or gives them alternative property.

It sounds eminently reasonable, Mr. Speaker, except that when you follow this thing up, you discover that the first mistake the minister made was that he said there was only one complaint. I gave him four. He was good enough to send to me a further report this afternoon about the other three, and Mr. Meadows, now that he has apparently been given his clean bill of health, in at least one case, takes the position that there is a firm contract and if Mr. X wants his $218 back then Mr. X is going to have to launch a lawsuit.

Now, it was quite the contrary to the impression that the minister left with us when he delivered his report insofar as Meadows was concerned. I say that is not good enough.

I would think that the shenanigans carried on by the Meadows company, insofar as promoting the leasing of its land, indicated clearly that there had to be government action taken and this minister, who has now become a mouse instead of the tiger he used to be, is quite prepared to accept promises of good behaviour that do not even last through the period from February 23 to March 19. Those are the dates of the two reports.

There is no difference at all, Mr. Speaker, insofar as Whiterock is concerned. The report there, that the Minister tabled in the House or read in the House and then gave

us copies of, runs a little longer. It runs through three full pages. The minister says:

> My major concern has been to ensure that the purchaser is generally satisfied with the lot he has purchased. This concern relates specifically to the following areas:
>
> That there are to be adequate roads; that the lots are suitable for building purposes; they have septic tanks; that they can be identified—

One would think that that was sort of basic if you were buying property, that there be some ability in the purchaser to be able to identify the lot.

> —that the building permits be capable of being secured and that hydro electric power be available.

These are reasonable basics. Then the brave Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, aided and abetted by the boy alderman from Chatham who has also felt compelled to deliver himself of a few remarks, says, "I am not going to interfere with the rights of municipalities to run their own show". The two of them wash their hands of this thing, so what in fact happens? We get brave statements in the House delivered by two apparently concerned ministers, or so they would have us believe, and in fact they say, "Meadows, if you will behave yourself, we will forget about it", and the same insofar as Whiterock is concerned.

Well, sir, this sort of thing is just not good enough. If there was something wrong in either of these cases, and I say there was substantial wrongdoing—there was the opportunity presented to certain land developers under certain circumstances to use misleading advertising, in fact, to defraud people who had very little opportunity to be protected—when the ministers undertook to investigate this kind of a scheme and then came back to the House and said, "We have no changes in the legislation to recommend but we are going to do it by moral suasion or persuasion" or what have you, I say that the once-brave Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has lost all of his courage.

Where was the man of just a few months ago, who stood bravely in the legal bills committee and said: "If we are going to govern, let us govern by law. Let us write our laws in the statute books and let them be there, let them be available, and let them be read"? One must conclude that when a former backbencher, having become a Minister without Portfolio, becomes invited into the holy of holies, he must change his whole personality and his principles insofar as his approach to the laws of this province are concerned.

I am disappointed because I have great hopes for this minister. I have known him for quite some period of time and I have great respect for his intellectual capacities and his ability to work and so on, but certainly his first performance under fire, Mr. Speaker, was much, much less than encouraging—was very, very disappointing. I would say that if this heralds the beginning of this minister's approach to problems, then he is going to be a dismal failure in the new portfolio that he now finds himself occupied in.

This is no way at all to deal with this very, very serious problem. In this day when more and more people are looking for cottage lots or summer properties on which they are going to be able to spend a little and build their own cottage, and have some access to water sports, and that sort of thing, surely this government has an important role to make sure that those people are protected, because there are vultures about who will take every advantage of them. What the minister has said in these reports that he has given to us, sir, is just no answer at all.

I am sorry, as I say, that the minister was not here to hear these remarks. As I look at the clock, sir, it seems to be 6 o'clock, if you care to call the time.

Mr. Speaker: It does seem to be an appropriate place for the member to break his talk.

Mr. Singer: Yes, it does.

Mr. Speaker: It being 6 of the clock, I now leave the chair. We will resume again at 8 p.m.

It being 6 o'clock, the House took recess.

Legislature of Ontario Debates

No. 23

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, March 19, 1970

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Thursday, March 19, 1970

Resumption of the debate on the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Singer, Mr. Whitney, Mr. Paterson, Mr. McKeough, Mr. Knight, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Grossman 863

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Robarts, agreed to 940

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, to resume the remarks that I started before the dinner hour, I thought I would deal fairly extensively with the ramifications of the ruling that you made this afternoon, sir, in connection with the point of privilege that I raised in the House yesterday.

The significance of your ruling is very substantial in my opinion. I raised the point of privilege on the basis of a series of facts which I thought, if anything that happened in this Legislature or to the members could have involved an abuse of a member's privilege, the issue that I raised came as close to that as any set of facts I could possibly conceive of. And I raised it, recognizing probably that by reason of the rules of this House, there is very little that Mr. Speaker can do by way of positive action in protecting a member's privilege, whether it is established either by custom or by the statutory enactments of the members of this Legislature.

I would think that the Speaker, within the four walls of this chamber, probably has the ability to control the proceedings of the House and to protect members' privilege within these confines. But when it gets beyond that—I think I knew the answer before I put the question yesterday. I suggested, and I suggested in full seriousness, that to my mind the provincial auditor had so breached my privilege and the privilege of the other members of this House, that somewhere along the line there should be a mechanical device available to call his actions into question.

I recognize, however, sir, you do not have that power and I also recognize that while a great deal is said from time to time within these confines about members' privilege, there is very little that can be done to protect that privilege other than giving us a forum in which to state our point and letting the publicity effect carry on for whatever it is worth.

I would agree, sir, with your ruling that you have not the power, on your own, to summon anyone before the bar of this House, no matter how flagrant you thought an abuse of privilege might be. However, I think when you started to list possible alternatives you made the case for me far better perhaps than I could have made it myself, because I think the three alternatives that you stated in your ruling are pretty nebulous and almost illusory insofar as their being effective.

Let us look at them. The first suggestion that you make is that I might put a notice of motion for return on the notice paper. I think technically we could probably establish that putting such a notice for return on the notice paper requires unanimous consent. And if there was not unanimous consent, nothing would have to go on the notice paper at all.

On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, even if the motion got on the notice paper at my initiative—and if I had a perfect right at any time to put a notice for return on the notice paper of my own motion—the way that those motions for return appear and the expedition with which they are dealt with by the ministry indicates that this is probably one of the most ineffective methods that we as members have to try to produce any result whatsoever. There comes to mind the motion, or the notice of motion, for return, that my colleague, the member for Wellington South (Mr. Worton) put on the notice paper last April, in connection with central purchasing. If my memory serves me correctly, that notice of motion for return went on the order paper about in April and the answer to it was tabled the last day of the sitting, sometime in December.

One would scarcely suggest, sir, in view of those particular circumstances—and this is not an unusual thing—that that is a speedy way for redressing any grievance. If my colleague for Wellington South had a grievance, and I think he had, and he wanted an answer, and it was a matter of grave importance, and he felt it was—and I think he, as an elected member has a right to feel that the matters he raises are of substantial importance—he had no way at all of compelling any answer. The importance of the point I am trying to make on this issue is that if there are privileges to be protected, then we as members are entitled to a prompt remedy and a speedy remedy and an equitable remedy.

That was denied my colleague for Wellington South, and it was denied at the behest of the minister concerned because obviously the information that had to be produced was going to be embarrassing to that minister. And it was embarrassing—it is embarrassing—but it was delayed over the period of the better part of nine months. So one cannot say with any sincerity at all, sir, that that is a remedy.

The second suggestion you make is that I might ask an oral question. Insofar as the provincial auditor is concerned, to whom do I address an oral question? If our statute, The Audit Act, means anything, then the provincial auditor is not responsible to any individual minister of this House or to the ministry. He is only responsible to the members of this House. He is the servant of the Legislature, not the servant of the government. So it would make little sense, Mr. Speaker, to my mind, to address a question concerning the provincial auditor to the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch), for instance. He would struggle manfully with it, as he struggles manfully with most questions, but his answer would be completely meaningless because he has no power to compel the provincial auditor to do any things or even to give him an answer. So, the idea of putting an oral question to either the ministry at large, the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) or any particular minister insofar as this is concerned, again, is meaningless.

Finally, sir, you suggest—and this was the specious suggestion I think that the member for Riverdale (Mr. J. Renwick) put forward—that the public accounts committee could require the auditor to deliver a copy of the particular document I wanted access to. That again is meaningless, because there is no more reason why the provincial auditor should answer the public accounts committee than there is that he should answer me. I would say that as a member of this House, I have just as much right and just as much privilege as the chairman of the public accounts committee or as the members of the public accounts committee.

Let us be very practical, sir. When I wanted the information that I asked for, I wanted it because I believed that it was going to assist me and my colleagues in our criticism of the government, and if by any chance that information might be embarrassing, one would think that the Conservatives in this House would be somewhat less than anxious to produce it quickly.

The majority on the public accounts committee are a majority of government members, and very often the majority on any committee, including the public accounts committee—for better or for worse, for reasons that they believe are valid or think are invalid—refuse to go along with the suggestions of members of some of the other parties. So the suggestion that a reference to, or a request from, the public accounts committee is more meaningful than my attempt to exercise my privilege in this House, I think, sir, is equally invalid.

What I have tried to say, in essence, is that when a member's privilege is breached —and let us us leave aside for the moment whether or not I have established a point of privilege, supposing I have—if that privilege is breached and there could be no possibility about argument insofar as it is concerned with or relates to my concern about the provincial auditor's functioning, I have no remedy at all. There is no remedy that I have, as a private member of this House, which could force the provincial auditor to do what The Audit Act requires he do. And I say, sir, that we are playing a ridiculous game in this House when we try to pretend that there are privileges that can be protected, and will be protected, insofar as private members are concerned.

I was just listening there to the interjection from the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart). It was not in this context, I am sure. He said that when "it comes to the crunch," any member who is not in government just has no ability to defend his privileges here. Nor are you, Mr. Speaker, with great respect, no matter how anxious you might be, able to protect that privilege.

I say that we have to look at these rules if we believe that our parliamentary process is going to continue to have any significance, in order that the right of every member, whether established by custom or by statute, the privileges of every member, whether established by custom or by statute, are protected and are protected whether or not the particular views being espoused, or the particular kind of information being sought, meets with the approval of the majority party in this House. I make no bones about it. The Tory majority in Ontario will use every effort to deny to the members of the other parties in this House the kind of information that is possibly going to prove damaging. They are going to deny the people of this province the kind of information—

Mr. R. G. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): You know what they say? They say we have no right to know.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: On a point of privilege?

Mr. Speaker: Point of privilege.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: I think what the hon. member is suggesting is abusing my privilege as a member at this point.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I repeat what I said. I can see no basis on which I have denied anybody privilege. I am suggesting, and I feel very strongly, and it is my personal belief and serious opinion, that this government and the Tory members do everything in their power to keep from us and to keep from the public and to keep from the press the information that we need to effectively, honestly and sincerely criticize them.

I am sorry the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) is not here. He coined the phrase, "You have no right to know." What has happened here, sir, in connection with this particular point of privilege that I have raised is that I have been told—all members of this House have been told—I have no right to know information that the auditor of this province put in his report—and I have no remedy.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Who told the member that?

Mr. Singer: Who told me that?

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Where has the minister been the last 20 minutes?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: If the Minister of Correctional Services seriously does not know, let me tell him. It may be that everybody missed the story. Let us go back.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: No, do not go back. I know that story.

Mr. Singer: Oh. Well, he asked a question, Mr. Speaker, and I am just trying to—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: You have the right to know, yes.

The Minister of Correctional Services asked a very valid question, Mr. Speaker. He asked, who told me that? I will tell you who told me that, Mr. Speaker; the provincial auditor told me that, and in his refusal to give me information to which I am entitled, he is supported, apparently, by the ineffectiveness of our rules. And he is supported by the barracking Tory majority that says we have no right to know.

The Minister of Mines is the leading proponent of this theory and he was not fooling. He says we have no right to know and we are not going to know.

Now, sir, let me give you some of the background relating to the provincial auditor. Yes, let me tell you what is in this statute. Let me compare it with what goes on in Ottawa and let me compare the results, because I am sure, sir, when I am through, even the unbiased member, the Minister of Correctional Services, will agree that the case is well established and well made.

Mr. Nixon: Read the federal auditor's report.

Mr. Singer: I am going to. There are 300 pages and I am going to read every page of it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): I have got to get home.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, my first reference is to The Audit Act, which is chapter 27 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1960. In section 2, the statute says:

> The auditor shall hold office during good behaviour, but shall be removable for a cause by the Lieutenant-Governor on the address of the assembly.

That means—and I am sure everyone knows what that means, sir—that the provincial auditor is not the servant of the government. He is the servant of the Legislature, and he should be answering in response to the requests of the Legislature, which are made, either in accordance with the customs of this Legislature, or in accordance with the matters dealt with in this statute.

In section 9, sir, subsection 1, it says:

> Except where otherwise provided, the auditor shall examine, not on behalf of the government, but on behalf of the assembly, all accounts of expenditure of public moneys out of the consolidated revenue fund whether held in trust or otherwise.

In section 19:

> The auditor shall, on behalf of the assembly—

Not on behalf of the government; not even on behalf of the Minister of Mines:

> —examine all the accounts of receipts of public money forming part of the consolidated revenue fund whether held in trust or otherwise, in order to ascertain that adequate regulations and procedures are in operation to secure an effective check on the assessment, collection and allocation of revenue.

And then, sir, section 20 says:

> The auditor shall make an annual report to the assembly respecting the fiscal year then closed, (a) as to his examination of accounts of receipts, and payment of public moneys.

And (b) and (c) I am not going to refer to—

Mr. Sargent: Not a snow job!

Mr. Singer: Nor (d) and (e).

> (f) as to such matters he desires to bring to the attention of the assembly.

I want particular note to be made of section 20 subsection (f).

First of all, sir, let me briefly compare the provisions of that Act with the provisions of the federal Act. The federal Act is called The Financial Administration Act, and that is chapter 116 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1952, and part 7 of that Act deals with the auditor general. The wording of part 7 is substantially the same in principle, and occasionally word for word, as the provisions of the provincial Act insofar as the provincial auditor is concerned. Let us just look very briefly at part 7 of The Financial Administration Act:

> The auditor general shall examine, in such manner as he deems necessary, the accounts relating to the consolidated revenue fund.

And so on. He has the right to go into the files and examine them. Section 79:

> The auditor general shall report annually to the House of Commons the result of his examinations and shall call attention to every case he has observed where people have negligently failed to collect or receive money belonging to the government of Canada, whether it has been deficiency or loss.

And so on, and finally:

> And to any other case that the auditor general considers should be brought to the notice of the House of Commons.

So I am sure, sir, that you will agree with me, and those who have been listening at all to my words will agree with me, that in essence, the provisions of the federal statute and the provisions of the provincial statute are exactly the same in intent and principle and in content, in directing the auditor general in Ottawa and the provincial auditor at Queen's Park to do the same kind of job.

In other words, they are the financial watchdogs of the Legislature and of the House of Commons and they act on behalf of all of the people of Canada in one instance, or all of the people of Ontario in the other instance.

Now, let us look at how these two gentlemen carry out their respective jobs. This document, sir, called the "Provincial Auditor's Report 1968-1969," is the response of Mr. George Spence to the direction contained in The Audit Act. This document, which deals with an expenditure of over $3 billion, runs through some 33 pages of text and some 30-odd pages of tables. It is fascinating, the way in which the provincial auditor can dismiss so casually the financial affairs of this province.

This document which I have, sir, is the report of the auditor general of the House of Commons for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1968. It is the most current one I could locate in our library. It runs through 300 pages of text and only, I think, 10 pages, at the end, of any tables at all. What does—

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): The expenditure is greater.

Mr. Singer: The expenditure is greater, yes, four times, but the extent of the reporting is 10 times as great, 10 times as great. More, yes, more efficiency.

The member for York-Forest Hill (Mr. Dunlop), I would think, who is a great guardian of democratic rights, would be among the first in the House to stand on his feet and say: "Yes, I agree that we are being badly served in this province, very badly served, by the provincial auditor.

Let me read, Mr. Speaker, from the provincial auditor's report, the way in which he views his job. He says:

> Subject to the qualifications in this report, in my opinion and according to the best of my information and explanations given to me, and as shown by and in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles applied on the basis consistent with the proceeding here, so as to present fairly the financial position of

the province as at March 31, 1969, and the result of the operations for the year then ended.

That is the sort of paragraph that one will find in any accountant's report about any limited company. That is as far as he goes. And look as one might want to, through the pages of this report, sir, one is unable to find any view expressed by the provincial auditor, that independent employee of the people of Ontario, as to what his philosophy is insofar as auditing is concerned.

Let us see what the federal fellow does. On page 3 of his report, right at the beginning—I think his name is Max Henderson—he says:

The audit office has continued to follow its practice of addressing detailed reports to the executives of crown corporations and other agencies covering the result of its examinations. These reports give a broad summary of the results of operations for the financial year in comparison with previous years and make comments and offer suggestions regarding weaknesses in internal control and other matters noted during the audit. Matters dealt with in these reports that are considered to be of interest to the House of Commons, are dealt with in the relevant sections of this report.

Now that is how the auditor general in Canada regards his responsibility.

Matters dealt with in these reports that are considered to be of interest to the House of Commons are referred to in the relevant sections of this report.

And again, sir, come over here to page 7.

My report this year again directs the House to a number of expenditures that were uneconomical or wasteful. In my opinion more should be done to examine the underlying causes as to why so much of this kind of waste continues year after year. With improved management controls and more effective delegation of responsibility aimed at achieving individual accountability such as the government is proposing, it should be easier henceforth to pinpoint the management weaknesses that have permitted the waste, who was responsible, what is to be done about it, and how it can be prevented from happening again.

That is how that gentleman sees his responsibility. And that, sir, is why I say that we have a right to expect the auditor of the province of Ontario to see his responsibility.

I say, sir, he does not understand what his job is. He does not understand his job at all. What does he do and what brought this matter to the floor of this assembly at all? He deals, at the bottom of page 18 and the top of page 19, with the sort of comments that run through several hundred pages of the federal report. And I would like to refer to some of these at some length, shortly.

The provincial auditor deals in seven paragraphs with the apparent deficiency that might have existed. I just do not believe that these are the only errors of omissions and waste, bad bookkeeping, mismanagement and so on, that exist in this province and have existed for many years. I just do not believe that in handling $3 billion of receipts and expenditures, this government can convince anyone that it is running a perfect show calling for only these three or five paragraphs of comment.

And I believe, sir, that when the provincial auditor produces this document, that is hardly worth the paper it is written on, that he is not doing the job that we have the right to expect of him, and that the provincial statute, The Audit Act, directs him to do. What does he say? He says:

The report on the audit and examination of The Department of Public Works, dated January 24, 1969, repeated certain recommendations and made others which are considered necessary for the effective control of incoming mail and funds contained therein, revenue from telephone commissions and miscellaneous agreements, stores, and the sale and purchase of real estate, and the establishment of a complete inventory of property owned by the department.

That may be very significant, but I say, sir, since he felt it important enough to direct the attention of the members of this House to a report to The Department of Public Works, dated January 24, 1969, it must have been serious because that department failed to carry out his recommendations, and he had a duty, a responsibility, to tell us what the department had not done, and to say why he had made the criticism.

Why else, sir, is it worth mentioning? Why else, sir, is it in this report at all? If he thought there was something wrong in The Department of Public Works, and he felt that The Department of Public Works was not doing what he suggested, that is about as far as he can go; except that his duty then is to report to the Legislature, to report to the public, to tell the people of Ontario what the auditor thinks The Department of Public

Works is not doing, and should be doing. And that is what he refuses to do. And then, sir, I say, in so refusing he thumbs his nose at the members of this Legislature. He flouts the laws of this province, and he fails to carry on his job properly.

I am not picking particularly on The Department of Public Works, except that it is mentioned in this report. He says the same thing about The Department of Education. He says that the report of the audit of The Department of Education dated April 23, 1969, contains numerous recommendations and comments, many of which were included in previous reports, and he refers to a couple of them. But the message about The Department of Education again is that they have not done what he has suggested over several years; that they are not doing what he was suggesting over several years.

But we do not know what he has suggested over several years, sir, and we feel that it is important and fair and so necessary to our democratic process that we be made aware of what his concerns are, that we are prepared to say at this time that it is our opinion that the provincial auditor is not doing the job he is supposed to for the people of the province of Ontario. This is a very serious charge, sir, and I make it. I make it in full knowledge of the seriousness and importance of it, because when I conclude I am going to suggest that the time has come that we have a new provincial auditor.

Now, again, sir, with the audit report of the Ontario Housing Corporation, he says it was late and it was not completed and there were several things in it, but he does not tell us what was in it. Let us look now at what—

Mr. Sargent: Lots of hanky-panky, but we cannot find out—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): What about the Bonaventure?

Mr. Singer: All right. I am very glad that the Minister of Agriculture and Food said, "What about the Bonaventure?" How do you think, Mr. Speaker, that the members of the House of Commons found out about the Bonaventure? They found it out through Max Henderson, who put it in the report. That is how they found out.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: How do you think, Mr. Speaker, that the members of the House of Commons found out about the horses on the payroll, or the hiring of hotel rooms that were never used, or all of those other things? They found it out from the federal auditor general's report. That is how they found it out.

Now I say, sir—

An hon. member: That is the way it should be found out!

Mr. Singer: In last year's report, yes, it is there.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Now then, since the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Simonett) is so concerned about what the auditor general found out in Ottawa, let me tell him.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: There are several hundred items. What does he deal with? He deals with questionable expenditure by the Atlantic Development Board. Have you ever heard any provincial auditor, in all of the years any of us have been here, ever say that there was any questionable expenditure made by anybody in government? Not once, sir. But item 52 in this report is: questionable expenditure by the Atlantic Development Board.

Item 63: cost of hotel accommodations not used by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. What happened there was that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation paid for hotel accommodations and never used them. The auditor discovered it, quite rightly pointed it out and quite rightly steps were taken to remedy that situation and to deal with the people who were responsible for that.

Item No. 64: salaries and wages for work not performed. Item 65—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Speaker, it is amazing really—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: How can we find out?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: It is amazing, Mr. Speaker, the concern that these hon. gentleman who inhabit the front benches now express about the kind of investigation that is carried on in another democratic government in this country, but not by this province. It is amazing, sir, that any one of them would have the effrontery to suggest to the people

of Ontario that in the $3 billion of expenditure they handle, there are not the same sort of things going on in this province as go on in the federal goverment.

And I say, sir, if they are so sure—if they are so sure that they are lily white, and I say none of them are—then why do they not give us the information I ask for? Why did the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) go yesterday to the public accounts committee and say: "Trust our honesty and do not ask any questions". That is what happened yesterday, when the senior financial adviser of the province said: "Do not bother about details; do not ask us any questions. We do not want to give you any information. Trust us; we are honest."

I am not suggesting for one moment, sir, that any one of these hon. gentleman is dishonest. But I am suggesting this—and I say I am charging this—I am saying that in the government of Ontario there are as many instances of mismanagement of financial affairs as there are in any other democratic form of government in the world. I think by reason of the 26 years that they have been in office, their procedures have become more and more sloppy, more and more wasteful, more and more ineffective, more and more inefficient. And the more sloppy and ineffective and inefficient they become, the more arrogance we see in the front benches.

We are told we have no right to know. The Treasurer comes to the public accounts committee and says, "Do not ask for any details, we are honest." What has happened to the central purchasing system? $100,000 we have spent and they have not done five cents worth of purchasing?

It is no secret, Mr. Speaker, that the Ontario Provincial Police told them to go and peddle their fish somewhere else, they are going to buy their uniforms where they see fit. They are not concerned with the central purchasing. Do we see that in the auditor's report? No, we do not see that there, but we know that is true.

It is no secret, Mr. Speaker, that the pressure brought by backbenchers on the government front benches not to ignore the tried and true patronage system of purchasing has stopped the effective functioning of the central purchasing department in this province. That is no secret, Mr. Speaker.

I say, sir, that if these gentlemen have nothing to hide, let us have a proper accounting of the—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: I say, sir, that this is a whitewash. This whole system is a whitewash, and the cabinet is aided and abetted in carrying on this system of fooling the people of Ontario by reason of the co-operation of the provincial auditor, who, unfortunately, accepts the direction of the provincial Treasurer and his colleagues on the Treasury benches.

I say very simply this, sir, that if this government is serious at all about the democratic principles which are supposed to govern—

All right, the Treasurer thinks it is funny.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): I do not, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Singer: The Treasurer thinks it is funny.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I think it is a point of order, when the hon. member stands in his place and makes allegations about an affinity between the provincial auditor and the Treasurer, because it is untrue.

Mr. Sargent: Why does the government not have a public audit then? What is wrong? What is it afraid of?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Methinks, Mr. Speaker, that hard-nosed Charlie doth protest much too much. And if he has nothing to hide, then there are ways and means whereby the people of the province of Ontario could be made aware of what goes on within the financing of their business. And this is not happening.

The members sat here, the cabinet sat here, listened to these charges and listened to similar charges over a number of weeks and days and months. Is there anyone of them who suggests that we have a right to see the report that the provincial auditor made to The Department of Public Works? Not a one of them.

Not the Premier, not the Treasurer, not any one of the noisy front benchers stood up and said, "We think it is important to preserve the democratic process. The members of the opposition can see the report made by the auditor of The Department of Public Works." Not a one of them. Not a one of them had the courage to get up and protect the effective functioning of this Legislature. And that is my charge.

Mr. Nixon: The Minister of Public Works did not get up either. He has not said anything about it.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I think I have dealt with this point sufficiently, and I think the case is clearly made.

I conclude the case at this point, simply by saying that the time has come when the government, if it believes at all in the preservation of our democratic system, should remove the present provincial auditor from office—it can only be done on their motion and we will support it—and replace him with a gentleman who will be able to carry out the provisions of The Audit Act of the province of Ontario in a manner similar to that carried on by the auditor general of the government of Canada.

Now, sir, I want to turn to another subject.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: It is a real indictment of the public accounts committee.

Mr. Singer: Indeed, it is an indictment—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: A real indictment.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Got another Oscar tonight.

Mr. Singer: Well, the provincial Treasurer is annoyed, and well he should be after the performance that the provincial Treasurer put on yesterday before the public accounts committee. The message was, "Trust me because everything is fine. Do not ask any questions. Do not ask any details, just trust big father."

We do not trust you to that extent; the people of Ontario do not trust you to that extent. The more arrogant you get, the more you conceal, that much less time are you going to remain in office.

Mr. Sargent: They spend $15 million—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Did the member read the report?

Mr. Singer: I have got it right here, I have it right here.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The committee did not say that.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I was about to leave that point, but the Treasurer's interjection brought me back to it.

One very important part of the auditor general's report is the annual summary he makes of recommendations put forward by the public accounts committee which have not yet been followed by government, and these mount up. In this report, which is the 1968 report, they go back as far as the 1953 report of the public accounts committee and list every one—in case any member of the House of Commons should forget the number of recommendations made by the public accounts committee—that the government has neglected to carry out.

The recommendations of our public accounts committee, sir, sort of get lost. They get lost in about the same place as the reports that we receive on our desks day by day about regional development—all those wonderful things that appear in nice covers, with pleasant pictures of ministers—well the reports of the public accounts committee get lost in the same place.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member is proving he is not doing his job as an opposition member. They would not get lost if I were in the opposition.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: I was going to say, Mr. Speaker—

An hon. member: It will not be long.

Mr. Singer: —that after the next election I think the minister will get his chance because he is going to be swept out with the rest of them.

Hon. Mr. Grossman. The member got in by 25 votes. I made it by 1200.

Mr. Singer: Yes, but I will stay; the minister will not.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I think I am just going to add one more section to these remarks tonight—unless some other hon. members take over. I do think though, that the time has come for me to say a word or two about the Spadina expressway. This is not a topic which meets with universal agreement, even among my own colleagues. However, I would say, in view of my position and my experience in these matters and in this particular matter, that it is about time I said a word or two publicly, about my views.

As you may know, sir, I had some years of service on the North York council and during that period of time, certain actions that I took part in, certain actions that I suggested, were as responsible as anything else for the creation of the Spadina Road extension and the planning of it. One of these was the approval by the North York council-of-the-day, of the rezoning and the planning of the Yorkdale shopping centre.

I was the head of the municipality at that time and when representations were made to myself and my colleagues, I suggested to the council-of-the-day that it was a very fine proposed development; it would bring substantial assessment, and profit, to the municipality; it would improve the development; we would be able to get more water mains, more roads and more sewers; it would generally help the municipality to maintain a balanced assessment and so on.

Now, when that decision had been made, sir, it became reasonably important, too, that there be some road pattern that went along with it, and—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Was that the basis?

Mr. Singer: Yes, that was part of the basis. The Minister of Mines asks if that was the basis; it was part of the basis. I would think as the head of a municipality I had a responsibility to determine, in my mind, whether or not a proposed development made sense or did not make sense. If I thought it was good for the municipality, I had a responsibility to urge my colleagues to accept it. I had a responsibility to seek competent planning opinions, and having sought them, and if they represented that kind of a view —to push them forward. I would say, yes, that was my responsibility and I accepted it and I am glad to talk about it.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Did the member not do any environmental study?

Mr. Singer: Now, as a basis of that, sir, it was important that a reasonable road pattern be established and that it had to be done in consultation with the municipality of North York, the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto and the highways department of the province of Ontario. Many members have had an opportunity to read the report that was tabled recently at Metro Council, the one called "A Planning Review and Appraisal of the William R. Allen Expressway and Rapid Transit Line," which was submitted to the Metropolitan government and others by Mr. Wronski.

This deals, among other things, with the past history of the Spadina Road extension and with the commitments made both by the municipality of North York, the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto and the Minister of Highways. Mr. Speaker, there is a very interesting letter here—it has been talked about before—where the Minister of Highways said, "Yes, we will arrange for an interchange on Highway 401 provided that there is a positive guarantee given that the responsible municipal authorities will continue on with the building of the expressway in accordance with the plans."

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Down to Lawrence Avenue.

Mr. Singer: Pardon?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Down to Lawrence only.

Mr. Singer: No, no. Would the minister like me to read him the letter in full?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Would the member like an agreement?

Mr. Singer: Well, I can read it to him if he wants it. I will read him the sections of it.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I will read the member the agreement if he likes.

Mr. Singer: I quote:

> Of critical importance is the approval of the Minister of Highways of the design of the whole interchange and the planning of expenditures for the erection of structures on Highway 401. The minister has indicated that he will approve of the design accompanying this report subject to the following conditions:

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Is this the actual letter?

Mr. Singer: No, this is the report made in 1961, entitled "Spadina Expressway, Highway 401 Interchange," where it says:

> The minister had indicated that he will approve of the design—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: The member is not reading the letter.

Mr. Singer: I am reading extracts from the letter. Is the minister suggesting that this is not—is he suggesting that this is put forward by the Metropolitan council falsely?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I am suggesting that it is out of context.

Mr. Singer: —suggesting conditions that the minister did not write? Is that what you are suggesting?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Yes, I am suggesting it is out of context.

Mr. Singer: Well, I am suggesting that it is not, so if the minister wants to make a

speech about the Spadina Road extension I wish he would.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Read the letter!

Mr. Singer: Next:

> The Department of Highways will not contribute in any way to the cost of any road or ramp or structure over and above that shown in yellow in the plan referred to above, and under no circumstances would any approval be given to such connections nor would any commitment be made by the department to undertake or contribute to the cost of the interchange until such time as the department received a formal commitment by the Metropolitan council to the construction of the Spadina Road expressway as a six-lane, fully controlled expressway from Highway 401 to the vicinity of Davenport Road—

Not Lawrence; Davenport.

> —Davenport Road, where it would connect with the future crosstown expressway and to the local system. In addition, the department must be assured that the expressway will be constructed through the several municipalities presently objecting to certain aspects of the expressway.

Does the minister want any more or is that enough? Well, the Minister of Mines has made a statement, and as I read the quotation to him he suddenly subsided, which is par for the Minister of Mines.

I say, sir, that it is unfortunate that some of our local newspapers have not seen fit to give the same amount of publicity to the comprehensive report on the Spadina expressway that was released on March 9—that is this one by the Metropolitan council—that they have to the uninformed mouthings of many of the opponents to this plan. The basis of the arguments put forward by these opponents seems to be that expressways have not worked in other cities and that they are obsolete. Wonderful language, Mr. Speaker, when one only talks in absolutes. Although some of the statements with respect to the situation in some American cities may be accurate, they are consistently taken out of context to strengthen already baseless arguments.

As to the interjections that come from the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) and the Minister of Mines, the Minister of Education is reasonably close to it and the Minister of Mines is right in the middle. Would the Minister of Education say that he is in favour of, or against, the Spadina extension?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): I am just asking—

Mr. Singer: The minister does not know. How about the Minister of Mines?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I think the member is misleading the House.

Mr. Singer: I see. How about the Minister of Mines? Is he in favour of it or against it? Can he tell us?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I think the member is misleading the House.

Mr. Singer: Yes, that is what I thought I would get out of the Minister of Mines. That is par for him.

What is never mentioned, Mr. Speaker, is that the growth of Metropolitan Toronto is not, nor has it been, a haphazard meandering maze. In fact, it has been, in my opinion, a well-planned pattern set in operation in 1954 and initiated two decades previous to that time. I am not going to go again into the growing pains that brought it about or why it was crisis legislation or why the government waited till the last minute. The fact is that when the legislation that created Metro came about, it was good legislation and it has allowed good growth and planned growth to take place in the Metropolitan Toronto area.

One cannot say the same for the American cities used by our "experts" as examples of why expressways do not work. When people start comparing Boston or Los Angeles and Miami, it is fascinating to note, Mr. Speaker, that all of these cities keep on sending delegations up here to see how Metropolitan Toronto does in fact work. It is a matter of considerable pride to long-time residents of Metro—and especially to those who were a part of the beginning of the growth of the area—these delegations from all over the world. And I imagine the Minister of Correctional Services takes some pleasure in this too, that some of those cities used as examples by opponents of the expressway come here to study our transportation system.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: There are some that got to Boston to study things.

Mr. Singer: They come to study how to plan for the future growth of their cities or to find some clue as to how they went wrong, and the key word is "balance". That is what happened here, sir, and that is what has been maintained.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I agree with the hon. member that the other jurisdictions are sending people up here to examine our transportation system. Perhaps he might tell the House why his caucus is sending two members down to the United States to see why they are putting up expressways.

Mr. Singer: That is a fair question. I would say that is a very fair question, because I think we have got to know where we are going. I think we have got to know where we are going from here. There has been a substantial public discussion raised about expressways, particularly directed to the Spadina Road expressway.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): At the taxpayers' expense.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Point of order, we all pay our own way. The minister is the only one who travels at the taxpayers' expense.

Mr. Singer: I would say this, that insofar as I am concerned, and if you noted the statement given by my leader, this relates to future development of expressways; it does not relate to the Spadina Road expressway—that is a matter that we believe is for local determination. I am arguing, sir, and my case tonight is that that local determination has been made over a number of years, and cannot and should not be changed.

Unfortunately many cities rely heavily on one transportation system or another. It is impossible to plan a city without subways, without buses, without commuter trains or without expressways. The key to successful planning is to provide for the needs of a growing population, not to re-educate the public and force them to form new habits and new ways of life.

I wonder if any of the violent opponents of the expressways have another answer other than delay. Does any one of them dare get up and suggest we do away with automobiles? Does any one of them dare get up and say that we have to have a monorail system; that there is another suitable alternative? I say, sir, that no such suggestion has come forward. Even if no additional motorists use the expressway, the relief of traffic problems in the residential streets would justify its existence.

The opponents claim that the completion of the expressway will result in thousands more people and cars pouring into downtown Toronto daily. These cars are heading downtown now. How are they getting there? They are using the residential streets. So are the trucks, and it is taking them an average of 20 minutes more to reach their destination than it would if there was an expressway. Those Cassandras who see increased air pollution as a result of the Spadina Road expressway may well have their powers slightly deadened by the level of pollution now caused by the traffic jams every morning and evening on Avenue Road, on Bathurst Street, on Dufferin Street, on Keele Street, on Jane Street, on all those north-south streets, sir.

The Spadina expressway will remove cars from these streets and move them more efficiently, thereby decreasing the amount of time that car engines are running and therefore the amount of carbon dioxide and pollution that is released into the air.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Has the member spoken to his colleague from Scarborough East (Mr. T. Reid)?

Mr. Singer: The argument that traffic is, in fact, slower on expressways is ridiculous and should be answered. I disagree with my colleague from Scarborough on this point. Very definitely, I disagree with him. I disagree with him. I also disagree with the member's leader, and I disagree with him.

Mr. Lewis: The member does not know where I stand yet.

Mr. Singer: I do not know what his view is, but at least the representative of his party in the riding of Downsview, a Mr. Chusid, who is well known to him, thinks exactly the same way as I do, and so do all the NDP members who are active in the northwest sector of Metropolitan Toronto.

Mr. Lewis: The northwest sector? What about Fred Schindler?

Mr. Singer: I have lost my place. The argument that the traffic is, in fact, far slower on expressways is ridiculous and should be answered. If this is the case—it may well be in Los Angles, but it is not due to the fact that traffic is being moved by an expressway—it is because traffic flow is not regulated properly. This will not happen with Spadina, sir, in my opinion.

The report shows that all exits from and access to the expressway has been planned in such a way that congestion is almost impossible. I term the argument ridiculous. It is not even that; it is not an argument at all. Those who support it have likely never been on a well controlled expressway like, for example, the Edsel-Ford expressway in Detroit. I was talking with my colleague from Windsor

earlier this afternoon about this, and he agrees absolutely that the Edsel-Fort expressway in Detroit, and the Congress expressway in Chicago, are examples of what can be done with proper expressway construction.

Hon. Mr. Davis: They are busy on occasion.

Mr. Singer: Yes, they are busy but they help traffic flow and they need not be congested and they need not add to the pollution.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Singer: My point. All right. Is the Minister of Education against the Spadina Expressway?

Hon. Mr. Davis: I was listening to the member.

Mr. Singer: Oh, all right. That is fine.

Mr. Nixon: He does not know enough about it to have an opinion, he said.

Mr. Singer: One point which is rarely covered by the dissenters is the safety aspect. Our children are not going to be walking along the Spadina expressway going to school each morning but they do use the residential streets that the motorists are using now.

We all know that two or more children walking along a street are not that safety conscious; they are not as safety conscious as they should be. It is part of a child's being a child to run and jump and jostle with companions. Motorists cannot be expected to anticipate their moves every inch of the way from North York down to King and Bay, but if that traffic is taken off these private residential roads and put on expressways I think that should be a very major consideration: the safety factor.

Residential streets are not planned to handle the heavy traffic that they have had to bear during the past few years. The people who build homes on quiet, safe streets should not have to put up with the constant flow of traffic that passes their doors.

I say, sir, that the planning of a joint public transit and expressway in Spadina was a part of very careful planning done by informed planners; done by political persons who, in my opinion, examined the case fully and made the correct decision. I have the greatest respect for people such as George Grant.

Many of you in government know who George Grant was; he came to Metro as the highways or traffic engineer. He came from The Department of Highways with a background—I would think the provincial Treasurer knew him when he was Minister of Highways—with an unimpeachable educational background. He was a graduate of the University of Southern California. They regarded him very highly in the highways department.

Mr. Fred Gardiner, when he became chairman of Metro council, asked him to come as the senior roads man and planner. He did, as commissioner of roads; that was his job. And we were very lucky to get him; he did an outstanding job in this planning.

I say, sir, that the planning of expressways and public transit in Metro has been well done, and I say, sir, that it is the height of folly and ignorance to suggest that we cut off the residents of one quadrant, the northwest quadrant of Metro, from reasonable access to downtown and back toward where they live.

Perhaps one of the comments made by one of the young ladies who was here the other day, who was saying, "Stop Spadina," best expresses this. Somebody asked her how the people from North York would go backwards and forwards, and she said, "Oh well, they do not matter. They just live in the suburbs."

I think the people in the suburbs, who have come here and helped make Metropolitan Toronto an important, viable city, and helped make Ontario the heartland of Canada, deserve to have reasonable access to the amenities of city living. And the construction of a balanced system of transportation, both by public transit and by expressways, makes it good sense.

Frankly, sir, I am weary of shaggy, bespectacled, or rosy cheeked academics—and I do not care who that applies to particularly—making half-baked announcements on an issue that they do not understand. I wish for all our sakes they would look before they leap.

I wish, sir, that when issues such as this develop, that those who are so vocal, in their criticism about apparent errors, would have some understanding of the thinking, the planning and the differences in opinions, and not be quite so intolerant of the rights of others—even the minority who lives in the northwest quadrant of Metropolitan Toronto.

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, I want to add to the congratulatory statements which you have received on the able way in which you carry out your duties in this Legislature. It has been my privilege to sit under five Speakers. Two of

them were clergymen, and did a very excellent job. Another was a teacher, who likewise did well. And there was a businessman, I believe, an egg producer in western Ontario.

In each case it was quite interesting to notice the way in which they started out, feeling their way progressively getting confidence and achieving experience—which gave us the benefits of a very fine Legislature with the improvements coming gradually, as they did.

I might say, however, in the case of our present Speaker, perhaps there is one faculty that he has more than the other Speakers had. Of course, we have firmness, we have persuasiveness, we have reasonableness, we have all these features. But perhaps being of a legal mind, when the legal minds get arguing and things get somewhat confused, I believe that he also has the faculty to confuse things thoroughly enough that everyone wants to go back and start over again. Perhaps this is something a little different.

I likewise want to congratulate Mr. Deputy Speaker, his assistant, and the hon. members for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith), and Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman), and all other members who have made a most worthwhile contribution to the throne debate.

I particularly want to congratulate the hon. Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Guindon) who made such an excellent speech here yesterday. I might say that what he said about Courtaulds situation can apply to Dunlop and other industries, which now have difficulties because of cheaper-selling imports.

And this in itself brings special attention to the question asked by hon. George Hees, federal member for Prince Edward-Hastings, in the House of Commons yesterday as reported in the *Globe and Mail*. Mr. Hees said:

> I have a question for the Minister of Finance. Would the hon. gentleman take the first opportunity on motions to explain to the House why it is that at a time of considerable layoffs in the Canadian automotive industry, his department has granted to the Michelin Rubber Company of France, the right to bring into Canada, duty-free during the next few years an unlimited quantity of automobile and truck tires for sale in competition with Canadian products, thereby greatly worsening the employment situation in an industry already hard hit?
>
> *Mr. Benson*: I should like to take the question as notice, so that I may make sure of the details. However the decision with respect to Michelin establishing a plant in one of the less-developed areas of Canada was one we felt should be supported at that particular time, as part of the effort to attract industry to Canada in such areas. But I will look further into the particular advantages which were given.
>
> *Mr. Hees*: A supplementary question to the Prime Minister. Is it part of the government's policy to fight inflation by increasing unemployment in Canada and transferring jobs to Frenchmen in France?

That question was not answered, but I do think it points up the difficult situation in which the federal government is placed. In order to promote trade in some lines of manufacturing, or in our natural products, they sometimes have to, perhaps, lower tariff barriers in other commodities. It certainly does hurt the industries involved in those particular lines.

While unemployment is a concern to all of us, I do feel that, under these circumstances, the federal government should certainly bear a share of the responsibility. It should look at these matters most carefully, because it seems to me to be manifestly unfair, if, when favourable conditions exist, people invest money to create industry and to create employment and then, a short time later, a few years later, the conditions are changed so that they can no longer operate comparatively. I do feel that there is a federal responsibility involved, even though as I say, they may, in all fairness, have to make concessions to other countries in order to help dispose of surpluses we may have in some particular lines.

I do feel, therefore, sometimes when our responsibilities are pointed out, that the federal responsibilities are even greater than ours, and at a time when unemployment seems to be part of the necessity to combat inflation, as has been stated to us, I do feel that the federal people do have a responsibility to those people who have become unemployed.

I want to refer, very briefly, to a situation concerning my own riding. On March 2—*Hansard*, page 127—the hon. member for Oshawa (Mr. Pilkey) asked the question of the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall). He said:

> Is the minister aware that 250 homes, abandoned by Canadian army personnel from the Picton army camp, are boarded up while we suffer a severe housing shortage in Ontario?

To the second question, that Mr. McFarland, a large property owner in Picton, has applied political pressure on Ottawa to keep

these homes out of the local market, the hon. minister replied as follows:

Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of what Mr. McFarland has done. I can suggest to the hon. member that we did enter into negotiations with the federal government to take over that abandoned army barracks down there, and try to turn it into an industrial park like Centralia, but Ottawa dealt directly with a helicopter company—I think it was a helicopter company—which took over the whole base and the ODC was excluded.

I do not know how they are making out down there. I have heard various rumours. If the Ontario government was invited to go on that base and take it over, we would have a look at the 250 homes that are closed up. I agree with the hon. member and we would make use of them as we have done with Centralia. But right now it is federal government property and we cannot enter it.

I am glad that the hon. member for Oshawa is in his seat, because this is the comment in the Picton *Gazette* following the question he asked in the Legislature on March 2. It says:

> It can only be hoped that intelligent readers were not taken in by the muck raking, unsubstantiated innuendoes levied against Mayor Harvey J. McFarland of Picton last week in the Ontario Legislature by the hon. NDP member for Oshawa. It is your privilege, of course, to disagree both with the complaints of Mr. Pilkey and in the lack of ethics in attacking a man—

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Who wrote the editorial?

Mr. Whitney: He has nothing to do with a newspaper.

> —and in the lack of ethics in attacking a man in such a public forum—

Mr. Pilkey: I see. Just a subscriber ? Just an ordinary subscriber?

Mr. Whitney: Quoting:

> —without the subject having an equal time to reply. I guess that one does not feel obliged to defend Mayor McFarland. He is quite capable of doing that himself, physically or otherwise, as we recall.

Mr. Pilkey: Physically? I will take him on at the Maple Leaf Gardens.

Mr. Whitney: Quoting:

> But we feel obliged to insist that one must realize that Mr. Pilkey's remarks must be taken with a large grain of salt.

Interjections from hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: Quoting:

> First of all, there is altogether too much assumed in connection between the mayor and the Camp Picton property.
>
> That Mayor McFarland is readily interested in any development proposed, or otherwise, in Prince Edward county is understood. But the camp property lies wholly within the township of Hallowell. That municipality's council alone is responsible to deal directly with the federal government through the Crown Assets Corporation.
>
> It will have an official interest in promoting, approving or delaying disposal of the camp or any part of it. It would also stand to reason that the Crown Assets, as the public corporation, would be responsible for a multitude of complications were it to permit sale or occupancy on a piecemeal or helter-skelter basis.
>
> Slow as it may seem, it is logical that the camp disposal must await a clearly defined, well-planned programme. To suggest that Mayor McFarland would combat a plan to feudalize the homes, because of his own property investments implies that the mayor is some sort of greedy, grasping landlord.
>
> Mr. Pilkey could have obtained freely, informed, impartial testimony from many present or former tenants on Mayor McFarland's property, to settle his mind on that score, if he had wanted to convey the truth or even come to grips with it.
>
> As we have already said, the purpose of this editorial is not so much to defend Picton's mayor but to quash such ill-founded and misleading criticism.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Read the last sentence of that editorial; the last sentence.

Mr. Whitney: I will:

> We know that Mr. Pilkey is a respected representative of his riding and his party and we find it disappointing to learn of his conduct in this matter.

Which is perfectly all right.

Mr. Pilkey: That was the good part of the editorial.

Mr. Lewis: An upright man like the member defending McFarland.

Mr. Whitney: Well, we are not going to dispute that, but the trouble is, when you go down to Prince Edward county you are taking in too much territory and obviously they do their own things down there.

Mr. Lewis: The sheep farmer of integrity defending Mayor McFarland.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): You fellows ought to know more about sheep—you have so many of them over there.

Mr. Whitney: I would say that I do not have to defend Harvey McFarland, Mr. Speaker. I would suggest that perhaps one of the hon. members opposite might feel inclined to defend Mayor McFarland, if he felt like speaking the truth.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Heaven forbid.

Mr. Whitney: Oh yes, I would say last year Mayor McFarland was given a great night of honour—from the citizens, and I am only finding out some of these things from the Belleville daily paper, not from the Prince Edward county paper.

I can tell you a great many things. How he had a great deal to do with bringing the Harmsworth races to Picton. Certainly how he supported the Harmsworth; did the hon. members ever hear of the Harmsworth trophy?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: He permitted his own private swimming pool to be used to teach about 20,000 children how to swim. He has done many, many things of a public nature.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: He has not had his head above water for three years.

Mr. Whitney: Well now, that remains to be seen.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: I would suggest—I would suggest—Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order!

Mr. Lewis: Ever since Proctor-Silex that fellow has been in trouble.

Mr. Whitney: As far as Proctor-Silex is concerned—Proctor-Silex and Mayor McFarland—the landlord had rented the property to Proctor-Silex, but as soon as you people went down there that settled the deal. The strike was lost right away.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): They can botch things up pretty good, that is for sure.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakehead): Things were looking pretty grim up to then.

Mr. Whitney: Of course, there is one among the members opposite who did not go. I wonder, perhaps, if he considered the great generosity that Mayor McFarland had shown, in many regards. The hon. member for High Park (Mr. Shulman)—now I am not going to be stopped in saying this. The hon. members can interrupt all they like, but I am still going to say it, if I have to repeat it a dozen times.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: Yes, the hon. member for High Park, one night several years ago, at the time when Egypt had invaded Israel, telephoned a dentist, a Dr. M. G. Mecklinbrueter, of 881 Blanchard Avenue, at whose office Mayor McFarland was receiving treatment. This Dr. Mecklinbrueter explained that the hon. member for High Park—he was not a member for High Park then—was appealing for funds to assist the people in Israel. His worship said: "They have my sympathy", and he promptly wrote out a cheque for $200 and presented it to the doctor.

Perhaps the hon. member for High Park remembered that, when his people went to Picton. Perhaps he remembered that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: Despite all your insinuations, I do not think anyone would suggest Mayor McFarland's public works and road building carries him so far that he would expect to get any business back in Israel.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: However, it is very obvious such statements as were made by the hon. member for Oshawa in this regard certainly are of no help to the NDP in any forthcoming election. We regret to see that a man of discretion would make such a remark without knowing the truth.

Mr. Pilkey: I am sure we lost MacFarland's vote. I feel sorry about it, but we lost it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order!

Mr. Whitney: Mr. Speaker, those were just small preliminary remarks. I want to say that we of Prince Edward-Lennox are grateful to the Minister of Trade and Development and the Ontario Development Corporation for the industry that has come in there recently—Cannon and H. D. Lee, Napanee, and the Campbell Soup mushroom plant in Prince Edward.

We are hoping for more. We are also hoping that the helicopter plant of which the hon. Minister of Trade and Development spoke, the Piasecki plant, will develop. To date it has not done so, and of course we do know there has been negotiation going on between the two governments. We are very, very hopeful that industry will come to Camp Picton, because it will be a shame if the federal government does permit the fine assets there to decay and become a shambles. It is the sort of lift that Prince Edward county needs because when the First Canadian Guards left Picton it was a big loss to the town and to the county.

I mention these things because the mayor has done many, many things and he has tried to promote the welfare of that whole area. That is the reason why, when people from outside who do not know the story start unfair criticism, I can tell them to come down to Prince Edward and see how far they get when they face an electorate—the town of Picton, the county, or any place.

Mr. Pilkey: What about Las Vegas gambling? Are they going ahead with that?

Mr. Whitney: That is not my party. That is another party which has that idea. Mayor McFarland has nothing to do with that and neither have I.

Mr. Pilkey: Would the member speak to the Minister of Trade and Development for the member from Algoma and see if he can get some of that energy in Blind River?

Mr. Lewis: With H. G. Lee, that was half a million capital—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member for Prince Edward-Lennox has the floor. Will he please proceed?

Mr. Whitney: I would suggest that where worthy encouragement is given there are a lot of opportunities open. Largely it is up to industry itself, but unfortunately here we are in our cities—last year I believe the hon. member for Peterborough (Mr. Pitman), with the industry that they have, was suggesting that they should have more; there should be more encouragement.

Along that same line Dennis Braithwaite had an article about John C. Parkin, and when I hear the discussion about the Spadina expressway and all of these things and the millions and millions of dollars that it takes to accommodate the people around this metropolis and to provide them with service, and to get them from one place to another, it seems to me that instead of criticizing the Ontario development loans and some of these things, you would scatter some industry out where it is needed and will do some good, instead of wanting more in the big centres. You would be doing a lot greater public service.

This article said that if there is one thing that has become painfully evident since the end of the war it is that there is no happiness or tranquility to be found in cities. All the great cities of North America, including both Montreal and Toronto, have become nightmares of congestion, pollution, noise and dehumanization. It is incredible, therefore, to find people in positions of influence calling for enlargement of the city, for schemes of redevelopment and for vast expenditures of public money to remedy irremedial faults. The assistance of the virtue and viability of the city is a good example of McRuer's rear-view mirror thinking. Because the city has always been pre-eminent in the past it is assumed it always will be; that there is no alternative way of life.

He mentions John C. Parkin, the architect, who was in favour of all of this. That is apart from the point I was trying to make, but I do feel that the consideration and support should come from all hands to say that instead of compounding the problems and the mistakes that have already been made, endeavour to correct them. I will go along with that, but before they get any bigger when they are already big, let us stop and try to see if we cannot do something else that will spread some of the industry around where it will do the most good. Actually you can feel that if these industries are spread out over a big area it is going to benefit a lot of people and it is not going to cost nearly as much to service them with a highway as it is to have them concentrated where you need multi-lane roads and subways and everything else to handle transportation.

I might say that with regard to the changes that have been made, Hubert Humphrey was commenting on changes in the last 20 years and he said that in his day, when university pupils were asked what they were taking, they would reply history, or English, or mathematics, or something. He recently said this at the university and he asked the students what they were taking, and they said, "Tomorrow we are taking the administration building and the next day the library, and after that we will decide what comes next."

Mr. Speaker, there is something that I want to mention, apart from the subjects I have dealt with and that has to do with the—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: Mr. Speaker, what I am saying has nothing to do with the interjections the members are making whatever. This is something—and I think it is important—and I would like to get this point across, because, Mr. Speaker, it differs somewhat with the arguments and what we have been reading in the paper at the present time. I think that it is only fair that the other side of the coyote, or brush wolf story be told, and told as logically as possible.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: Now I am not here—wait and hear what I am going to say before you start heckling—I am not here to uphold the people who ran down the brush wolf with a snowmobile, or any cruel method of killing, or anything of that kind, but I want to point out some facts on the other side. This article is by Lewis Nordyke, who tells the story of the coyote. It is not a native of Ontario. It came here within the last 20 years. Only a little over 15 years ago they first showed up and for the first year I had 53 lambs killed myself and I did not know what was doing it. You could watch day and night and you would never see it done.

This is something of the history of the coyote and it is very brief:

> Every device and trick known to man, financed by local, state and federal governments, has been used in an unceasing battle to eradicate the coyote. More than 50,000 are killed each year in the United States, yet the sly little wolf continues to hold his own. Today he numbers at least 2,000,000 and he has spread from his original haunts on the western prairies and mountains to many a new neighbourhood.
>
> The coyote could retreat to the uninhabited parts of vast ranches and rough wastelands and live in comparative peace, but that does not suit him. Most species seem to delight in living among their enemies, matching wits with them and daringly feasting on the food they produce. A government trapper, who found every one of his three dozen traps sprung and robbed of bait remarked "that coyote is the smartest varmint alive.' '
>
> When a favourite Texas haunt became a practice range for bombers, the coyotes left temporarily. Soon they were back to investigate. Things did not look so bad after all and they stayed.
>
> The coyote is a tawny-grey animal, resembling a small German shepherd dog. He seldom weighs more than 30 pounds but he is very fast. His speed has been clocked by automobiles at 40 miles an hour. Scientists describe him as an inferior member of the wolf family, but his wits are so sharp that he thrives in regions where the more ferocious wolves have been driven out.
>
> The immortal Reynard the fox of our childhood literature never used a trick as clever as one pulled by Tippy, a pet coyote reared by a Texas family. Tippy's liking for fresh poultry stuck with him in captivity and he began catching chickens. The family chained him to a corner of the house and fed him scraps. Tippy promptly scattered his scraps within the length of his chain and retired around the corner. The gullible chickens ventured forth to pick up the scraps. Tippy picked up fresh poultry.
>
> A fat coyote is seldom seen. Regardless of an abundance of food, he stays in top condition for the running and fighting he knows he must do. As a fighter he is quick as lightning and has the devilish trick of dragging his teeth through the flesh of an enemy. They say he is malign—that is what we read in the papers—but he fights only in emergencies, preferring to use cunning.
>
> The coyote is exceedingly clever at getting his hunting done for him. He will stalk an unsuspecting badger that is excavating a smaller animal's burrow and quickly grab the rodent unearthed by the labouring badger. He watches birds of prey and takes their kill, or the food they find, but he knows how far he can safely go. Experienced hunters say they have never heard of a coyote attempting to steal the kill of a mountain lion.
>
> Coyotes scavenge the highways, having learned that travelers toss out scraps and that cars kill rodents and birds. The coyote would prefer poultry or lamb, but does well on any food man produces and on many that man would not touch—snakes, lizards and insects. When he can get it, the coyote eats fruit for dessert.
>
> The conclusions that have been made are that in time the coyote may serve a useful purpose in checking overbalance of jackrabbits, cottontails, ground squirrels,

woodchucks, gophers, meadow mice and other small rodents.

The truth of the matter is that never were cottontail rabbits as plentiful, despite the presence of the coyote and as far as woodchucks are concerned, they too are certainly very plentiful. The point is that these have become plentiful since the disappearance of the red fox and since the coyote came in.

Deer came in. Deer were not unknown in Prince Edward county until less than 20 years ago, but they came in. They say the coyotes cannot attack deer, but they apparently called the deer in and once they came into the county the red foxes, which are prone to rabies, progressively died off. At times they were quite a menace to people because of their rabid condition. The people were glad when they were gone.

But in the meantime, apparently the coyotes' diet is so varied that it is not meeting that deal of killing off the rabbits and keeping them within due numbers at all. And, of course, the coyote likes to help himself to sheep and that is not a very nice sight.

People say coyotes will kill only what they want to eat, but that is an utter falsehood. It is not a very nice picture to go into a field and see seven or eight sheep with their throats cut, lying on their sides. Maybe two or three of them have had a bite taken out of their chest, the rest are left alone. And they will not come back and eat those carcasses.

Visitors to the area say, how do you know it is coyotes? We know it is coyotes because the farm dog worries sheep—the dogs that attack sheep tear them any place—whereas the coyote is the first animal that has come in that operates in this way.

Occasionally among those that are slaughtered, we know that some are hybrids. The Department of Lands and Forests sends them to their laboratory, gets them analyzed, and I know they are quite sure of that. In those cases where they are hybrids—that is, a cross with a German shepherd dog or some type of dog like that—in that case you can see the entrails scattered all over the place.

It cannot be said that the coyote is like a baby dog. We have known where they have been shot and wool was discovered in their stomachs. We know that sometimes after coyotes have been shot the sheep killing stops for a time. Certainly we have had as conclusive proof as you could possibly expect to get, that at least part of the time coyotes have been responsible, although sometimes dogs also do these things.

There are still two or three things I want to mention. The first I raise is not because I am in sheep myself, because actually, as more people come into the business, my business might not be as good, it might deteriorate. But one of the many things in Canadian agriculture for which there is demand is the home market lamb and people have enough trouble dealing with parasites, having adequate grazing, taking care of it—doing these things, without having to deal with the coyote as well.

Let the coyote retire to its natural habitat. I do not say go out and run them down with snowmobiles, but I do believe they should be kept under control and this wolf bounty or coyote bounty of $25 should not be removed.

People talk about going out on a hunt. The first year this happened to me, I do not know how many people were on the hunt and no one ever saw a thing. You can scour the countryside in the daytime and not see a thing. It is just only once in a great while that a coyote might be found on a lake, or some area like that.

So that the idea of people coming in and going on a hunt and tracking them down relentlessly—they might be able to pursue them with a snowmobile on a big body of water, but over the average farmland, the snowmobile cannot go where the coyote can go and the coyote would have no trouble evading the people whatever.

The most effective way of dealing with them, to my knowledge, is by a few people who have very good hounds. These dogs will, with proper training—not all hounds, but some will—pursue the tracks of coyotes. And, if they can get them on the tracks when the tracks are fairly fresh, they will follow them. When the coyotes know they are being pursued, they will circle and then start in a straight line. By the baying of the hounds the people can then tell about where the coyotes will emerge from their cover and go around by the roads, get in front of them and shoot them.

For the most part, I have been told by the conservation officers that 53 coyotes have been slaughtered in Prince Edward county this year and the vast majority of them was done by this method of pursuit with the dogs. Certainly it is a cleancut type of slaughter, every bit as clean as the coyote does with the sheep or the lamb he comes across, and I do not think anyone can object to that sort of thing.

If they are going to give the country over to all the wild life—all these educated people—we will just have to leave our farmlands and let our food all be imported and give up, because that seems to be the attitude with some of our educated people.

My suggestion is that for these people who do have the good dogs that will give pursuit and that are capable of proving themselves, I feel that the $25 bounty should be preserved. These people should be given a subsidy for retaining these dogs and keeping them the year around, because they get little other revenue out of them. I feel that is one practical way of approaching this problem.

I have talked to our deputy Minister of Lands and Forests, Mr. Bayly, and I have heard some rumours that efforts were being made to try to produce a less rabies-prone type of red fox. And I just have a feeling that, maybe if those red foxes could come back in sufficient numbers, that whole thing could revert itself. It just seems according to our conservation officers coyotes and red foxes do not get along together.

The red fox, as far as their catches are concerned—such as the groundhog and too many rabbits and things of that kind—did a far more effective job than the coyotes will ever do. Those other animals are multiplying, we are not getting free of them.

So, when people speak of the balance of nature, unless man does something, what is the coyote's predator? There is no predator whatever. It is not native here and there is nothing that can wipe the coyote out.

I appeal to members of this Legislature to give The Department of Lands and Forests encouragement to consider this idea of subsidizing those people who have the dogs that can do the trick. And, if there is any way that they can help develop a breed of red fox that is less prone to rabies, I think we should encourage it, by every means at our disposal.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, Monsieur President, quoique je ne sois pas très compétent en matière de langue française, je désire vous apporter ce soir mes saluations, dans la langue des premiers colons de ma térritoire de Essex Sud.

Cette langue retenue par plusieurs citoyens pendant de nombreuses générations—cette langue et cette culture dignes d'être préservées.

Mr. Speaker, what I have attempted to say to the House is, that, although I am not very conversant in the French language, I wish to bring you greetings this evening in the language of the first French settlers of my area of Essex South. The language that they brought to this area and, continuing, the first white settlement west of Montreal was French and this language continues to this day in my particular area.

I am only sorry, Mr. Speaker, that there is insufficient interest or time here at the Legislature for us to continue with our lessons in French, otherwise I might be a little more conversant with it than I was on this brief occasion.

This evening, Mr. Speaker, I would like to deal briefly if possible with four topics, some constructive suggestions, I hope, in relation to agriculture, to erosion problems in my riding, the taxation situation—

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): The white paper.

Mr. Paterson: —the white paper—yes, I hope the hon. member is interested—and a few problems in relation to welfare problems.

I base my remarks on an advertisement placed by Eaton's of Canada at the beginning of this year, and this advertisement was entitled, "It's 1970, Let's Take a Stand." Below that caption there are a couple of brief paragraphs I would like to read into the record:

> "We are heading into the seventies . . . champagne bubbles and streamers and funny hats. We don't think so, somehow. We've weathered the sixties and that alone automatically puts a restriction on any blind optimism we might feel that everything is going to be peaches and cream in the future.
>
> If things are to get better, and we cannot help feeling that they will, we are all going to have to work at it. It won't be easy. The sixties proved that. So before we leap into the fray, let's look at the decade just past. Where did we go? What were the issues, the triumphs, the lessons?

Now, below this heading there are several comments on youth, space travel, war, population explosion, discrimination and two other paragraphs that I would like to hang my address on this evening. The first is in relation to pollution.

> Need we ever mention it. Can there still be holdouts against cleaning up our world? We think not. Any person who thinks, breathes, sees or hears knows that the time is now, not 10 years from now. And who knows, maybe in the mid-seventies Canadians will once more go to their beaches to swim instead of sitting on the

littered sands watching the hazy sun dance from the waves and feeling sad because they know it is also dancing on the buildup of pollution-loving algae, dying or dead fish, and tons upon uncounted tons of senseless filth.

Have we any suggestions? Yes, Keep getting angry. The angrier the better because time, as we all know is running out.

The second paragraph is entitled "Responsibility."

There is a new style in politics. Our leaders are beginning to present government for what it is: people. Not some invisible fog-shrouded machine that endlessly protects, rewards or taxes us but people, grappling, wisely or not, with the issues of the day. We think this is good because the issues inevitably bounce back on to us and we must act.

We must become the responsible ones. This trend will grow in the seventies. It will spread to, indeed, all forms of government, large corporations, any and all projects made up of people whose actions affect others' lives. If the sixties taught us anything, they taught us once and for all that we are a community. Anyone who saw the pictures of the earth taken from the Apollo spacecraft knows, now, that for better or worse, in sickness or in health, peacetime or war, we are all in this together.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor: They don't know that at all.

Mr. Paterson: Well, they should. Now, I believe these particular sentiments or thoughts contained in this advertisement that I have read tie right in with the Speech from the Throne of His Honour, when he said:

Let us take pride in our accomplishments. However, the time has come to ensure that what we have created reflects adequately the quality of life to which we aspire. As we move into the decade of the seventies we must devote more of our attention to the provision of a richer, more rewarding life for ourselves, our children, and their children. Such a fresh approach can make the 1970s a new decade of discovery. The 1970s will be a period when personal involvement in the activities of our communities will be encouraged and more pronounced—

Mr. Lawlor: As Hamlet said: "Words, words, and words".

Mr. Paterson: Words—the bard has spoken.

—when the individual will relate more readily with his neighbours and his governments, when important steps will be taken to reduce the damage already wrought upon our environment, and when the machinery of government will evolve to deal more efficiently with the complex problems of modern life.

So it is on this basis that I have attempted to put together my remarks, Mr. Speaker, and first of all I would make, I hope, some constructive suggestions in relation to our serious agricultural problem.

I would like to deal, first of all, with the crop insurance programme which has existed in our province. I feel that unless changes are made in this programme before the planting season begins, that this government may as well save the taxpayers many thousands of dollars in administrative costs. Unless the government can come up with a better package to attract more than the two or three per cent of the growers of any one commodity that they had last year, and build this up closer to at least half the growers, it is just not economically a good programme.

When business wants to market a product, to try to get its real share in the market place, it has to have a good package, and to build up its volume it may have to merchandise it at a low price until the volume can offset the high price of lower sales. I feel that this is true in relation to crop insurance. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would sugggest that this government match the 25 per cent premium subsidy of the federal government in addition to the basic administrative costs that they now shoulder. If this would be done it would allow the crop insurance commission to lower the premiums and encourage the farm people to buy this. I think this is the first step in merchandising a lower price.

Secondly, the method of selling crop insurance can be improved and at a real saving to the crop insurance commission. Why not let the marketing organizations—possibly the processors, or even the agriculture offices—be the selling agencies? I believe the insurance agencies throughout my part of Ontario have found selling crop insurance a very frustrating undertaking and that they want out of this programme. However, the experience of the tomato crop insurance plan that produced, I believe, slightly over 40 per cent coverage of all growers, could be an asset to other crops. This was efficient and the coverage was contracted for, I believe, at very nominal cost to the commission itself.

Another good merchandising method was, I believe, that the premium on the tomato plan did not have to be paid in advance. It was only paid when the product was delivered to the market, and I think this is a good bit of packaging.

Now another attraction I think the government could put into the package would be extended coverage—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): He is making notes. You are getting home to him. He is making notes over there.

Mr. Paterson: —that is, give more dollars back in case of a claim. I think the farmers, specifically in my area, do not feel there is enough dollar coverage under the present plan.

Mr. Speaker, I have put forth these few ideas on crop insurance because I feel that we should give this one more really good try, and if the majority of the farmers do not buy it this year, or possibly, next year, then the Ontario government should get out of this programme.

Further, I believe the minister (Mr. Stewart) and this government missed a really golden opportunity last year to sweeten up the taste of crop insurance, especially in the Essex-Kent areas. It was an opportunity that would not have cost excessively, and this was in relation to winter wheat.

I think that if the government had conceded its error, and I still believe it is an error, in not including the moisture and sprouting factors in winter wheat coverage, and if it had announced during the harvest season—at a time when all the other crops in Essex and Kent county were being drowned out by heavy rains and the winter wheat was the one hope of the farmers to get a little cash, and the prices of wheat, because of the sprouting, were dropping down below a dollar a bushel—if the government had said: "Possibly we are in error, you winter wheat growers, that we did not include sprouting and to assist you we are going to, in this instance, have the crop insurance commission pay you 25 cents a bushel to help you out in this case," possibly the minister would not agree with this, or his colleagues, but I really feel that this would have injected some confidence in the support for crop insurance, particularly in the Essex-Kent areas, instead of being the last straw which broke the interest in crop insurance.

In the agricultural committee last year I put forth an idea calling for The Department of Agriculture and Food to move into the computer age. At that time the minister seemed interested in the proposal, and the idea, I believe, has been met with favour by many farmers and farm organizations. I do hope that during the estimates of The Department of Agriculture, that the minister has announced some programme of moving forward into this particular type of programming in regard to the selling and movement of our commodities.

Also last year, I renewed my plea that the government change its labeling laws regarding the canned produce in our province. Again I ask this evening that the name of the food processor should go on the label if he is packing goods for another distributor, and I relate this particular matter to Alba Foods of Harrow in my riding who are canning products I believe in defiance of both federal and provincial inspection. I certainly hope that this will not occur in my particular riding or anywhere else in Ontario this coming year.

There are many points, Mr. Speaker, that I can raise at this time concerning agriculture. Possibly I should keep some until the estimates for the particular department come before the House.

I think all of us, as members, are concerned with the burden of property taxation on farmlands and especially in relation to education costs, especially during these years—particularly in the Essex-Kent area—when there has been little or no net return on farm products. We are all concerned with input costs; we are all concerned with high interest rates on farm homes and the general bleak outlook for the reducing numbers of families engaged in agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, back in 1963 when I became the candidate for the Liberal Party in Essex South, our party, through annual conventions, had adopted a series of agricultural policies that were contained in a couple of pages. To me at that time it looked as if this was the solution to our agriculture problems. This was seven years ago, and today I still think we have the programme to solve many of these agriculture problems. These are still Liberal Party policies until they are changed at conventions.

I would just like to enumerate the seven or eight points of the policies of our party that have been adopted by the democratic process in convention, and I would read these. To strengthen agriculture, the Liberal Party proposes:

1. The creation of a farm development department in the expanded Province of Ontario Savings Bank for the purpose of extending long-term, low-cost loans to farmers without age limitation for expansion of their holdings, improvement of farm homes and buildings and for the mechanization and specialization of farm operations.

Mr. Sargent: Hear, hear. That will be done next year.

Mr. Paterson: Still quoting:

2. To pursue a policy of land use and planning that will preserve valuable farm land for agriculture purposes, and to amend The Planning and Assessment Acts to ensure tax stability for farm land adjacent to urban and suburban communities.

3. To reduce the cost of education to farm property by applying the school tax to that part of the farm assesment which pertains to farmhouse and residential property only, and by considering the application of a business tax on farms for the purpose of education.

Mr. Sargent: That will be done. Check it off.

Mr. Paterson: Still quoting:

4. The reclamation of marginal land for production purposes and the intensification of programmes of reforestation, water conservation and flood control.

5. To enact legislation requiring that the sale or rental of farm land to food processors must have cabinet approval.

6. To encourage farmers to establish co-operatives and producer controlled marketing plans.

7. To establish agriculture research facilities comparable to those in other industry in order to create new uses and new markets for Ontario farm products.

8. To support the principle of formula pricing for food milk in the province and to join with federal government in providing free distribution of milk in the schools.

Mr. Speaker, these programmes were adopted, as I said, by our party prior to 1963.

An hon. member: And in seven years it has not done one of those things.

Mr. Paterson: A further section on this was entailed to develop new sources of income and to assist the economy of rural Ontario. The Liberal Party proposes:

1. To provide equality of opportunity and equity in financing of our school system. The Liberal Party in Ontario supports the principle of property paying for services to property and people paying for services to people.

2. To co-operate with the federal government in assisting secondary industries in establishing rural towns and villages.

3. To give priority to the establishing of vocational and technical training institutes in our smaller centres; to create a public utility to pipe great lakes water across to the homes, farms and industries of western Ontario.

Further, and these were amendments that came in in 1963, the party believes that a disaster fund should be established to offset the damages suffered by farmers from drought and storms, and this fund should be offered in addition to any crop insurance that might apply. This was adopted in 1966.

Also, the Liberal Party in Ontario condemns the undemocratic action of the Ontario Conservative government in their takeover of the Ontario White Bean Board operations. The last one: The Liberal Party believes that the importer of foodstuffs should be held legally responsible for ill effects caused by contaminants in products imported by him.

Now these are broad policies, Mr. Speaker, that were set down by our convention over many years. Many of these policies may have to be updated in the months and years to come. Possibly our caucus has added to these, but these policies were developed and in due course will be changed by the broad membership of farmers in the Ontario Liberal Party right across this whole province.

All in all, the Liberal Party is interested in agriculture, and the fact that half of our membership here in the House represents rural, not urban ridings, shows our specific interests in these particular problems.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we can and will create a better agricultural economy than we have had in the past few years, when we take over the reins of government. I am sure those people now engaged in agriculture will make the same decision when they go to the polls in 1971.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): We will get all those fine ridings; they will all be Liberal.

Mr. Paterson: That is right.

The second topic that I would like to express a few words on is in relation to The Department of Social and Family Services. I was quite pleased to read this past week that the hon. minister (Mr. Yaremko) was going to make some changes in the benefits payable to the many recipients in our province.

Certainly, Mr. Speaker, some of my finest moments as a member of the Legislature in the past 6½ years have been dealing with

people applying for assistance, either provincially or through to our county system of social services. Possibly in some cases, Mr. Speaker, we as members should not extend too much sympathy, but there are many more very justifiable cases that come to our attention. What is an MPP to do when he gets a letter such as this particular one? I will read it, it is very brief:

Dear Mr. Paterson:

Could you please help me out of this mess I am in. I applied for help but was refused it. I am out of oil and my gas bill is due and also rent. I have been out of work for one month and have put in for unemployment and never got any.

I went back to work on Monday and took sick, with high blood pressure and nerves being so bad. I have been to the doctor three times, in fact they had to take me home. Now I am out of work until the doctor gets me straightened out. I have never asked them for any help in two years, since my husband died. When I go back to work they will hold two weeks pay back.

I have my daughter and her husband living with me and they have a six months baby. He has been laid off for months. He only makes enough for groceries to serve the baby, it costs me so much for my medicine. I am sorry to bother you, but I need help.

Mr. Sargent: And there are thousands like that.

Mr. Paterson: Yes, I think this is the kind of thing all of our members are receiving.

Mr. Sargent: The fat cats over there can sit back and laugh.

Mr. Paterson: That very day this particular person was in receipt of a form letter from the county department of social services, and this reads:

This is to advise you that your recent request for assistance has been thoroughly examined by our staff. Unfortunately we must inform that present welfare regulations do not permit us to grant you assistance under your present circumstances. If, however, your circumstances should change in the future please feel free to contact us again.

Mr. Speaker, I do not blame the county, but there must be restrictions in the provincial and federal statutes that prevent these local county agencies from helping out in many situations such as this.

One of the situations that is jeopardizing the county budgets is the length of time to process unemployment insurance claims at the present time. Each weekend, Mr. Speaker, when I get home, I have two or three new claims for unemployment insurance that are taking four to six weeks to process. The claimants are often desperate; often the county can and does assist, but basically this again is not a county problem. I feel that the Minister of Social and Family Services, Mr. Speaker, must get to Ottawa and straighten this matter out with the officials in Ottawa in order to help the county system survive. Secondly, we have to change our legislation to allow our county welfare systems to financially assist families who cannot provide sufficient funds to live on.

I have worked on a case, week after week, for almost two years, placing advertisements in the paper, trying to get a man a job, and I finally succeeded with a little bit of luck in getting this father of nine children a job at a weekly wage so that he could afford to go off county assistance. But during all this period of time this man could have taken several of many jobs that were open to him, but these were at wage rates that would pay only two thirds that of the county assistance that he was getting. I really do not think that any of us in this House would blame him for not going off the county system and taking this particular work because it would really jeopardize his family.

What I blame is our federal and provincial legislation that prevents our welfare departments from assisting in a situation such as this. They should be able to supplement his income at least up to the amount that this family man would qualify under their present budget.

Another real problem, Mr. Speaker, is that of the allowable budgets for housing. It is now too low. I have heard that in Essex county over 40 per cent of the recipients of social assistance are paying 2 per cent more in rent over the allowable budget. How do they pay it? They have to take it out of their meagre food allowance, or their clothing allowance, to pay their rent.

Here I blame—in addition to the present Ontario regulations, and I hope that this is one that the minister is going to change—I blame the property tax rebate as the real culprit in driving up the rents of these people. Rental budgets, I say, must be increased.

Another factor, too, that should be somewhat remedied this year in our particular county, is the lack of accommodation for

senior citizens. Back in 1968 we were promised 116 units for senior citizens to be located in various centres in Essex county. But as of January, 1970, only 12 of these units were complete. More are being built at the present time.

Many more social problems could be related, Mr. Speaker, in very great detail. The problems of disabled people who cannot get light work, the problems of any of our pensioners, and the problems of broken homes. I am sure they are of great concern to all of us, and I hope that during this session of the Legislature, when we come back after recess, we can get down to brass tacks and try to do something to assist these particular people.

I suppose, at this point in my speech, I should take issue with the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) for a couple of minutes in regard to the problems of erosion along the shores of the Great Lakes—in particular, the Point Pelee area, the most southerly area on the mainland of Canada, and the fact that the dredge ships are increasing this erosion, in my opinion, and according to the best of local advice, with years of experience living right at the scene. I understand the last studies relating to the effect of dredging were made at the turn of the century. Since that time equpiment for dredging has been made more efficient and certainly more sophisticated and has much greater capacity.

Last year, as on previous occasions, I believe, before this present minister took office, I brought up the question of gravel-taking permits from our Great Lakes. These permits, Mr. Speaker, are issued annually by the Minister of Mines for the taking of aggregate from the bottom of our Great Lakes. In all operations for the calendar year 1968, in addition to the $100 annual licence fees the department collects, they collected $82,974.00 in revenue for the reported sale of 495,325 cubic yards off the bottom of Lake Erie.

In that report it shows that the ship named the Charles Dick took 292,300 cubic yards and the ship William Edington took 58,125 cubic yards from the area of Point Pelee. It is interesting to note the licence issued to the Charles Dick gave an allowable total of 350,000 cubic yards while that for the William Edington was for 25,000 cubic yards.

It would appear, on the surface, from the information at that time, that the Edington took more than double the cubic yards than for which it was licenced. Also, according to a ministerial letter of May 13, it is indicated that these operations are taking 100,000 cubic yards more aggregate than the annual build up of the aggregate in the area, and I would refer this to a letter over the signature of the minister, dated May 13, 1969.

I would read the last paragraph of that letter to verify this, I quote:

> Although there are several digging areas in Lake Erie, I presume that you are really referring to the south-east shoals, which lie adjacent to Point Pelee. My staff advises me that the estimated amount of material that is deposited at this location annually is about 250,000 cubic yards. It is further estimated that the total amount of material taken from this location annually between 1940 and 1968 would average less than the annual crop. This I do not have the figures to dispute.

But now I turn, Mr. Speaker, to a letter of January 15 over the signature of the Minister of Mines. This letter shows that in 1969 the Edington took 400 per cent more aggregate than the original licence called for—104,000 cubic yards—and the ship Charles Dick took 301,300 cubic yards. I might explain, Mr. Speaker, that the Charles Dick is a much larger ship than the Edington and this possibly accounts for the difference in operation.

But all in all, this is a total of 405,000 cubic yards and that is 155,000 cubic yards more than the annual build-up of aggregate in that area, according to the minister's own letter. I might refer to the minister's letter of January 15 and I quote:

> The purpose of this letter is to clear up a number of loose ends resulting from the meeting that we both attended yesterday. Mr. Scott, of my staff, feels that the Edington had not exceeded 25,000 cubic yards from Point Pelee in 1969.
>
> An examination of our records this morning discloses that the Edington, in fact, took 104,000 cubic yards from the Point Pelee digging grounds in 1969. Mr. Scott did not have the files of the Edington with him and the figures that he recalled to me were of the operations at another location.
>
> By way of explanation, there actually is no limit on the amount of material that the Edington may take each year from the Point Pelee digging area. Up until 1965, the Charles Dick was limited to 220,000 cubic yards; the Edington (then called Niagara) was limited to 25,000 cubic yards and the Caldwell was limited to 25,000 cubic yards. The Caldwell no longer operates in Lake Erie.
>
> In 1965 the quantity allowed to the Charles Dick was increased to 350,000 cubic yards.

At the time the limit was raised for the Charles Dick, consideration was also given to the Edington. This vessel operates both at Point Pelee and the Niagara River and has limited capacity. Because of its size and because it was digging from at least two locations, it was decided not to place a limit on the quantity the vessel could take. The typist who prepared the 1966 licence simply copied from the former licence and the 25,000-cubic-yard limit no longer in effect was typed in the face of that licence and has continued to this day. This unfortunately has created the impression that the Edington was still limited to 25,000 yards.

It was certainly not our intention to mislead you and I have taken the first opportunity to give you the proper figures. Incidentally, the Charles Dick took 301,300 cubic yards in 1969.

Signed by the minister.

Mr. Speaker, I think this evidence clearly indicates that these sandsuckers are depleting the total amount of aggregate in the Point Pelee area. What did the province get for the depletion of this natural resource? Approximately $61,000 for the tonnage or cubic yards in this area.

The owners of these ships sold our Essex county shoreline for $1,500,000 in turn, and most of this natural resource was sold in the United States.

In addition to this, affidavits have been filed, and I believe court actions are proceeding, that these ships have taken this aggregate in violation of the law, by working ouside their allowable limits, and in closer to shore where the digging is easier and quicker.

Commercial fishermen in the area, equipped with depth finders, have told me that often they are cruising in these waters approximately 30 feet deep and all of a sudden they will come across a hole that is at least 65 feet deep, the place where these sandsuckers have operated.

We all know how sand shifts, especially in water, and surely when these deep holes backfill they must be taking sand and gravel from a wide area. Is it not conceivable, Mr. Speaker, that this would be sand and gravel that may have been destined to build up our beaches?

Possibly, Mr. Speaker, you will recall the question I asked the Minister of Mines on Friday, March 6. The exchange is on pages 307 and 308 of *Hansard*. I do not want to read the whole commentary there. I will just go down to my supplementary question:

As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware of the comments of The Department of Lands and Forests in this regard which state that this is, in fact, a determining factor in erosion?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: No, I am aware of the indications of one employee of The Department of Lands and Forests. As it turns out that is a personal opinion on his part only, not the department's, even though it was written on Department of Lands and Forests letterhead. I can assure the hon. member that I think that particular gentleman will not be making a personal opinion again, in public, on Department of Lands and Forests letterhead.

Two things I would like to say in regard to that question. The minister states that there are feasibility and engineering studies going on in this particular area. This is part of his original answer. I would like to know what these particular studies are, who is doing them, and how long they are going to proceed, and I hope in due course the minister can make this information available to the Mersea township council.

Secondly, I must take issue with the Minister of Mines that the report from The Department of Lands and Forests was the personal opinion of one employee. Let me just read a portion of this letter from The Department of Lands and Forests. It was dated December 2, 1969:

Dear Sirs:

The hon. Rene Brunelle, minister, has requested that I reply to your letter dated November 12 concerning the erosion problem at Marentette Beach.

I will skip a couple of paragraphs and turn to the second page:

We are in receipt of a report from our Aylmer office concerning the erosion problem. From the information available we are unable to substantiate your claim that the balance of the beach remaining on Marentette Beach is being severely damaged by the existing breakwall.

And here is the paragraph of importance:

It has been noted that for many years large ships called sandsuckers have removed sand from the lake bottom in large quantities. It is apparent that the lake currents must fill up the holes created in the lake bottom and withdraw sand that would otherwise be deposited along the shore under normal circumstances.

A higher water level in Lake Erie has also made more land along the shore accessible to the forces of accretion and erosion.

Signed by a departmental official.

Mr. Speaker, I believe I have documented this problem sufficiently. I have many, many more letters, photographs, and affidavits to back up this particular contention, but I charge that the hon. member for St. George, who is the member for the area in which I live in this fair city, our Minister of Mines, the so-called ombudsman of the north, has overlooked the far south in our province.

There has been insufficient and improper supervision of these sandsucking operations in the Great Lakes. These vessels, in my opinion, and I have seen them, have been operating outside their licensed limits. They have been depleting a natural resource far and beyond its ability to renew itself and allowing this depletion to earn some $60,000-plus in fees to the province, while at the same time, Mr. Speaker, aiding and abetting the erosion of our beaches and causing millions of dollars in property devaluation.

Firstly, I feel that the minister is wrong in his attitude and for this reason: I would suggest that The Beach Protection Act be taken away from his jurisdiction and given either to the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) or the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr), in whom I have slightly more confidence. If this government does not make a move to do this, I am sure that we Liberals when we take over in 1971 will see that it is done.

At this time and place no speech in the Legislature would be complete without some comments on taxation and the white paper as is proposed by Mr. Benson.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): The member for Renfrew South is not here, he wanted to hear that.

Mr. Paterson: None of us, I think we all agree, enjoy paying taxes, and we in the Legislature must always keep this in mind when we ask for specific programmes for our particular ridings and for broad government programmes. Can we really justify in our own minds that the requests that we individually make are really needed, and are we not sometimes just asking to prove what great fellows we are back in our own constituency by asking for something for our people? I hope not. President Coolidge once warned:

> Nothing is easier than spending the public money. It does not appear to belong to anybody and the temptation is overwhelming to bestow it on somebody.

In the last 10 years expenditures of all levels of government in Canada have almost doubled. As the social fabric of Canada has changed, the cost of meeting provincial responsibilities such as welfare, and in particular, education, has risen tremendously. As a result, provincial governments and municipalities are spending as much as the federal government, and it is probably in the field of provincial taxation that we can expect the greatest increase in the 1970s, according to many tax analysts that I have been reading documents from.

Thus, I think, we get into the position of Ontario's white paper on taxation and Ottawa's white paper to try to do something to smooth the way a little more efficiently in the 1970s. I would first like to deal with the federal white paper on tax reform and the relation between taxation and economic growth as it affects small incorporated businesses.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, I must say that I agree with a large majority of the nearly 100 specific tax proposals in that document. This white paper, in my opinion, in effect is a social document to try and assist those who are less fortunate than most of us. As a taxpayer, I will not begrudge the estimated $150 or $175 in personal income tax that it is going to cost me annually, provided that this redistribution of tax will assist the old age pensioner, the low income family and the disabled.

Last August I wrote to Mr. Benson's office, long before this white paper was tabled, in response to many requests that came to me to try to have this basic exemption of $1,000 or $1,100 raised to a much higher figure.

In my letter to Mr. Benson I stated that trying to relieve the people in the lower income levels, which would be very helpful, by giving an extra exemption, would undoubtedly lead to the passing on of the burden of taxation to those people who were earning higher incomes, and this is basic mathematics and common sense.

Mr. Benson's reply to me last August, was that an increase of $500 in exemption would have dropped some 700,000 taxpayers from the rolls, but in addition, the remaining 7,000,000 taxpayers receiving this $500 exemption would cost the Treasury individually between $75 and $412 per person, depending on their income.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, unless other adjustments were made in the rate schedule, a person with a higher income and with a higher rate of tax would benefit more than the low income people we were actually trying to help. The simple raising of the exemption, with no other changes, in 1969

would have cost the federal government $660 million and it also would have cost the province much revenue, unless they had made very great increases, and I think this is a fact that we cannot overlook.

In 1967, two thirds of Canada's taxpayers had taxable incomes under $6,000 and only one per cent had taxable incomes over $25,000. I think we can all see where the taxes have to eventually come from—somewhere in and between.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): The Tory 4 o'clock shift looks tired.

Mr. Paterson: Now, specifically, I would like to address a few remarks regarding small incorporated businesses and the relationship of taxation and economic growth. I think I can do this as a small businessman, and one thing that must be made clear in the minds of businessmen is that it is only the incorporated small business that enjoys the favoured 21 per cent tax rate on their first $35,000 of earnings. Of 92,279 firms, 88 per cent of these earned $35,000 or less in profits and they account for only 18 per cent of the taxable income. That is 88 per cent of small, incorporated businesses paid 18 per cent of the tax.

Now, the two-rate corporation tax system was introduced in 1949 as a result of the commission on taxation of 1945. This favourable tax climate that was created has aided in the growth of small business by some 600 per cent in the past 20 years. When the Liberal finance minister, Abbott, introduced a special rate for small business in Ottawa in 1949 he said, and I will quote from him:

> The House will at once recognize that this is a tax relief for small business and I trust will be heartily in accord with the policy.

I do not know whether the Conservatives supported it at that time or not, I hope they did.

Mr. Nixon: I doubt it. They voted against that budget.

Mr. Paterson: To continue quoting:

> Our country as a whole owes a great deal to the small family type of business. They have to struggle along, grow and develop, in competition with large and well financed corporations whose activities may be nationwide. My own belief is that small business should be encouraged and it seems to me that a useful way to do this is to lower the tax and take less out of the funds they need for growth and expansion.

Mr. Speaker, 1949 was the year I first attended a Liberal Party meeting and I joined the party in that year. It also happened to be the first year that I became the member of a small family business—a business that since that time has grown and which suffered its only setback during the Diefenbaker depression of 1959.

However, a fire in 1967, that leveled the property in which we did business, and the ensuing couple of years have instilled in me, I feel, a factual understanding of the fundamental factors in economic growth and the favourable corporate tax rate.

Mr. Speaker, prior to our fire we were a pretty successful family business. We had been incorporated. We employed a staff of five people. In the mid-sixties our corporate tax was somewhere in the area of $4,000; but one day I took time to calculate from my annual statement, the total of our federal corporation tax, the total of our provincial corporation tax, the 12 per cent federal tax on purchases, the provincial sales tax that we had collected, the personal income tax of my partners and myself and those of our employees, the customs duties for the goods that we had imported and the tax that our employees had paid in their normal daily living.

Mr. Gisborn: Makes you think about the little guy who also is paying all of these.

Mr. Paterson: I reached the startling figure, Mr. Speaker, that in our little business that occupied some 1300 square feet and which was paying a corporation tax of some $4,000, we were collecting from the public and producing by our hard work over $50,000 in tax revenues for all levels of government. This was more than ten times our corporate tax.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the hon. member would allow me to interrupt because the rules of our House provide that unless otherwise ordered, at 10.30 of the clock in the evening this House adjourns. We must either have a motion to proceed or I will have to ask for a motion of adjournment.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I move that we do not adjourn, if that is the motion to be put, until such time as this debate is completed.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House that this motion carry and the hon. member continue with his speech?

Mr. Gisborn: Point of order, Mr. Speaker; will you make a ruling as to the precedent set on the previous motion that established the 10.30 adjournment time?

Mr. Speaker: I beg your pardon.

Mr. Gisborn: Are we not operating on a motion made at a previous time that we adjourn at 10.30?

Mr. Speaker: The standing order as presently in our reprinted Votes and Proceedings says, "unless otherwise ordered by the House we shall adjourn at 10.30" as I understand it.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): We have not given unanimous consent.

Mr. Speaker: No unanimous consent is required.

Mr. Peacock: No?

Mr. Speaker: No. Merely a motion, duly carried, that the House continues to sit.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We consulted with the hon. member's leader and he agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Are the members in favour of the motion that we continue to sit?

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry to interrupt but I felt we should stay within our rules.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Speaker, as I was stating, our small business that was paying some $4,000 in corporation tax, had collected and produced some $50,000 in total tax revenue.

An hon. member: Per year?

Mr. Paterson: Per year. But then we had a very serious fire in 1967—the early part of that year, which destroyed our property and our business. So we had a decision to make, should we gamble and take the advantage of growing larger, because of the availability of property, or stay small, take life a little easier, and maybe have a black ledger at the bank.

We chose to grow with our community and grow with Canada. My partners and I had to sell some of our other assets; we had to borrow a lot of money and we put all of our assets into more property and a new larger building and more inventory. We agreed, in fact I guess we had to agree, that all earned income—and this is the key thing—would stay in the business for the first several years to try and finance this growth. And because of the low corporate rate—21 per cent—we are slowly starting to see some clear skies ahead, and I hope that in the mid-seventies the sun will be shining.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Benson will fix that.

Mr. Paterson: Just wait, just wait. Benson has done a good thing for us. We now employ twice as many people as we did 2½ years ago. We offer a larger and better selection of merchandise and I feel that we have contributed substantially to the stability of our community. That is the key factor, hon. members.

Last week I reviewed our financial statement again. Our sales are way up on the mid-sixties – unfortunately our profits are slightly less—but our corporation tax happens to be just about the same as it was in the mid-sixties—approximately $4,000. However, I sat down and then I estimated the total tax production from our small business—the same as I had done a few years back.

I used exactly the same criteria, and I got a really amazing result, Mr. Speaker—a total tax production, now, of well over $100,000 from our merchandising efforts. This is 25 times our corporate tax payment and almost 10 times as much as the net profit in our small corporate business. And it is this expansive multi-assembling of taxes that I feel the government must keep in mind when it is talking about tax reforms for small businesses.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Was the $100,000 paid by the member or the people?

Mr. Paterson: I stated we had collected from the people, and so forth. But it was our risk that generated this tax to your coffers.

Mr. Sargent: A small businessman cannot borrow five cents today, not five cents.

Mr. Paterson: Personally, I am glad we took the risks of expansion and I hope in the future that we will reap some of the benefits. However, if it had not been for a preferred rate of corporate tax, possibly we would not have expanded and the two senior levels of government would have had much less revenue from our productivity.

There have been many attacks on the white paper, especially in relation to small businesses—

Mr. Peacock: He will be spending more time with the business after 1971.

Mr. Paterson: Most of these have been wild, unfounded emotional charges. Only in recent days, Mr. Speaker, are factual criticisms coming forth, and hopefully some commonsense alternatives to Benson's white paper section on this incorporated small business.

I have been reading avidly Mr. Asper's book called "The Benson Iceberg" and all the articles in the daily press and the weekly press, and I can see that reason is starting to show through. This is what a white paper is all about. It is a talking point, and it is participatory democracy. We should all take part, especially those of us in small business.

Now, Lancelot Smith, in the *Financial Post* of February 28, states:

> The most important concept of the white paper is integration of corporate and personal income taxes. I happen to believe that if integration is the valid and desirable objective, businessmen, in their own interests, should be attempting to salvage the white paper rather than towing it out to sea and scuttling it.

Probably I, as a Liberal and a person with some social conscience, should agree that all income should bear the same range and structure of tax—that is an individual, a small corporation or a large corporation.

However, as I have pointed out in my previous remarks, small incorporated businesses, when they are growing, need financial assistance of some sort. It is in the interest of our total tax picture, both in the province, our own communities and the whole of Canada.

I agree with Smith that a small corporate business that can prove and demonstrate a need for funds to finance expansion, should be allowed, possibly, to defer payment of its corporate tax on the first $25,000 taxable income, and that this deferral could be for a five-year period. In my own case, I think this is plenty of time. And we would be quite willing to pay a reasonable interest rate for this privilege.

I would agree further that any disbursements from a small incorporated company in this position, out of its earnings, if they were disbursed, should be taxed fully at the rate of an individual. This proposal, in effect, in these initial years while the business is expanding or growing, provides a company with more funds than under the present 21 per cent rate of tax. This too would be more fair to the other taxpayers in Canada as, on the day of reckoning, the same rates of tax would apply as to any individual.

This is an alternative programme to the Benson plan. If this could be studied—

Mr. Lawlor: How much support does the member think he will get?

Mr. Paterson: Why, I would hope it would get unanimous support from businessmen.

Mr. Lawlor: I bet the member will not.

Mr. Paterson: If studied by businessmen, this should be acceptable.

Now let the small incorporated businessman work out and develop and propose alternatives to Mr. Benson, based somewhat on these lines—proposals that will assist us to grow with Canada; fair proposals that will or may negate, after growth is completed—and I think this is most important—may negate any tax advantage small business now may enjoy and may enjoy during that period as the rest of our populace.

As a man of social conscience, I would agree with this. I feel that Mr. Benson recognizes the problems of small business and he has promised to consider changes in the original plan if constructive suggestions are given.

Let us offer him constructive suggestions on behalf of the small incorporated business to accommodate our role in the growth of Canada and within the framework of an overall change in taxation policy.

Now we get back to home base, the province of Ontario. Several months ago, our provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) brought forth Ontario's white-paper proposals for tax reform. Although this was a far-reaching document, the hon. minister's presentation does not seem to have caught fire as has Mr. Benson's. Even his proposal for a provincial income tax within two years seems to have quietened down.

I think it behooves all of us, especially we elected people, to restudy these proposals in the light of the federal document, and I am sure we will in the weeks and months to come.

But what has really been happening in Ontario during the past 6½ years that I have been a member elected into the opposition? I would just like to recount some of the taxes that have been imposed by this government.

In 1964, gasoline tax was raised by two cents a gallon, a 20 per cent increase; succession duties were raised 25 per cent and the Ontario Hospital Services Commission

premium raised from $2.10 a single person up to $3.25, approximately a 50 per cent increase.

In 1965, the tobacco tax was removed from the retail sales tax and this was approximately an increase of five per cent.

In 1966, sales tax was raised from three to five cents, a 65 per cent increase in taxation. The tobacco tax was raised one cent a pack; the gasoline tax was raised one cent a gallon; and this was the year that OMSIP was introduced, at the rate of $120 per year for a couple.

In 1967, strangely enough, there were no new taxes. I believe that was an election year.

However, in 1968, when we returned to the Legislature, the cigarette tax was raised four per cent; the gasoline tax was raised two per cent; tax on parimutuel betting was increased from six to seven per cent; motor vehicle registration was raised—a six-cylinder car was raised from $15 to $20, that is a 33⅓ per cent increase, an eight-cylinder car was raised from $25 to $35, a 40 per cent increase, and trucks went from $20 to $30, a 50 per cent increase.

In addition, new driver examination fees were raised from $3 to $5, that is a 65 per cent increase, Mr. Speaker. And, in our provincial parks, season tickets were raised from $5 to $10, a 100 per cent increase, plus various adjustments on other use fees. And they even introduced the $3 fishing licence. Small game licences were raised from $1 to $5, deer licences were doubled, from $5 to $10.

OMSIP fees were raised from $120 per couple to $141,60. Ontario Hospital fees were raised, the single rate raised from $2.10 to $3.25, a 50 per cent increase; family rates from $4.20 to $6.50, also a 50 per cent increase.

All in all, 1968 was a very bad year for the taxpayers of Ontario.

In 1969, the sales tax was extended to hotel and motel accommodation, the five per cent tax was put on production machinery and on rental equipment. The cigarette tax was raised again and the refund of gasoline tax for nonhighway use was discontinued.

And we are all aware of the tremendous jump in the cost of Ontario hospital coverage last year—from $3.25 a month single up to $5.50; and from $6.50 a month per family to $11. This is almost a 300 per cent increase in the cost of Ontario hospital coverage since this plan was first introduced a few years ago.

I think this list I have gone over very quickly shows who the real greedy culprit is when it comes to taxes, it is the Conservative government of Ontario. Last year the Provincial Treasurer stood up very proudly and said that they had cut some two per cent from the proposed budgets for 1969.

I feel, Mr. Speaker, that the people are fed up with this government and nothing now will stem the tide of the downfall of this regime. In the following days when they start to prepare their budget for the following year, and start to economize, to set the ship of state in order, they will make our job a little easier when we take over in 1971. This is why I support my leader's amendment to the amendment to the Speech from the Throne.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I join in congratulating those people who took part in the throne speech which is winding up tonight. I noted the comments particularly of the mover and seconder of the speech, both of whom passed on some constructive suggestions to The Department of Municipal Affairs. I detected a note of a little bit of a dig in the remarks of the member for Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman) which were well taken.

I rise to take part in this debate just to put a few things on record in connection with assessment which I think need to be said at this time. There is an attempt to put some of these problems in the context of the transfer of the assessment function which took place on January 1. I suppose I might say in passing—it should be said and we tend to lose sight of things when things go well—that due to the co-operation of the 2,000 people who were transferred, the co-operation of the municipalities, and the work of people in various government departments, the transfer was effected as of January 1, with very little confusion. We paid all those people on the pay day following; the computer did not act up and the transfer itself has passed off very well.

There has been some publicity given to the effect that reassessment has upon the taxes that are paid by some taxpayers. There are municipalities in which there have been substantial changes between the amount of taxes levied on particular properties before and after reassessment.

However, there are other municipalities in which the basis of assessment was consistent before and after reassessment and where reassessment has consequently caused no great change in the distribution of taxation. Among

the municipalities where there are substantial changes, there are some where the market price of property is increasing rapidly as a result of vigorous development and where there is a mixture of large quantities of residential, commercial, industrial and farm properties, as well as land which is held for development.

The town of Mississauga is a striking example of a municipality in which these conditions exist. I answered a question the other day on the subject of reassessment from the member for Peel South (Mr. Kennedy) and I said at that time, and I say again now, that if our studies showed that reassessment led to cases of hardship, provision would be made for the alleviation of such hardship.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Oh, oh, Charlie. Here comes the blank cheque again.

Hon. C. MacNaughton (Treasurer of Ontario and Minister of Economics): Let me worry about that.

Mr. Nixon: Every year he has to bail them out.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Look how long they have postponed the budget.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I am satisfied that there are cases where relief should be made to particular taxpayers; while equity must be our target, it is not always practical to try and achieve it in one single operation.

Mr. Nixon: Even when everything is going so well.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I will be introducing legislation to enable the effect of reassessment to be phased in over a period, for individual tax cases, where it is appropriate to do so. Before dealing with the effects of reassessment in specific cases, I want first to put the matter into some perspective.

It is inevitable that reassessment will lead to substantial tax increases in some cases. If this were not so, then reassessment would not have been necessary. I must emphasize that such increases are counterbalanced by decreases to other taxpayers. In other words the increases in taxes after reassessment represent undertaxation in the past, and decreases in taxes after reassessment represent overtaxation in the past.

Mr. Nixon: In the opinion of the chief assessment officer or the minister?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: One of the primary purposes of reassessment at a consistent level is to obtain a fairer spread of the burden of taxation by getting rid of both undertaxation and overtaxation that resulted from earlier inconsistent assessment practices.

Let me make it quite clear that this problem has nothing to do in Mississauga, for example, with the takeover, with the transfer of the assessment function by the province on January 1. During the last three years reassessment has been completed in 160 municipalities, by assessors who were employed by municipalities. And I would have to point out that I suppose in this House we have heard about problems in perhaps a dozen of those 160 municipalities.

One of the problem areas has been the town of Mississauga, which is the largest reassessment which has ever taken place in one year in the province. In the 160 is the town of Mississauga, where municipal assessors reassessed property in 1969 for taxation in 1970.

Readjustments in the distribution of taxation arise when property is reassessed on a consistent basis, whoever is responsible for making the reassessment. These readjustments are the results of anomalies which were caused by irregular assessment practices in the past. They very clearly illustrate the reason why it was essential for the province to intervene and take over the assessment function, before these anomalies were compounded through the continuation of such practices.

The second point that must be borne in mind is that reassessment neither increases, nor decreases, the total tax levy which must be made in any municipality. It would be unfortunate if any particular municipality were to use reassessment as an opportunity for increasing its tax levy more than necessary.

I would not like to suggest that the town of Mississauga would increase its tax levy unnecessarily—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): We are talking about tax rates now.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I am sorry.

Publicity indicates that a residential tax rate of 17 mills is contemplated in Mississauga in 1970 and, since it appears that the town's level of expenditure in 1969 could be maintained by a rate of slightly more than 16 mills, I have to conclude that some increase in revenue has been found necessary. It is roughly $1 million.

But this increase in revenues has nothing to do with reassessment. Even so, a residential tax rate of 17 mills—and I think this should be pointed out—compares favourably with tax rates in neighbouring and nearby municipalities. For example, in 1969 the equalized residential mill rate was 21.5 mills in Oakville, 21 mills in Etobicoke and 20.56 mills in North York, as compared to the contemplated 17 mills in Mississauga.

A particularly difficult problem arises when people own valuable property, but have very small incomes. This situation often arises when old people, whose families have grown up and left home, find themselves in possession of properties which are more than adequate for their needs, but which they are reluctant to give up, because of the effort they have devoted to acquiring the ownership of the home. A more extreme illustration of this situation occurred in Mississauga in the case of Mrs. Baselewski, a widow with an income of $3,200 a year, who lives on a 6.5-acre property—and I must say to my friends in the press gallery, they write the story and consistently leave out the fact that it is 6.5 acres, with an assessed value of $120,000. This property is zoned for rural residential development on the official plan for Mississauga, and its listed by this particular person for sale with a realtor at an asking price of $125,000—that is the price she has put on it.

If her property is indeed grossly overvalued there is an appeal provision to put the matter right. If, however, the assessment is correct, then the truth of the matter is that with more proper financial advice, Mrs. Baselewski has the capital to provide herself with a modern home in the same locality, and an income comfortably in excess of $10,000 a year.

Would we be doing her a favour, I ask rhetorically, to continue to underassess her property? Would any hon. member seriously suggest that other householders, some with no more income than Mrs. Baselewski, should be called upon to pay additional taxes to keep her in a state of what really amounts to avoidable poverty?

Obviously some temporary measure is necessary to modify the immediate effect of changes in cases like this, but we must take care not to prolong the condition which we are seeking to reform. In this content, I must touch on the distasteful, but very real, possibility of owners taking advantage of undertaxation to hold their property while its value increases.

In no circumstances would it be justifiable to subsidize the undertaxation of such owners. It is very unlikely that the people who appear to want to subsidize taxpayers in this situation, would also want to subsidize a person who possessed, we will say, $100,000 in the form of securities other than property, while those securities increased in value.

As a direct result of reassessment, many residential taxpayers will pay a decreased share of municipal taxes in Mississauga in 1970. Some, but not all, industrial taxpayers will also have a decrease in their share of the taxes.

The increased taxes which will compensate for these decreases fall in the main upon commercial property and vacant land which is held for development. In order to raise revenue to diminish the tax increases suffered by some taxpayers, it will be necessary to levy additional taxes on other taxpayers.

In other words, it will be necessary to diminish the tax decreases which would otherwise be enjoyed by a very large number of taxpayers, many of them residential, and to further increase the increases already suffered by taxpayers in respect of commercial property on land held for development.

The equalized mill rate is, perhaps, not an appropriate indication of the tax burden in a particular household. The measure of the change in the tax burden in respect of any property, particularly on reassessment, is the change in the dollar amount which the taxpayer is called upon to pay.

It is reasonable for a person who suffers a large increase in his taxes to expect a taxpayer, who is about to receive a tax advantage that he has not previously enjoyed—it is not a tax advantage really—to receive a tax equity that he has not previously enjoyed, to accept a phasing-in of that tax equity. In this way hardship may often be avoided in the case of tax increases, while the recipients of tax decreases receive their benefit by progressive stages, during which time they would be better off than they were before.

When I announced that the province of Ontario would take over the assessment function in 1970, I made it quite clear that the year 1970 would be a year of consolidation, training, education. It followed that very little concrete progress in the actual assessment of property will be made in 1970. We will, of course, make every effort to complete reassessment where isolated municipalities have not been reassessed.

For example, the town of Brampton, which is the only municipality in Peel county which

has not been reassessed at market value, will be reassessed in 1970, in order to complete the reassessment of the county of Peel. Other than the town of Brampton, there will be no reassessment during 1970 for taxation in 1971 in southern Ontario.

There are ultimately a number of ways in which the impact of reassessment can be modified. Before reassessment of the municipalities in the province is completed, the effects of these methods and the facility with which they may be operated will have been carefully studied in my department. Legislation will be introduced at the appropriate—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Some of those boys are pretty wet behind the ears!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order please.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Well, I suppose if she is asking $125,000 for it—

Mr. Lawlor: Is she getting it?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: That is what she has got it listed at. What would be a fair assessment if somebody has something listed at $125,000—$100,000 perhaps? It does not change the validity of what I have said that much.

Before reassessment of the municipalities is completed in the province, the effects of these methods and the facility with which they may be operated will have been carefully studied in other departments of government as well.

Mr. Sargent: What happens in the meantime?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: There will be no further reassessment, other than Brampton, until we have, in effect, the taxation remedies ready to counterbalance any further shift which will take place on reassessment.

We will introduce legislation at the appropriate time to give effect to the method which is found to be most suitable, and I think there will be a number of methods and they may well vary in different parts of the province.

Mr. Nixon: When does the minister expect those to come in?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: We have always talked about a five-year programme beginning on January 1. I would expect that this year will be a year of training and education —consolidation. I would expect that reassessing would start vigorously in 1971 and 1972, possibly finishing up in 1973 across the province, without those assessment notices—if I can put it the simplest possible way—being mailed. Without them going out to the Leader of the Opposition, for example.

The farm will be reassessed, really the farms all across the province will be reassessed, they will be totalled, and we will be able to look at the impact. This is the problem—

Mr. Nixon: Before the notice goes out?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Before the notice goes out. Then the taxation measures to counterbalance the shift will be developed, presumably in 1973 and both the—

Mr. Nixon: Certainly not in 1971.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: There is no way it would be possible really. Perhaps those assessment notices would be mailed in 1973 for taxation in 1974 at the same time the new taxing statute came into effect.

The problem in Mississauga—there are other problems in the province and I will come to those—is that there was no time. The roll in Mississauga was extended; it closed in November. I do not think the totals were known until December—or the effects were known. They were much too rushed for time, for which I am not blaming Mississauga.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, would the minister accept a question?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: I am not being political, but there are great inequities in our area, as you know. The levies have been made now. When you do an equalization to find out if there are inequities, the taxes having been paid, will there be a reciprocal payment of inequities back to the people?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: We are looking at some of those problems still. I have got some more serious than the ones in Bruce, I would have to tell you.

Mr. Sargent: But will there be a return of moneys to people suffering inequities?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: There could be.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Inevitably there will be cases where, in 1969—and this is the point of the member for Lakeshore — the municipally employed assessors will have arrived at the wrong values in assessing particular properties. Equally inevitably, although we

make every effort to keep such cases to a minimum, provincially employed assessors will also make mistakes in the future. There is an appeal procedure for dealing with these mistakes. We think the appeal procedures have been strengthened. The cases that we are concerned with at present, are those in which no mistake was made, but where the transition from undertaxation to a fair share of taxation causes a severe change.

The changes in the distribution of taxes between particular properties in municipalities like the town of Mississauga, demonstrate very clearly the necessity for reassessment. It is obvious that we should move as quickly as is reasonable, in an equitable sharing of the tax burden. We shall, therefore, direct our immediate efforts to designing a method of relief which will apply only in cases where relief is clearly desirable.

Although details of the method of mitigating tax increases have yet to be determined, I think it is fair to say that the government would seek to facilitate the maximum use of local knowledge and allow the maximum exercise of local discretion, in order to secure an efficient, and humane operation of the property tax system.

In addition to the problems in Mississauga, we are faced with a number of other "carry over" problems from 1969. There are shifts in taxation in York county and in that part of Waterloo county where it was reassessed. Most of the problems in Waterloo county, as a matter of fact, occurred several years ago, and arose not from reassessment, as my friend from Waterloo knows—arose not from reassessment, but from court cases.

In passing, you may be aware that the province took over from Metropolitan Toronto, the task of sorting out court cases affecting many, many, properties, the settlement of which could have very serious effects.

There are, of course, other problems that are related to assessment. We are studying the problem of loss of assessment in Blind River and the equalization problem occurring in Blind River because the mill closed. It passed to the municipality on January 1, and the municipality suffered a drop in assessment of $2.5 million, nearly 25 per cent, I suppose, of the total assessment; and the apportioning of funds for educational expenditures, district welfare, and homes for the aged, had all been done on the basis of the previously higher assessment.

A special committee is studying the question of the taxation of telephone undertakings and other special properties. The report of the committee on farm assessment and taxation is under active consideration.

After the recess then, sir, I expect to bring forward legislation to deal with a number of these problems, all of which I emphasize again, are "carry overs" from 1969. None of these problems were occasioned by the transfer of assessment to the province or by reassessment by the province. In fact, apart from the town of Brampton, reassessment by the province will not begin for at least a year in southern Ontario, and will probably not be in effect for taxation for another three years.

Mr. R. H. Knight (Port Arthur): Mr. Speaker, as I rise to take part in the throne speech debate, I would like to begin by extending my sentiments of respect for you, sir, in your position in the chair, for the wonderful courtesies that you have extended to me, especially since I left the Liberal Party. I have needed your help very much, and I have found it when I needed it. I would like to thank you and the members of your staff for the help you have given me.

I would like also to express my appreciation to The Department of Public Works for the lovely office it has now provided for me on the fourth floor. I will try to put it to good use.

I would also like to say that I have been very pleasantly surprised by the good treatment I have had from the Premier (Mr. Robarts) and the members of his cabinet. I feel that regardless of my non-party affiliation, Mr. Speaker, I have been treated as a representative of the 50 or 60,000 people in the Port Arthur riding, and whenever I brought a problem to any department of government, I have been very well received and well treated, and I thank them for that.

For this reason I was just a bit taken aback a couple of days ago, when one of the members of the government party, as he participated in this debate, dug his fangs into me at a time when I was not in the House. I am referring to the member for Fort William (Mr. Jessiman). I do not feel that I can allow such remarks to pass without some comment, Mr. Speaker. I certainly feel that he is entitled to express his opinion of me, however I just wonder whether we went to different schools. When I trained down in the States, they had what they called the eleventh commandment of the United States and we used to try to adhere to it as much as possible and, in some circles it is also referred to as MYOB.

However, in trying to analyze the hon. member's motivation for his comments about me, Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether he may not be believing some of the rumours that I may very well run against him in Fort William in the next election and has already started a campaign battle. Perhaps that might not be a bad idea.

Mr. Speaker, I represent an area that is an awful long way from the seat of government at Queen's Park, and we have people up there who have their specific problems, as people in other parts of the province do. I think what the people up there really expect from this government and from this House, Mr. Speaker, is some assistance in being able to hold their heads high, to be able to find the job they need and to earn a living, and somehow to be able to help their young to remain in the community instead of having to travel elsewhere in order to look for jobs.

What we need is industrial development, and of course I am not the first one to say it. I am very hopeful because the Speech from the Throne this session, Mr. Speaker, although it did not dwell at any great length on any particular issue, seemed to give more attention to the matter of northern development. And I am certainly hopeful that through whatever programme this government is going to come up with, one of the benefits is going to be better jobs.

I do have my qualms, though. In the last session I saw this government reach north and bring about a new city and earlier in this House I have, expressed my feelings about the manner in which that was done. In trying to assess what effect this has had on that city since that time, I would have to say that I feel, to some extent, it has knocked the heart out of the place. And, if you recall, I predicted that it would.

I do not say that it is going to stay that way, but I am very concerned at this point, because, even though I was an adversary of the method of implementation of the new city at the time, I have still tried to, in public and in the home riding, vociferously support a positive attitude about it. But I still find it difficult, when talking to many of the residents, who are very dubious, and many of these residents are people who opposed my position at the time. Well, I certainly hope that I will be proved wrong in the long run, sir.

I have something to say about development, Mr. Speaker, that is probably going to earn me no accolades in this House. It may very well turn off our Toronto members, but I just do not see that there are really any great incentive programmes that can be establish with a view to northern development that are going to pay off, until we find some way of counteracting the great natural built-in centres that this megalopolis Toronto and area already have.

It is pretty hard to talk a businessman into going 900 miles north when he can be right here in the major routes of transportation and right where he has a heavy market. You know, he has got his buyers, and he has got his supplies, and he has his motor transportation—everything. It is all right here, you see. And I think that until we reach a point where we establish quotas on the amount of industrialization that an area can take, you know, we have got to decide whether there is a breaking point for an area on industrial development.

When I look at the area of Toronto at the present time—I cannot help it, but I have got to say it—it reminds me of a hog, inasmuch as I hate to say it.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Oh, not a hog! Anything but a hog.

Mr. Knight: Well, I expected this. It is really a hog. It just seems to be very much like a hog. It has become a monster and it lies choking, wheezing and congested in its own mire. And although realizing the trouble it is in, it is not able to stop eating.

I just wonder whether those who allow this type of over-development to go on in one area of our province are not doing a great disservice to the other parts of the province; but what about the people who live here and are locked into this mire, with this pig. Mr. Speaker, as we all know, the more you put in one end, when you are referring to eating, the more that comes out the other and I just wonder how long it will be before a real good assessment is made of the sewage disposal system in this megalopolis.

You will recall last year, I extended an invitation to the members of this House to come and hear Mr. Bert Stollard, who is ombudsman for the York Ratepayers' Association. But unfortunately, there were so many committee meetings going on at the time, none of the members except myself were able to appear.

It is unfortunate because Mr. Stollard had a very well documented case on what is happening on sewage disposal in this city of Toronto and I will just repeat to you one

portion of this presentation that really impressed me. He claimed that he has all the statistics to back this up—referring to sewage disposal and treatment plants. He donned scuba-diving equipment to go down there, where most of us never have been and never want to be, to find out what was going on down there.

He was referring to the Humber River sewage treatment plant, and he claims that although that plant was built back in 1951 for a capacity of 45,000 people, it is now serving almost 700,000. So you might ask: "Well what is happening to the rest of it"?

Well, you know darn well what is happening to the rest of that effluent, it is going through the bypasses in the plant—he tells us at a rate of some 16 million gallons a day. And where is it going? Right smack into Lake Ontario. Now, Mr. Speaker, this is why I have to refer to this city as somewhat of a pig, or as a hog, or call it whatever you want to call it, poor thing.

I think that this area is over-industrialized. I think it is over-populated and I do not say that because I am jealous or I am resentful or anything else. I like Toronto and I like the people here and I like this area but I feel sorry for a lot of the people that have to live in this city.

How many people here have stood down at the corner of King and Yonge at 5 o'clock in the morning. I did it during an early morning trip for CHUM last year and I could not stand the stench, especially on a foggy morning. I thought of those poor people living up there over stores and so forth; how in the world do they live in this? What are they breathing?

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Everybody agrees with the member. Can he not go to a better subject?

Mr. Knight: Well, you know, they are choking; they are choking to death and yet, my point is this: I understand that although the Humber River sewage treatment plant is trying to service about one quarter of Metro Toronto, and it is doing it in an unsuccessful way. I have already pointed that out—

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): What way is this?

Mr. Knight: —according to statistics that we have—well it is overloaded. It is supposed to serve an area of 250,000 and right now it is taking care of 600,000, and I understand that nobody has tried to curtail the industrial development or any other kind of development that is going into that area. More high-rise apartments, and more industries, mean more effluent flowing down through there, and more back-ups, and the raw waste—

Mr. Ben: That is nonsense. The water that comes out of—

Mr. Knight: —from the normal sewers is going into the storm sewers, and some more of it is going into Lake Ontario. This area does not know when to stop.

Mr. Ben: The water that comes out of the Humber treatment plant—after it comes through there it is safe enough—

Mr. Knight: Well, I am sorry. I am trying to keep this down to 15 minutes and I realize that the hon. member has a chance to speak up for good old TO. And I am not talking down good old TO, I am only saying let us have some real honesty about what is going on here in this megalopolis and let us be fair with the people. You think that the average person on the street here in Toronto is happy about what is happening? About the air pollution, about the water pollution, about the difficulty he has getting to and from work? My goodness gracious, we all know how unhappy he is about that. And this is because you are over-developing the area and it is getting worse every day, every year, and nobody is big enough to stand up and control it to some extent.

Meanwhile, out in the country in eastern Ontario, western Ontario and northern Ontario, we are crying for exactly what this area has too much of. So I say "share the wealth" and I say "stop stuffing the hog", because the hog is going to burst one of these days.

Mr. Speaker, I would very much like to have the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) really investigate some of the things that I have brought forward tonight, particularly this reported fact about the Humber sewage treatment plant.

I would like him to tell us also, for example, where the raw sewage from this building goes. Does it go into Lake Ontario? Is it treated or what is going on? Maybe, we in this building, as we talk about pollution—water pollution—are contributing very strongly to the pollution of Lake Ontario.

Mr. Stollard—the ombudsman—was astounded at the apparent lack of information and the fact that government agencies at all levels do not seem to want to open this can of worms because they are afraid of the cost factor. Well, if the cost factor is bad

now, what is it going to be in two, three, four, five, ten or twenty years, if we allow this hog, with all due respect, to go on gorging itself.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Is the member saying that the Tories have polluted this province?

Mr. Knight: Well, I did not put it in those words. I am saying that whatever government is in power, if it is not trying to control this over-development to some extent, then that government is contributing to the pollution of the province.

Mr. Speaker, I am on my feet fighting for some industrial development in the north and this is why I am trying to point out that it is useless to suggest to industries, or even to offer them incentives to go north, when they can come here. If they can come here where they are going to get a better market, close to a transportation route and everything else they need to make a profitable industry, then they are going to come here until somebody says: "You are not coming here any more, you have surpassed the quota. We cannot take care of the pollution you put into the air, the pollution you put into the water, and the increased traffic congestion that you are producing."

The people of Toronto, or at least the councillors, are bound to say: "Oh my goodness, man, we need this industry to pay the taxes." But ask the people of Toronto. Are their taxes any less, with more and more industry and more and more development? No, their taxes are more and more.

Somebody is missing the boat here. I do not claim to be any authority on it but I would just like to present some of the thoughts that occur to me. I say share the wealth; you are "Big brother", and we, through all other parts of the province, are the little brothers. How about giving us a helping hand? It is as simple as that. We are not asking for too much, or for more than our share but simply for a fair share. And we say perhaps we can help you out with your problems at the same time because if you are over-eating, we up there are under-eating.

I think it is obvious that the solution of our problem is perhaps the solution to your problem but it is going to take an awful lot of honesty to accomplish this.

Mr. Gisborn: It is a pretty inert looking operation over there. They are not rising to the challenge; look at them. They are listening to what he has just said.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Is the hon. member rising to the challenge?

Mr. Knight: Mr. Speaker, the other problem up in northern Ontario is very obvious to all who live up there; it is the problem of isolation. Of course, to cure that problem we have to have transportation. We have to have more and better highways, and I could not put it any better than the Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce put it directly to the cabinet, the first week of this month, when they met with the cabinet here. Three of their six top priorities had to do with highway development. Need I say any more.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Where was the member?

Mr. Knight: The other problem is—Where was the minister?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I was there.

Mr. Knight: Congratulations. Were they able to handle themselves? Did they present a good case? Did they need me to hold their hand? Well, I was not here to hold their hand. You wanted me to sit there like a good little boy and say: "Sock it to 'em," eh?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: You were not here.

Mr. Knight: Listen, I have attended too many of those meetings, and heard too many of the fine courtesies going back and forth, to be overly impressed with what goes on at those meetings. I want to see some action. So I take this opportunity to underline what they told you at that time. If that does not suggest some interest as a representative, then I am sorry, but that is the interest I care to show at this particular time.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Right!

Mr. Knight: Mr. Speaker, we have got to find some way to recognize the service the people who go into the northern part of this province preform for this province as a whole. The average person down here is not interested in going up there. He says: "Go up there in that snow, in that cold, in that isolation? No way, man, I am down here close to the market where the bucks are." But there are people who do have the guts and the courage to go up there, and a lot of them have been up there for a good many years.

I wonder why we must go on allowing them to be penalized for living up there. They are penalized—every time they go to a store, every time they buy a gallon of gasoline. They are penalized, and some government one of these days is going to come along with a way of equalizing this thing—equalizing the cost factor, whenever possible; I do not say you can do it across the board.

If members will recall, this was one of the resolutions of the chamber of commerce people, that you undertake a transportation cost study to find out why it is costing us more. We all suspect it is the cost of freighting goods into the Lakehead. Perhaps this is one of the big hangups that is keeping us from getting the amount of industry we want. It is obvious to industry that perhaps too much of their overhead is going to be eaten away by the cost of transportation. It is a very key point. I think it is one of the best resolutions in here, even though it has not got a big P beside it. I think it is a very important point and I think it is about time that this government looked into that particular matter very, very seriously.

Mr. Speaker, I was disappointed with the throne speech. I expected that in a time of social and economic crisis that we have now, there would be more teeth in that throne speech; I expected more. Last year at the end of the year, when the vote of non-confidence in the budget came up, I voted with the government and I voted with the government at that time because I felt that no other regime had tackled more legislation or waded into more problems or tried to do more about more things than this regime had, and I could not see myself voting non-confidence. However, the throne speech let me down.

I got the impression from it that the government had said, "Gee, we did so much last year, for the next year or so let us coast along. At least for this particular session, let us sort of coast along and let the steam work down a little bit." So, Mr. Speaker, I am going to have to support the amendment of the hon. Leader of the Opposition when this matter comes to a vote.

I am not satisfied with what is proposed by the government and I do feel that on the matters of pollution, the housing crisis, as well as the matter of northern development—until I have seen something concrete by way of proposals coming from the government—I think I just have to register my concern that perhaps the government is going to coast along for a little while.

I just close by saying—and this may seem completely impertinent, but I am going to say it anyway, Mr. Speaker, while I am saying what I think—that I think the member for Quinte (Mr. Potter) is a great guy and I hate to see what is happening to him these days. I certainly hope that the government side will listen to him very carefully. This is an unusual man who has a big contribution to make to this House and inasmuch as I am not affiliated with any party, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say how much I admire what he has done, the courage that he has shown. I think that a man with this kind of conviction should not be put down. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Well, it does seem a little surreal to begin participation in the throne debate at this point, Mr. Speaker, but perhaps far more real than those who will follow me four or five hours hence when I have completed my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I may begin by—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): That will be the shortest speech you have ever made here, then.

Mr. Lewis: I may say that I do hope the Minister of Mines stays through the epic performance. His presence is always impish and a useful catalyst.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to echo the thoughts about the poor, deserted member for Quinte (Mr. Potter). There is, of course, a sinister crucifixion under way within the ranks of the Tory party for one of their members who dared to defy the elect. The Minister of Mines also—

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): He did all right.

Mr. Lewis: —had moments of autonomy. They were always couched in language so graciously antagonistic that he was able to aspire to his present post. The member for Quinte never learned to phrase things with such delicacy and he is on the way out, let alone up.

Mr. Speaker, in thinking of this debate and the party opposite—and that in itself is a difficult job—it was Disraeli who said—and I am using the best Tory of them all next to Edmund Burke—that a Conservative government is an organized hypocrisy. For two score and seven years the Ontario Conservatives have measured up to that dictum.

Never one to betray an adage of yore, our Progressive Conservative party, in the reigns

of George, and Leslie and John the Younger, cultivated cant to the level of an art form. Alas, Mr. Speaker, alas, it is no longer so. From an organized hypocrisy, the once proud Tories have descended to a disorganized rabble. How feeble are the deceptions now. Gone is the verve for counterfeit. So little fraud and guile. In its stead we see a party inert, reeling on the ropes of electoral defeat.

Never before has there been a throne speech, Mr. Speaker, so flaccid and so weak.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Overt hypocrisy.

Mr. Lewis: True, Mr. Speaker. It has engaged demand by the international institutes for nondescript documents, and the regional councils for effete prose, but as an introduction to the 1970s, nothing could be less appropriate.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): I think it is—

Mr. Lewis: And where have the government members been, where have the government members been during this raging debate?

Mr. Lawlor: Where, oh where?

Mr. Lewis: Eleven noble souls have spoken to empty listless rows, aroused only, I may say, by the member for Algoma (Mr. Gilbertson), with his epic speech on wolves, sex and other erotica. Eleven, Mr. Speaker, eleven of 68—16.2 per cent of the total government caucus.

Could this be systematic of the sickness, the political dysentery which saps their strength, their minds and their policy?

Mindless policy. No legislation to speak of, no useful ministerial statements, no attendance worthy of the name. It would appear that the present government has virtually conceded the game.

Indeed, you know, Mr. Speaker, by way of the whip's office, and I must thank the whip for this, there came into my hands a most extraordinary document called, "Schedule of attendance in the House, Thursday, March 19, 1970," and it appears to be a schedule of attendance in the House for the Progressive Conservative Party. It is most extraordinary, Mr. Speaker—not only do they fail to attend but they schedule their absences, a quite remarkable feat when we think of it. And they come in shifts, Mr. Speaker—they come from 2 to 4, and from 4 to 6. Then there is a column called "day off." Oh, how some of us would wish days off.

May I say, Mr. Speaker, that some of them over there, who should be on their day off, are here, and we are not very pleased about it. Alas, some of you who are here should well be on your day off—of that there seems little question.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Was it not the session before last when the member took a couple of months off?

Mr. Lewis: I am very pleased to see the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) was to be on his day off, and the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) was away on a speaking engagement. Well, Mr. Speaker, we commend this document for your interest, but—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Too many whips. That is why none of them show.

Mr. Lewis: It is notable that there is in the corner of the page, a fourth column to which I should draw attention lest anyone feel the government might be in trouble. There is a column entitled, "on call." On call for today, Mr. Speaker, should you have any difficulty, the hon. Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld), the hon. Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman), the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), and the hon. Minister of Justice (Mr. Wishart). We shall watch the patterns of your shifts, gentlemen, in the future.

Now even Parliament, for those cynical elect across the way, has become a nuisance, a nuisance where issues are avoided but leprechauns are saluted. I well remember how the government howled when some of us suggested that this Legislature lacked relevance. Mr. Speaker, this government behaves as though the House were some kind of oppressive burden to be borne stoically, but not well.

Well, gentlemen, you have demeaned politics long enough; the day of reckoning approaches and when it comes we shall revive Parliament, Mr. Speaker, as the most exciting fulcrum of public affairs. There will be massive reforms of procedure, that might be noted at this point. All the nonsensical formalities will go, matters of urgent public importance will be debated when they are urgent and important. The ministry will be present and actively engaged; backbenchers will have a role as active as the front bench, committees will be staffed, powerful and pertinent; legislation will flow continuously—that will be a change in this House. The galleries will be allowed to applaud and to

demonstrate. Mr. Speaker, if it is permanence you seek, I suggest it be achieved before 1971.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Sixty-seven in '67.

Mr. Lewis: For almost two years—we will come to that. At this point, gentlemen, your sinews of power are so frail that, were an election called tomorrow, even St. George, St. Patrick, and Peel North, would be nip-and-tuck battles. One thing is certain, the Conservative Party of Ontario will never again form a majority government, in this decade.

You know, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Mines need not worry, his seat is lost. Others are still in doubt. When one is sure of what is to occur, there need not be an anxiety.

It is worth mentioning to the stalwarts on the opposite side, that the Conservative Party need lose only nine seats—just think of it for a moment, gentlemen—nine seats, and power is gone. Nine seats. Is there anyone in this Legislature, beyond the most infatuated blue Tory zealot, who honestly believes that the government will lose less than nine seats? It is impossible. It is arithmetically impossible, it is electorally impossible, and it is immoral. I need not even remnd them of the lesson of Middlesex South.

Of course, what makes the current situation different from anything of the last many years, Mr. Speaker, is the depth of public scorn and disaffection. There was a time when parties could fall from grace, as the Conservative Party has occasionally, and then recover via this reform or that. But at this point, Mr. Speaker, redemption for the Tories is impossible.

Frankly, the feeling in the electorate goes beyond any individual issue. True, it is reflected through individual issues—and OHSIP was the classic example—but there now exists at bottom a sense, a tone, a feel of disillusion about the Progressive Conservative government which can never be erased. The circumstances are irretrievable.

Mr. Jessiman: We will.

Mr. Lewis: For almost two years, this Conservative government has brought disaster upon disaster upon itself.

I am going to deal with the Minister of Energy and Resources Management shortly, because he is one of the many, many reasons —indeed, you need only look at your front bench to see some of the others. God knows, the government has demonstrated a knack for self-destruction, for absurdity, fatuity, inanity, parody and irrationality which borders on the supernatural. However, when all is said and done, it is at once more simple and more direct than that.

The Conservative Party in Ontario, Mr. Speaker, has stretched its social philosophy to the breaking point. There is nowhere else for you to go, gentlemen, nothing left for you to do. We have entered the era of the public interest and the government's is the party of the private interest. It is a terminal affliction. It is a terminal affliction of Toryism.

Every time a choice must be made, every time the crunch is felt, this government opts for the private interest. But it cannot and will not be tolerated. And now that the government has pushed its own convictions to their outer limits, there must be a change.

You see, Minister of Correctional Services, to adapt is impossible, but to perish is inevitable.

There have been frantic, last-minute efforts to shore up the wreckage. Mostly, because it could not be expressed through policy, it was expressed through personality and, specifically, there were cabinet changes.

Health, you will recall—that the argumentative and testy ancient—was replaced by a young, freshly-scrubbed, cholesterol-conscious, anti-pot, after-dinner speaker.

Energy Resources—a procrustean Neanderthal was replaced by a buttondown, engaging, Burlington lawyer.

Financial and Commercial Affairs—a sad and weary veteran—was replaced by a smoothly acid partisan, earnest and dutiful, who repeats to himself his favourite theme every day on the way to work, "It's the real thing. Oh, yes." Appealing perhaps, Mr. Speaker, but hardly decisive. It will take a lot more than that.

And, when thinking what more it will take, one is moved to ask, what has happened to the Prime Minister of Ontario? I assume he has taken a gentle departure for a moment or two—to which he is entitled, of course—at the end of a long day. But it does not prevent me from reflecting, Mr. Speaker, that there was a time when the first citizen assumed a formidable presence indeed. When occasion demanded, he could and did take a bead on the opposition and zeroed in lustily, impressively. He enjoyed the heat of exchanges in debate and was ever-ready to rally the side in the face of pagan assault.

How the mighty have drifted. All the sting has gone from the Premier. A weary fatigue

seems to settle round his shoulders, driving him lower and lower into his seat. Where once there was fire, there is listlessness. Where once there was sterner stuff, there is lassitude.

Mr. Gisborn: Look at the load he has to carry.

Mr. Lewis: Where once there was leadership, there is petulance.

The Premier's throne speech was a shadow of his former style. Weak and discursive, he lost interest in it after only an hour and a half, while his apostles chattered in the corridors. His public statement on drugs was amorphous, his statement on pollution was soporific, his question of privilege yesterday was, at best, defensive, at worst, unconvincing. His attacks on the white paper have begun to flag, to pale, to erode into a sort of mouldy repetition.

Could it be, Mr. Speaker, that the mettle is settled? Could it be that London Life has more appeal than London North? Could it be that the spectre of defeat casts a long shadow? Or is the knowledge that around the court, baronial ambitions are seething? Those covetous eyes of "Bob of Welch," and "Bill of Davis," and "Al—or Bert—of Lawrence," and "D'Arcy of McKeough," and "John of White," and "Charlie of MacNaughton,"—even, it is whispered, "George of Gomme"—are all gazing insatiably at the neighbouring throne.

The Premier had the audacity to talk of the night of the long knives. Well might he do so, Mr. Speaker. I see a rapier on his left, a stiletto on his right, a sword at his side, a sabre at his back and a dagger at both flanks. It is not a question of the number of blades, but rather, who will Brutus be?

You know, Mr. Speaker, in the final analysis, it makes little difference; it makes little difference because the inheritance will be slim. When all is said and done, reinforced by the Premier's apparent indifference, the government continues to defend the indefensible in the face of urgent public priorities.

I reassert the theme, in the struggle between private interest and public interest, the public is always expendable. And that, more than anything else, is the Achilles heel which will bring down this government. The evidence abounds, and I shall choose a few examples, if I may. In the interests of time I have eliminated a good many.

But first take the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) for a moment. His government's record on the Dunlop affair is servile and base. Now that the wretched episode recedes from public view, perhaps I might be allowed to put a swift epitaph on the record. First, as far as this government is concerned, it is entirely just for any company operating in the province of Ontario to reduce its workforce, or close its plant entirely, without any reasonable notice to government or to the employees. You have adopted that, you enlightened nobles over there, as a matter of fixed social policy. Fawning and cowering at the hem of the corporate garment, you see no public rights at all. You could never dream of challenging Dunlop's decision. You would never think of forcing such a company to justify its decision. Government compliance is bought at the price of a two-hour chat with the Minister of Labour. Was there ever a man so easily seduced?

Second: not once, Mr. Speaker, through the entire event did this government take seriously the proposal of conducting a feasibility study on keeping the plant open, by whatever means, venture, or partnership. You were devious in the Legislature. You dissembled to the press. You succumbed willingly to the dictates of the company as conveyed to you one month ago.

In the 48 hours prior to Dunlop's second announcement confirming the shutdown, you placed one call to the president, Neville Procter, on the basis of which unreturned call the Premier conveyed deep and abiding concern. And the government's whole performance was an absolute disgrace.

You know, Mr. Speaker, on March 12 last, one week ago today—indeed, it is more now than a week ago today—the Premier wrote a letter, which has just come to my attention, to the president of the Local 132 of the United Rubber Workers—a local, Mr. Speaker, in which the Minister of Mines and northern development holds a membership. He worked at the Dunlop plant in the days of 1950 in the summer when he was a young law student, and not even membership in the cabinet could evoke one jot of interest from the cynicism on the other side.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: That is not true.

Mr. Lewis: What does the minister mean, "It is not true"? Everything that occurred demonstrates it. The Premier wrote a letter to Mr. Japp and he said:

> I have your telegram expressing the views of Local 132 of the United Rubber Workers about the announced plans of the Dunlop Rubber Company to close its Toronto division plant.

I understand the feelings of your members and appreciate the position you put forward. At the same time, I believe that a businessman must have the right to decide what is best for his company.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Succinctly put. Right from the horse's mouth.

Mr. Lewis: It is not only objectionable in its philistine social philosophy, Mr. Speaker, it is so deceitful in its content. "The businessman must have the right to decided what is best for his company." What does he think it is, some corner grocer? Some shoe repair shop in the middle of a block, pushed out by a supermarket?

This is the Dunlop company we are talking about, Mr. Speaker, not "a businessman." The Dunlop company which, in 1968, did more than $1 billion worth of sales and whose total assets in the same year verged on $1 billion—"A businessman who has the right to decide what is best for his company."

The government of Ontario, through The Department of Labour, is co-operating fully to assist the employees to find jobs, take early retirement, or obtain retraining. We shall continue to do our utmost to assist those who will be dislocated. Thank you for expressing your views directly to me.

Yours very truly,
John P. Robarts.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Incredible.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: That is better than the fraudulently political advice they got from you people.

Mr. Lewis: You agree with it, do you?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I said that is better than the fraudulently political advice that the union people got from you.

Mr. Lewis: Fraudulently political advice? What fraudulent political advice? Would you care to tell us?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: If you do not know it, you should. You should ask—

Mr. Lewis: Well, then, to what are you referring? Are you referring to the suggestion that the workers might participate in ownership of the plant?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: No.

Mr. Lewis: No? That was the only piece of advice that was ever given and it is a worthy piece of advice.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Nonsense.

Mr. Lewis: Because the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, during the throne speech contribution of the member for Riverdale (Mr. J. Renwick), did not even understand the limits of the collective bargaining process. Every piece of advice that was given to those workers on behalf of this party was given in good faith, in the most difficult position those workers ever faced, or ever will.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I do not believe that any more than you do.

Mr. Lewis: The sole role of government—its only marginal interest in the 700 unemployed workers—was to salute the protocols of Manpower retraining, which we all know to be mere forms and devices, especially when it is avowed federal policy to create unemployment, and your policy to defend the unemployment, as indicated during the prequestion period this afternoon.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Now what was the member's advice about Manpower retraining?

Mr. Lewis: The advice about Manpower retraining was simply to utilize it for what it was worth, but by all means spend the initial energies in keeping that plant open.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Is the member sure that was the advice?

Mr. MacDonald: What sort of innuendo are you feeding on? All right, let us hear it.

Mr. Lewis: You are quite ready to accept the limits of collective bargaining agreements without passing any legislation ordering at least six months advance disclosure, when a plant like Dunlop in Toronto, or Murray-Selby Shoes in London intends to close down. To do otherwise would, from your government's point of view, constitute an unheard-of abridgement of free enterprise.

I may say, Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the workers at Dunlop, that it was not all in vain because, in terms of what they did and the efforts of the member for Riverdale and the subsequent intervention of the member for Middlesex South (Mr. Bolton), Murray-Selby Shoes was put on the firing line. The member for London South (Mr. White) and the Premier moved in, in a fashion which they would never have done even 10 days ago. At least there is some marginal reawakening in what has happened.

Mr. MacDonald: Sometimes you can move even the immovable.

Mr. Lewis: Fifth, Mr. Speaker, at no time was the minister moved to contact the parent company in England, or to examine the relationship between Dunlop company and its subsidiaries in and around Toronto, or to forestall the effects on industry by Cosmos Limited, or to inspect the effects of Ontario Hydro's purchase of conveyer belts from a Japanese competitor, or to table in the House any documents or material which were accumulated and in the public interest.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, that some of us never really believed that the government would contemptuously dismiss the whole episode. We were naive and we were wrong. Yesterday the Premier threw in the word "hysterical" as descriptive of something that was said or done on this side. How typical of Tories to feel that emotion is unlovely and uncomfortable and that only sterile and antiseptic responses qualify for approval.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, just to put it on the record, that the NDP response on this issue can only be described as "restrained" compared to the fight we will collectively wage if it ever happens again.

A final thought. Ten days ago the Premier hurled the oath "socialism" at us, when we pressed for action on Dunlop. We welcome the epithet. If the Premier really thinks that Ontario can be polarized on the issue of the arbitrary right to evict 700 workers and their families then let us take it to the people and test his assumption.

Now take the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells). He, too, is ensnared by the steel trap of Conservative philosophy. His OHSIP scheme, as everyone knows, is catastrophically deficient. But month after month passes and nothing can be done. The premium level cannot be reduced because federal moneys are needed to pursue Tory private goals of new office buildings and EIO loans. The double billing cannot be removed because the private interest of the doctors' lobby must be met. The bureaucratic maze cannot be resolved because the private concern of 31 insurance companies is sacrosanct.

In every instance the private interest dominates the public good, and the Minister of Health trots about the province entreating groups to keep out socialism.

Again, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister of Health and the Premier of Ontario want to polarize Ontario's electorate on the issue of OHSIP, then we will give them a 10-seat handicap, amongst which, however, Mr. Speaker, will not be Scarborough North, because we regard it as our most predictable gain in Metropolitan Toronto.

Take the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), Mr. Speaker. If ever there was an avowed partisan, it is the provincial Treasurer. Almost as an article of faith, imbued with a sort of religious mysticism, the Treasurer defends the private domain against every infidel who would storm the battlements. But where has all this misplaced heroism brought him? Flailing about like some mindless Don Quixote, the Treasurer launched an attack on the white paper which made his former phrases like "fiscal nightmare" seem chaste by comparison. John Bulloch and Colin Brown eyed their mentor with reverence and the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) positively swooned—he rushed off to Japan.

Bringing the Premier quickly into the fold, the Treasurer and the first citizen together championed the small businessman, fulminated against Ottawa, and burned incense for those earning between $10,000 and $14,000 per year. Ah, the province was bathed in tears, Mr. Speaker.

In the process—no, I will not deal with the minister from Bellwoods (Mr. Yaremko), my subject tonight is serious—in the process, the government touched barely at all on the taxpayers for whom Edgar Benson's exemptions are inadequate. And it is worth pointing out, Mr. Speaker, that they number 2,993,112 Ontarians—93.6 per cent of the taxpayers in this province were not touched by our friends in the treasury benches opposite and then you went on to your calculated and systematic scuttling of tax reform for Ontario.

It was not to last, was it? There was that secret meeting, Mr. Speaker, that took place on a Wednesday at the end of February—at midnight, some say—in the Premier's home in London, when the three elves, the Premier, and the Treasurer and the Minister of Revenue, got together and decided that their sordid little plot had failed and the ship was about to sink. The basis for the next election was obviously not to be found in the irrelevance of that attack. Indeed, the irrelevance of such attacks are constantly noted.

I am reminded, Mr. Speaker, that the Treasurer too once warned the citizenry against socialism. My leader recalls that famous speech in Exeter on September 1, 1966—perhaps some members do not recall it, but when in 1966, just prior to the 1967 election, the Treasurer said, and I quote:

> It is my opinion that the forces of socialism—and I may be charitable when I

continue to call it socialism—are actively at work in their own particularly destructive manner.

Mr. Breithaupt: Surely not in Exeter?

Mr. Lewis: He then went on to cite the NDP as the socialist party in Ontario. An incisive man, the Treasurer, because, "let me assure you," he said, "if you will accept some assurances from me, the sole philosophy of socialism, or Marxism, or whatever you may call it, is the destruction of those fundamental things we have been brought up to believe," he concluded.

An hon. member: Amen.

Mr. Lewis: "Fundamental things." Fundamental things, by some small concern on our part for the 93.6—

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Marxism.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: I have been kind up to this point.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Is the member a Marxist or not?

Mr. Lewis: I beg the minister not to provoke me.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Look who is talking. Is the hon. member a Marxist? Is the member for Beaches-Woodbine (Mr. Brown) a Marxist?

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Ignoramus ape!

Mr. Lawlor: Stay while you are ahead.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: He will not answer a simple question.

Mr. Martel: Is the minister a fascist?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: No, I am not.

Mr. Martel: Assure the House. Document it.

Mr. Lewis: Just three weeks ago, Mr. Speaker, on the issue of the white paper, while my leader was speaking, the Premier, no doubt in the interests of continuity between the days of Exeter and the days of Queen's Park, described basic tax reform as socialism. He was vocal and irritated. On the other hand, the member for York South obviously enjoyed the exchange, and I am certain that the member for York South would want me to convey to the government, again, that if the Premier wishes to polarize Ontario by defining socialism as redistributing income through the tax system, then we are ready, able and eager to do battle.

Mr. MacDonald: Not the hypocrisy of Stanfield.

Mr. Lewis: Now we take to the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough). Here is a man presiding over the chaotic dismemberment of local, often of regional, government in Ontario, and that is only the half of it. I see his cherubic countenance peering over the third benches.

Most major urban organization is in equal shambles, yet when we ask for some special emphasis on municipal economic planning, the minister pelts the NDP with charges of socialism and throws in the violation of local autonomy for good measure. Well, we know what that is. We identify that as vainglorious braggadocio, that is what it is. Or to put it somewhat differently, it is just a little self puffery.

The minister, Mr. Speaker, simply cannot be allowed to proceed without a provincial land-use plan, without fierce and effective subdivision controls, without regard to the calamities of urbanization, and without some sense of what his recklessness is doing to our environment.

Tonight was an excellent example of the exercise in unreality to which this minister is given. So-called analyses of assessment practice, not taking into account for one moment the ability to pay, not taking into account for one moment the services on which the assessment should be levied. He is a man possessed with protecting the private interest and turning the other cheek wherever a public demand is felt. If it is felt by government that this, too, is good antisocialist fighting, let us begin.

Mr. Speaker, we could go on indefinitely. We could deal with the Minister of Mines, whose concessions to private mining companies to process outside Canada appear to exceed his concessions to private mining companies to process inside Canada. One wonders about the juncture of the private and the public interest.

The Minister of Mines has an enormous field to plough, he recognizes that. He is in charge of northern affairs, he has taken upon himself the role of ombudsman for the province of Ontario. He is a man of modest ambition, a man of very limited horizons, a man who may indeed be a master for his works.

The Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) could be dealt with in his refusal to stop Spadina, although he has received a serious repudiation tonight. Not nearly so serious as the devastating attack launched against the member for Scarborough East (Mr. T. Reid) by his colleague the member for Downsview (Mr. Singer), but then rosy-cheeked academics do have these problems.

One could speak a little about the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis), but then one would have to be poignantly charitable. This minister, Mr. Speaker, views his system as one that can sink or swim. This minister has completely abandoned—one might even say betrayed—whatever is useful in the Hall-Dennis report. Not once, from this minister, Mr. Speaker, do we ever get a sense in this Legislature of a philosophy of education. Never, throughout the province of Ontario, is there articulated a framework within which education can function and so it leads our educational system to a bleak dependence on the productive process, and the public interest is betrayed.

Everywhere the same pattern. It is a party philosophically addicted to the preservation of certain restricted rights. There is no room for the public weal in the Tory's exclusive preserve.

Nowhere is this more evident, Mr. Speaker, than in the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. His is the most inflated, overestimated portfolio in government. Of course, people took heart when the cabinet shuffle took place, but then they also took heart when the renaissance succeeded the dark ages. These things occur.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): A change of headlines.

Mr. Lewis: Right. A change of face, Mr. Speaker, does not a policy make.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): You keep coming back to Halton West.

Mr. Lewis: Oh, I enjoyed my meeting in Halton West. I had the sensation that we scored almost as well in Halton West as Stanfield did for the Conservatives the night before.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You had 50 people, I had 500.

Mr. Lewis: But a change of face does not a policy make, Mr. Speaker, and in the field of environmental defence I submit that the government is every bit as bankrupt, defeated and impotent as it was in the black days of Frontenac-Addington. In fact, things are measurably worse. If we cannot feel a sense of purpose from the new minister there is little left to hope for.

Mr. Speaker, it is said that few men progress except as they are pushed along by events, and for this minister, and this government, the most compelling events leave no mark whatsoever.

While the minister is here—and he can interrupt me if he wishes—let me, while he is here recite the litany. There was the fiasco of Domtar—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What fiasco?

Mr. Lewis: The $1,000 fine, for a company of that size. A $1,000 fine—obviously an object lesson.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The member missed the point.

Mr. Lewis: Obviously an object lesson to all the other 32 pulp and paper companies that they would never be taken to court for their consistent pollution, and, if they were taken to court, it was a frivolity in any event.

It has been suggested in the press that the minister may inflate the fine level to $5,000 a year, or $5,000 a case—now there is something to strike terror into the heart of Domtar.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: One can see. One can see their policy.

Mr. MacDonald: Everybody else in Ontario has missed the point too. That is what the ministry should realize.

Mr. Lewis: Then there is the case of Eddy Forest Products. Mr. Speaker, the most recent wrinkle occurred a little earlier this week when Eddy Forest Products pleaded guilty; the sentence has been delayed to May 4 when, no doubt, another $500 will be levied against them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh no.

Mr. Lewis: Oh, the minister thinks it might be $1,000, I see.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Lewis: Well, it is a pretty penurious firm that will find it difficult to locate the money. The reality, of course, is that Eddy Forest Products has had the most objectionable history in pollution of almost any single company in the province.

Mr. MacDonald: Collusion here.

Mr. Lewis: —and indeed collusion by government. In fact, loath that I am to suggest it, this is one of the cases where patronage is so obvious that it offends. Mr. Speaker, Eddy Forest Products, for months, was never taken to court by the Ontario Water Resources Commission and it was only through the efforts of private citizens that the case was brought at all.

The company was finally found guilty in June, 1969, and had to pay a $500 fine. In the process it undertook to install anti-pollution devices worth only $80,000 in October, 1969. October, 1969, came and went. The Ontario Water Resources Commission was again approached by the private citizens group and at the end of January, 1970, your branch finally moved in—it is now March, 1970. And the sentence will not be handed down until May 4, 1970. Now what in God's name is your government going to do in the face of consistent flouting and violation on the part of an individual company?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They happen to be spending a lot of money right now to treat their waste.

Mr. Lewis: It is a most peculiar thing. Let me say, Mr. Speaker, that the government should say to Eddy Forest Products Limited: "You install your anti-pollution device or get out. We will employ your work force. Indeed we will set up a crown corporation and establish ourselves in your field." There will be no loss of manpower. We are—

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Nationalize everything. Now we are getting into socialism. Here comes socialism.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: Now there we are. Now we have the crunch. You are quite prepared to allow Eddy Forest Products Limited to engage in a sort of perpetual erosion of man because it is a private enterprise and therefore it is consonant with your philosophy.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: What nonsense.

Mr. Lewis: There is a good deal of corruption in that position, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Gisborn: They have had 30 years to do it and have not moved an inch.

Mr. Lewis: And what about phosphates, Mr. Speaker? What about phosphates and the bravado of this minister? There is still no conceivable right to delay, as the member for Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr) in our group has shown time and time again.

What about the air pollution over Sudbury? And the extraordinary facts which were brought to the floor of this Legislature in a comparative way by the member for Sudbury East. The government is going to turn Sudbury itself into a kind of T. S. Eliot wasteland and it is doing it quite systematically. They are granting a licence to Falconbridge to pollute such as has been granted to no other company on the north American continent by an official agency of government. This absurdity of a five-year plan to reduce levels 55 per cent.

And what of the new areas, Mr. Speaker? Again my colleagues have raised them in this House—mercury poisoning, pesticides, herbicides. Where are the initiatives? Where are the initiatives being taken in the areas put forward by the member for Yorkview (Mr. Young) about automobiles and their obvious pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The member has not been doing his homework.

Mr. Lewis: I would like to find out, Mr. Speaker, why it is that the OWRC is affected by decrepitude—an abdication of responsibility in one instance after another. The OWRC is a blighted hope, Mr. Speaker. It is a bitter failure. It has become the pawn of special birthrights; those who would defy it are allowed immunity; those who would use it are scorned. How else would you explain Eddy Forest Products? How else do you explain the fiasco at Lakefield School? How is that in any sense conscionable? How else to explain the delay on the Kawartha Lakes? How else do you explain Formosa Spring brewery?

I picked up a headline from the Toronto *Telegram* a couple of days ago which said: "John Robarts raps municipalities on accepting pollution-prone firms."

> Municipalities that accept new industry when it causes serious pollution were criticized by Premier John Robarts here last night. The Premier said, "There is now general recognition of the relationship between industrialization, urbanization and environmental pollution. For example, few municipalities will reject a new industry on the basis that it might seriously impair the quality of life of the community and damage the physical environment."

Do you never check with opinion?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Sure do!

Mr. Lewis: Are there ever any channels cleared between you? Does the minister not realize that exactly what the Premier is objecting to is exactly what the OWRC approved in the case of Formosa Spring brewery in Barrie?

An hon. member: No, it is unloading the cost on the citizens too.

Mr. Lewis: Exactly. Unloading the cost on the citizen. The Premier makes a great many brave statements but the reality is that in the field of Energy and Resources Management, in the field of pollution control, the minister is an abject failure. He is promenading about the province in an effort to make words substitute for the most urgent action which is required. But let me tell you, my friend, it is not working. And it is not impressing anyone. And is having no systematic effect on environmental control at all, at all, at all.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The member could not be more wrong.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: He is only going after the minister because he does a good job.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: I will not pursue that any further. I will say, Mr. Speaker, that that is only the basic symptom of something far more profound and damaging in its implication.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Spread the revolution.

Mr. Lewis: The Progressive Conservative Party, Mr. Speaker—

An hon. member: We really have him roused.

Mr. Lewis: Cool down, cool down! The minister is going to be subject to many attacks until he begins to produce, and he ought to learn to roll with the punches.

Then what happens? The Progressive Conservative Party, Mr. Speaker, has declared war on the environment of south central Ontario. In 20 years, Mr. Speaker, this will not be a fit place to inhabit.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is the member's big headline.

Mr. Lewis: The essential condition of man, that is his humanity—if that is understood on the other side—will be totally denied by surroundings both hostile and barren. Systematically, through deliberate inaction, reinforced by scorn for public need, this government is scuttling every natural resource which might make life worth living in our manic urban society, present and future.

What we do not already pollute, Mr. Speaker, we open to ecological disaster a generation hence. What we do not now exploit, we leave to private plunder. We protect almost nothing. In the great environmental struggle between public and private rights, the public rights are going.

Now it may be that for some technology is the pursuit of happiness; but as a public policy it is intolerable. There must be some dimension to the lives of people which gives expression to spontaneity, which is liberating and free and related to natural phenomena. We have so debased the quality of life in our urban society that my colleague from Lakeshore suggested it be called, "The whispers of ecstasy"—and I like that rather better than the quality of life."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Did he really say that? The member likes that better, does he?

Mr. Lewis: In our urban society, it must be a precondition, a public priority, to conserve and to enrich the surrounding environment. The minister had better tell his administrative assistant that he too should contain himself when under attack.

Somewhere, somehow, Mr. Speaker, an antidote to the industrial nightmare must be found, and it is an antidote which must be found in many of the departments of government. And what I have said, I might say, I have not said lightly, Mr. Speaker. The lead time is disappearing for this government and the government cares not one jot. In the process its behaviour is ruinous. Now, I appear, and in a sense I regret it, to have—

Mr. H. L. Rowntree (York West): The member appears to be guided by public opinion in the galleries.

Mr. MacDonald: On this side it is at least more hopeful than across there.

Mr. Lewis: Well, when we come to power, interventions such as those from the galleries will be welcomed. Alas, under the present circumstances, they are out of order. But in any event, it is interesting that both on the floor and in the upper recesses, the point is getting through.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Why does the member not pick up the level of this a bit?

Mr. Lewis: The minister will get his chance. We had put all our speakers up and then

suddenly eight appeared. Now we are winding up.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: I have only a few further observations.

Mr. MacDonald: A simple man will ask a simple question.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: No simple reply, though.

Mr. Lewis: Now I would like to document this as carefully as I can, Mr. Speaker, and systematically as I can, and I am glad the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Minister of Energy and Resources Management are here to correct me.

Point No. 1: The Niagara escarpment is for all practical purposes lost and devastated. Now, except for a few parcels which the government has acquired, it has entirely abandoned the Gertler report. It was submitted in June, 1968, it was released in October, 1969, it is now April, 1970. The time that he talks about is almost half gone. There is no way, Mr. Speaker, of quantifying the lands over the intervening months. This government did not even—and particularly these two ministers—set up the Niagara escarpment secretariat which Gertler and his committee saw as indispensable to preserving whatever land could be preserved in the process of winning the escarpment for public use.

Mr. Gisborn: $200 you promised in—

Mr. Lewis: Everything else depended on that secretariat in the broad strategy of preservation, and without it the recommendations are a dead letter. I daresay, and I would be pleased to be proved wrong, that Gertler has never been asked to be head of that secretariat, indeed I daresay that Gertler has not been approached since his report came down, because his report made suggestions which were in the realm of the public good and that did not qualify for the private interests.

Now, this is the most gross violation of public need yet revealed in this field, Mr. Speaker. I remind you very quickly, sir, that what we were to have was complete control, which means title, to 55,000 acres for $18.5 million over four years.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Just $18.5 million.

Mr. Lewis: Just $18.5 million. Does the minister regard that as a significant sum?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Yes, I do.

Mr. Lewis: Right. Well, the minister is so right, and in regarding it as a significant sum, he reveals to us on this side of the House that our assertion that the Gertler report has been abandoned is an accurate one.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: The government was to take selected control, which simply meant getting defined rights in the land for $13 million over six years. It was to acquire environmental control of over 300,000 acres at low cost; the whole thing involved $31.5 million spread over an eight-year period. Now, averaging it, you know that comes to $3.9 million a year, and in terms of the extravagance of this government, that is an inconsequential amount and it would have meant the preservation of the entire escarpment. I remind you, Mr. Speaker, of the significance of priority. Professor Gertler in his report wrote:

> The approach to priorities in this study arises out of the nature of the escarpment, a unique and irreplacable resource of high recreational and amenity value. In the nature of things, action to preserve the escarpment, where it is under the kind of pressure that will destroy its essential qualities, will have to be taken quickly if it is to be effective.

And he goes on to say, Mr. Speaker, that it is suggested that control of Priority 1 lands be treated as a matter of the greatest public urgency. Well, the government did not treat it as a matter of the greatest public urgency, it simply abandoned it.

The report goes on to point out that the mining interests that are available, always compete for land in the same area where the recreation, in fact, is most intense. Now, Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the member for Hamilton East, pointed out a couple of days ago that your whole policy on quarries and on gravel pits and on mining generally was defunct, that it had no teeth; that you were ravaging the escarpment with every passing week; that you have now postponed a decision for another four months. Many of the people involved in the escarpment procedures have indicated that it is one of the greater and more unhappy ironies that the Minister of Mines is setting the groundwork for the human use of natural resources in the entire escarpment area.

Worse still, Mr. Speaker, the Gertler report assigned no priority to the movement of the United States population, and the pressure on existing living space. But in associated papers which we can get our hands on, like

the one on the parameters of recreational travel in Ontario which Wolfe has done, it demonstrates that in the years for which figures are available most recently, between three and four to one is the ratio of people of American origin who would use this vast human resource and are apparently to be denied it forever by a government which has abandoned its concept.

You know, the repudiation of the escarpment is unconscionable, Mr. Speaker. What might have saved vast sections of the population from sterile and depressed existences will now be sequestered by private speculators. Had we acted immediately, much could have been saved, and even now there is a little time but the loss due to the delay is irreparable.

I suppose the death knell was announced when the report was tabled in that little quote from the Premier in the frontispiece. He said:

> While we welcome the report, I should make it clear that its release does not imply government acceptance of the recommendations. The decisions regarding implementation will have to be taken in the light of a wide range of factors and in concert with consideration of other programme priorities of the government.

Mr. MacDonald: It sounds like the federal Liberals on Walter Gordon's report.

Mr. Lewis: Well, it sounds like the private interest is to be acceded to in every instance where there is a conflict with the public need, that is what it sounds like.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: Something you will have to do to protect yourself. If this government were serious, you would move in and you would implement every single clause and recommendation in the Gertler report overnight. Immediately.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: The escarpment will be saved.

Mr. Lewis: Why does the minister not let me get on, so I can finish?

The outlook is even more gloomy. The pressure of industrial expansion is like a holocaust in some parts of this province, Mr. Speaker. The simple space in which to move diminishes on a per capita basis with every passing day while the demand escalates geometrically; it will be 40 times its present level by the year 2000.

That brings me to point No. 2, the Bruce Trail, another fetish of the government. An inspired creation by voluntary public effort, to make successful a 400-mile trail from Queenston to Tobermory.

Well today, March 20, 1970, the continued existence of this extraordinary asset is also in critical jeopardy, because of the lack of policy of your government. Incredibly enough, Mr. Speaker, the government will not acquire the simple 10-feet easements as recommended by Gertler, nor the remaining links, some 91 acres, costing all of $15,000.

Surely, for the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the $15,000 can be found? But let it be pointed out, Mr. Speaker, that the constant subdividing of the land, and the changing of hands, means that the trail will not be salvageable 10 years hence, unless there is immediate action.

But there is not going to be immediate action because, just as the escarpment has been rejected, so has the trail been repudiated and so it has succumbed to subdivision development. It had to be rerouted through abandoned railway tracks, through concession roads, through rocks and abandoned quarries, leaving the escarpment with ugly and malignant scars.

If one wants some specifics, Mr. Speaker, let me put them very quickly on the record. In the Kolapore Uplands Park in the Beaver Valley, which is in South Grey, speculators are now buying land in the proposed park and there is no action from the government; gone is the trail.

In the Bruce Caves, near Wiarton, bought by a private developer—Bruce Caves on Colpoy Bay – the conservation authority could not raise the necessary money and the provincial government did not come through. Gone is the Bruce Trail.

Just south of Skinner Bluff in Keppel township in Grey county, a private owner has rescinded the gentlemen's agreement. The people again have been driven to the use of concession roads. No money available from government. No rights to move in. Again, gone is the Bruce Trail.

You are engaging in one of the most unforgivable attacks on public natural resources. You are sequestering the escarpment for private use. You are destroying the Bruce Trail by refusing to move in to its defence.

One begins to wonder what is meant by the Premier's New Year's message, as printed in the Toronto *Daily Star*, when he said:

> During the seventies much of our attention and energies will have to be concentrated on the improvement of the quality of lives we lead. Our energies will have to be directed to the preservation and creation of an environment in which we can survive and live a rewarding life. We must devote our skills and substantial capital to the preservation of our present environment and repair the damage we have done in past years.

The funeral goes on.

> I believe there is an inalienable right for every resident of Ontario, indeed of Canada, to enjoy fresh air, sunshine, clean water, green grass and undefiled forests. Our broad purpose during the next decade must be to assure that this will always be possible.

Now really, was Disraeli right?

Is the Conservative government an organized hypocrisy or is it not? How can you not afford $15,000 and then indulge in this kind of public stance?

Point No. 3, Mr. Speaker. Again, this summer, in 1970, the Great Lakes beaches, particularly those of Lake Erie, will be the site of public disorder, and harassment, and intimidation, and cars and wire fences, police dogs, and mêlée, and demonstrations and general pandemonium. Why? Because in one of the most reckless of free-enterprising escapades, the government turned over by the amendment of 1951 to The Beds of Navigable Waters Act, vast extents of shore and beach. And then it did not even have proper title to the crown land, and turned it over for private use.

And I am glad the Minister of Lands and Forests is now in the House—has been in the House. Overnight, in one of those consummate pieces of antisocial legislation, this government created turmoil, ambiguity, and hostility for hundreds of thousands of people who believe, quaintly perhaps, that public access to the beaches is socially desirable. You have been immobilized, Mr. Speaker, ever since. To this day, Mr. Minister, paralysis confounds you. You have been pierced by your own petard of private privilege.

And so, again, in 1970, in Bertie township —oh, you know it well—with 72,000 feet of shoreline, the hordes of travellers will battle over the 120 feet of undisputed public beach.

And so, again, in 1970, the Canadian population that would use the recreational facilities of the north shore and the Niagara peninsula, reaches 7,000,000 with another 40 per cent American potential added to it. Ten million people seeking some kind of survival outlet—quashed, frustrated, denied—courtesy the government of Ontario.

The Minister of Lands and Forests says he awaits a court case. I assume he means Walker and Stockton, Wichworth and Stockton, due to be heard before Mr. Justice Alexander Stark, of the Supreme Court of Ontario on March 23, 1970. That is just a week or so from now—a few days from now. But there are, of course, several catches, are there not, Mr. Minister? First, when will the decision be rendered, even if the hearing takes place next week?

Second, what is the obvious further appeal?

Third, what of the history of case law? The minister knows that the history of case law is to reassert the rights of private property. That is absolutely unacceptable. No society has the right to preclude, forever, public access to the vast majority of its lake shoreline, its beaches, its waterfront. Truly that is capitalism run amok. If the case law will not reassert social rights, then legislation must, and even if it tears your ideology in half, you can procrastinate no longer.

There are sensible ways of defining high water marks, Mr. Speaker, of setting out rights of the riparian proprietor, and, if necessary, by acquisition, purchase, expropriation, zoning, or other appropriate government measures, to reassert the public interest. Which takes me, Mr. Speaker, if I may, while the Minister of Municipal Affairs is here—before he leaves—to the great white shoreline, which has gone as the Great Lakes goes.

Lake Erie is ready for autopsy. I want to quote the graphic words of the Chicago *Tribune*, I am going to deal with the Minister's report in Jarvis, in a moment. The Chicago *Tribune* said, rather neatly, I thought, that:

> A polluted lake dies violently, and suffocates fish, tosses unpleasant vegetable growth on to its beaches, and fills the air around its shoreline with the stench of untreated waste.
>
> Lake Erie is in the final throes of a premature death, slowly choking on its heavily polluted tributaries and shoreline. There is little relief in sight, water experts

warn, and Erie now is dying so fast that it may become America's Dead Sea.

Well, dead or no, Mr. Speaker, it is our latest exercise in unplanned, economic madness, and the Minister of Energy and Resources Management is very much involved.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The member's ignorance is showing again.

Mr. Lewis: Now we are going to make the megalopolis complete—180 miles of new industrial highway along Lake Erie's north shore.

There are some things that need to be said. First, Lake Erie, my friend, is already overburdened with industry, with *et al.* And I am talking about all of Lake Erie; I am talking about American industry on the south shore.

I think it is worth noting that, with Hydro and all the other developments, we are opening up new forms of thermopollution combined with industrial effluents that could terrify future generations. That is what we are engaged in.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: New plants do not pollute.

Mr. Lewis: New plants do not pollute?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right, that is our motto.

Mr. Lewis: It is a useful thing to know; a pity it was not true. It reminds me of your predecessor, who testifies—

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Ask the Minister of Lands and Forests what is happening in Shebandowan today and the plant has not even got started yet. Tell him to to ask his officials at the Lakehead what is happening at—

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. member for Thunder Bay wish to have the floor? If so, perhaps the member for Scarborough West would yield.

Mr. Stokes: I am just responding to the minister. At least be fair.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Stokes: I am just responding to the minister.

Mr. Lewis: The hon. member for Thunder Bay has just demolished the minister in one fell sentence. That was worth doing. It is worth pointing out that these ecological possibilities, as they are called, are worth thinking about. Well, I know the hour is late but I am going to put it on the record anyway and forge on.

There was a superb piece written by Ian Burton who submitted it to the technological society conference, called, "Technology and the Natural Environment," and I want to read a portion of it because it has direct relation to the announcement that was made 48 hours ago:

> In our headlong rush to develop technology and apply it to the improvement of our lot, we initiate changes in the natural environment which affect processes we do not fully understand. Of course, we have been doing this for a long time and for the most part we have got away with it, but there is no guarantee that we will continue to do so.
>
> There are two ways at least in which we may unwittingly do severe damage to our environment and indirectly to ourselves. One is by means of trigger effects where natural phenomena are in fairly delicate balance, as may be the case with the forces that control the world distribution of climate. Relatively small changes induced by human activity may activate continuations and cumulative changes with catastrophic results.
>
> Similarly with the quantity of waste products and contaminants we discharge into our environment. Generally the quantities are small on a global scale, but of course they may be highly and increasingly concentrated in areas of settlement. There are many, many examples of these types of situations. It is significant that rarely, if ever, do the experts suggest restraint in the activities that are creating the risk. The application of more and more technology in man's endless efforts to dominate nature is a sacred belief of western society.

Now, Mr. Speaker, Lake Erie development opens a new dimension in ecological derangement. The balance of nature will be violated even more violently.

Governments interested in the human condition do not plunge compulsively into every new technological fetish which presents itself. There has been no thoughtful response to the Lake Erie north shore development. These reports which the Minister has put out, these documents which they presented at Jarvis, these documents were not part of a thoughtful planning process. These documents were responses to a *fait accompli*, a *fait accompli* called Hydro, Ford, Texaco, Stelco and Dofasco, and the concentration of five major

corporate interests were what forced the response of these reports. Now look at the reports.

The particular report of strategy for southwestern Ontario development, which is a joint statement of two government departments, is one of the most fatuous, simple-minded, inconsequential papers that has ever been adduced by government, and it should never have been produced. It will obviously engender some concern in those who read it because it says nothing, and yet we are engaged in one of the most notable areas of industrial expansion ever undertaken in the province of Ontario.

The only noteworthy comment in the report is on page 11, and I quote:

> The implication is that Ford, Stelco, Texaco and Dofasco are not isolated occurrences which merely happen to occur fairly close to each other, but are probably the forerunners of a new industrial revolution among the communities and farmlands of southwestern Ontario.

Now, there is an analysis for you. Probably the forerunner.

Then, we also had tabled at the same time, Mr. Speaker, the study toward the land-use plan for Haldimand-Norfolk, and the first third of the entire report engages in a defence of Stelco; it is a simple response to Stelco's presence. Then, on page 8, is a map involving growth, problems and policies, or perhaps I should say a graph involving growth, problems and policy.

And all the growth sections, and all the problem sections that are set out, Mr. Speaker, involve purely urban, congested industrial problems. There is not a human dimension in the entire outline. Under policies it rather graphically presents three question marks. Three question marks at the point at which the industrial incursion is already a *fait accompli*. And only one paragraph, on page 14 of this report, takes on seriously the question of the human implication in polluting, or in ecological or social terms of what is being done to the Lake Erie north shore.

Mr. Speaker, it is necessary to ask what safeguards are there for human use. The answer is none. What provisions on a priority basis for parkway, green belts, lakefront usage—the elemental requirements of people in order to live—if it is not too much of an offence to use such simplistic terms. Not a one. Not a crash programme to acquire land publicly in the Grand River valley as some miniscule emphasis on people's social, emotional or cultural enrichment. Not a one.

In other words, just a total, blind drive for industrial expansion without taking into account any of the human consequences or the social needs.

You know, Mr. Speaker, you might get away with it in the escarpment alone. You might get away with it on the Bruce Trail alone. You might get away with it on the Great Lakes beaches alone. You might even get away with it on the Lake Erie north shore alone, but collectively you are inviting an environmental disaster of the first order.

I will make just one or two other quick points, Mr. Speaker. What is true of Lake Erie is largely true of Lake Ontario. Here, too, there are plans, I suppose. There are plans for waterfront and metropolitan development as to what should be done, but one should note that it is largely an elitist plan. It is largely filled with private yachting clubs and middle class marinas, and it is lamentable, not to say scandalous, that opportunities for any personal involvement should be subject to the laws of class expressed through income.

I would note that of the families in the metropolitan areas of Ontario, the percentage earning less than $8,000 each year is 60.4. Now, 60.4 per cent has pretty strong implications for the metropolitan Lake Ontario plan, and for cottage ownership, or for boats or even for trailers. It means that extended trips to Haliburton or Muskoka are not possible. It means that for those in the "golden horseshoe" or the MTARTS region it is clearly unrealistic.

It means that living space—living space if I do not overdo it—must be within an hour's drive—50 miles from the urban core. Such living space is indispensable for the simple matter of survival. Which leads me to the last point I want to make. The pressure, Mr. Speaker, the pressure on existing resources is relentless and the present resources are inadequate.

A good friend of mine who has helped me prepare some of the material, managed to get hold of a most extraordinary geographic document which is available at the University of Toronto and which I think is the only one of its kind in the province of Ontario, produced by a Professor Mattyasovszky. It is a map outlining every single human, conservational, recreational area, natural resource area, in the south central part of the province of Ontario, both public and private. It showed that in the year 1970 the ratio is 10 acres per 1,000 population, but the the year 1980 that ratio will be 11.4 acres.

Those are ratios, Mr. Speaker, which were acceptable in the year 1923. The ratios that are more appropriate now, as evinced by all those who have written latterly on this subject, suggest a new standard of 78 acres of open space per 1,000 population in your urban conglomeration, 42 acres of which should be located outside the immediate urban complex.

Mr. Speaker, we have entered a period of madness, when viewing the natural resource possibilities for people in central south Ontario. You know, in the Ontario provincial parks between 1964 and 1969 attendance jumped by 80 per cent, just to give you a sense of the pressure. In 1965 in all of southern Ontario there were only 90,000 acres set aside for public use by 12 million people. In the urban regions between Oshawa and St. Catharines, 18 per cent of Canada's population has 3,000 acres of public open space when it requires 42,000 acres. Even at 10 acres per 1,000, the ratio which was available and useful in 1923, south central Ontario —that part which lies between Metropolitan Toronto and Lake Simcoe—is 20,000 acres short.

What are we saying? We are saying that within one generation the population of this part of the province, Mr. Speaker, will be in excess of 6,000,000 people. At a ratio of 42 acres per 1,000, we need to add 400 square miles of public land, which is half again the total area of Metropolitan Toronto.

Moreover, in the department of the Minister of Tourism and Information is an extraordinary statistician named Klopchic, who has done the studies which show that another 40 per cent usage of all these facilities must be carried in order to take into account the American pressures on Canadian resources.

Moreover, one has the extraordinary pressure of dollars, which was between $1.5 and $2 billion last year. Moreover, a shorter work year, more leisure, alienation from the productive process; all of this leads to a desperate search for some relationship with natural resources.

Moreover, the lead time is almost up. Mr. Speaker, I cannot say this too strongly. The tragedy is that we are not acquiring the land. Just as we have refused to acquire it on the escarpment. Just as we have refused to acquire it on the Bruce Trail. Just as we have refused to assure it on the beaches. Just as we are alienating it on the north shore of Lake Erie. Just as we have denied it on a class basis in Lake Ontario, so throughout all of south central Ontario we are alienating every jot of useful, natural resource, environmental land, to private use.

Conservation authorities are geared to water control; they are not geared—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Lewis: You speak to the conservation authorities. You talk to them. The problem with the authorities is that they cannot amass the kind of land which they want.

Indeed, talk to the Metropolitan Toronto authority and find that they are not interested in gathering new land. They are only interested now in pursuing the water policies which they have been designated to pursue.

And it is not merely the cash value, Mr. Speaker, it is having the land use when you need it. When the government decides not to buy land or to develop land and water for human use, it makes a self-fulfilling prediction about future needs. It repudiates those needs. Now there is little land left.

Sure, the northland is a magnificent utopian possibility, but how do people of $5,000, $6,000, $7,000 a year exploit it usefully? And of the 90 provincial parks in Ontario, only six are within—

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): One hundred and one.

Mr. Lewis: Of 101 provincial parks in Ontario, I believe that only six are within a 50-mile radius of Toronto.

We are in a state, Mr. Speaker, of acute emergency. Not to act now on land acquisition while it is still possible means that there will be no later substitute. You are going to have to have the most enormous of land banks and a provincial strategy for it.

Mr. Speaker, may I throw in one solution, since one or two of the ministers may be interested? There is, in this critical area of south central Ontario, something called the Oak Ridges moraine. It extends from a geographic location slightly south of the Kawarthas, right through to the Niagara escarpment. It is a height of land between moderate and excellent recreational potential, which could be purchased by government and used by government, initially stored, developed by government, so that you would not have over six million people within the foreseeable future whose lives are unnecessarily desolate because of lack of any contact with the natural environment.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There are at least four conservation authorities within the area the member mentions.

Mr. Lewis: The conservation areas, I say with the greatest respect to my friend, are absolutely inconsequential. Putting them all together and all the other land you have, you have only 10 acres per 1,000 population in south central Ontario, and you need 42 acres minimum. You are losing lead time every day you allow to pass.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): The minister is going to fix all that, is he not?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: It would take the gross provincial product for the next four years to buy—

Mr. Lewis: And several million people are eventually, imminently, due for the permanent deprivation of access to natural environment.

The Minister of Mines and the members opposite are interjecting with suggestions that this is an expensive proposition. Gentlemen, it is not an expensive proposition. It is not an expensive proposition to acquire the Niagara escarpment for $31.5 million over eight years —610 square miles—as a public resource.

It is not an expensive proposition to spend $15,000 to acquire 91 parcels of land as a link to complete the Bruce Trail. There is no expense involved in allowing for easements around those areas.

Mr. Lawlor: The expense is in not doing it.

Mr. Lewis: The expense, precisely, is in inviting an absolute disaster 10 or 15 years hence, where the pressure of public outrage and public frustration at what you have neglected to do will force an expenditure which can bankrupt government. You have no right to toy with the people of south central Ontario in this fashion. One of your best people—I put it that way; I should not put it that way—Professor Norman Pearson, of Guelph, who did the Pearson report on the north and who did the extraordinary report on the area just north of Metro, as recently as February 20 wrote in a speech to the Centre for Resources Development in Guelph:

> If we want to achieve a decent quality of life in Ontario, if we want to apply our education to the time and develop a real leisure society, the space for recreation becomes more vital than gold and more valuable. It may well be for our sanity and well-being, the most important space we have.
>
> Unless we change our ways, the only remaining open spaces in the midst of this sprawling megalopolis could be the airports, a great deal of abused and abandoned farm land, the lands under the hydro towers, and some densely traveled, wornout parks, and the open spaces of today will be slum greenery of the worst kind. There is absolutely no sign that the pressures will ever cease.

And the use of the word "sanity" is a thoughtful use.

I do not know whether there is any way of my getting through to government on this public disaster which faces Ontario within the next generation, within the next 10 or 15 years, unless all the resolve that is available from the cabinet benches retrieves the situation. I remind you, gentlemen, the Niagara escarpment is gone, the Bruce Trail is going; the Great Lakes beaches are gone; the north shore of Lake Erie is presently ravaged; Lake Ontario, for the majority of the population, is now gone; your existing conservation resources are pressed to their final limits. Can one imagine a more bloody-minded spoilation of resources than that in which we are presently engaged?

Can one imagine a greater disability to visit on future generations? When it comes to respect for human factors, this government, I am sorry to say, has lost its grip. We always knew that about services to people, but really, must it be so perverse in every other area? The government is prepared indifferently to eat away at that extension of a person which brings relevance to a life, purpose to leisure, and a touch of romance to the soul. You see nothing unduly lyrical about that, but I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that only soulless and self-denying political technocrats would pursue policies so bereft of social good. There is no hope for change without change in government, and that brings me back to my main theme.

In this government's frantic pursuit of the private interest, it has desecrated the public interest. That is precisely what it has done, and the public interest will never be retrieved: (a) because the government will be beholden to its benefactors, and (b) because its conservative ideology has exhausted its capacity for social change.

Let me say finally, Mr. Speaker, that the end has come for the old regime; the end has come for the old regime.

Mr. MacDonald: It is asleep physically and otherwise.

Mr. Lewis: While we salute you in the convivial atmosphere, we cannot wait to replace you.

Mr. Sargent: That will be a disaster if you do.

Mr. Lewis: Admittedly it will have to hold until 1971, because your reluctance to support our amendment may be evident, but all the fashionable cynicism aside, and even the intervention from the Bruce Trail, when D-Day arrives, Mr. Speaker, your luck begins. When it does, Mr. Speaker, we will, as social democrats—as you often like to characterize us—we will as socialists, reconstruct this society with one overriding object, which has been the theme of remarks throughout the throne debate today, and which was begun by the member for York South in a way which everyone in this Legislature knows far surpassed the contributions of the other leaders in this House. We are going to reconstruct this society with the one overriding object to reverse the temper of our times.

Mr. Sargent: That is the kiss of death. You are on the way down.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): I would rather get stabbed in the chest.

Mr. Lewis: I am going to wait until you guys tone down to get to the objective.

Mr. Sargent: You guys are an authority on everything.

Mr. Lewis: We are going to try, Mr. Speaker, to achieve primacy of the human spirit in public affairs.

I will not sit down for just a moment. I could activate the member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) even more than he is already activated. As he rises to his feet, let me say, Mr. Speaker, that we in this party look forward more than we can say to the confrontation with the government which is coming, because, gentlemen, you are heading for an irresistible and total defeat.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, this is the first occasion I have had to congratulate publicly the member for Carleton East (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) on his elevation to valhalla, the sort of inner sanctum of the government. I really do not anticipate that he is going to hold that position very long, because I too expect an election in the near future, and although the member for Scarborough West (Mr. Lewis) and myself disagree on which of the two of us are going to come out on top, we are certain that the member for Carleton East will not be a member of the cabinet for too great a time. But while he is a member of the cabinet, we wish him well.

Mr. Speaker, I was tempted the other day to rise on a matter of personal privilege as a member of this House to object to one of your rulings. I will state my objection in this manner: I note that you have said that the members of the press should not meet with the members in the lobby. I feel that if we are talking with one or two members of the press at one time, that this would not be a serious offence. If we had a large number of the press gathered around us in a discussion, well then, it would probably be a nuisance to other members of the Legislature who wish to use the lobby.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, you have said that that lobby is meant for a member of the Legislature to meet people from his own riding. Even that could be abused if you had a large number of people come from your own riding. I am sure that we should use our own caucus rooms or find some other accommodation. So I would ask you, Mr. Speaker, to reconsider your decision, because I feel as a member it is an infringement on my rights when I cannot talk to an individual member of the press or of the media in the lobby.

To me it is a nuisance to have to go and stand outside when I could sit quietly and talk to someone. So if it is not abused—when I say "abuse," I mean when I talk to 10 members of the press at one time and I agree with that is abuse—I suggest that you count on us to use commonsense, and permit us to talk to members of the press in lobby. I would like to hear, after the Easter recess, a change of your opinion on the use of the lobby.

Mr. Speaker, we live in an age that is extremely dangerous for our way of life. It is extremely dangerous, not only for the province of Ontario, but for all of us who believe in a free world, and it is a time that we could be outspoken to let the world know what we stand for, that we are prepared to meet the challenges of the day in which we live.

The Speech from the Throne should be the keynote, it should really be the navigator's chart of what we as a province are going to do in the future. If we are going to survive as a society we should be and do what Danton said: "Let us dare and dare and dare again." Or perhaps we should be able to do in the best sense what free enterprise did, what the

author, Frenouin did. He was not afraid to take a calculated risk.

But when we read that speech, what did we get? We got vague mumblings of non-existing policies, a puny and feeble effort of the government to hide its bankrutpcy of ideas, and what is even worse, is a bankruptcy of spirit and courage. Perhaps the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) thought it a smart political gimmick when he wrote that speech, and I am going to assume he wrote it probably while sitting under the swaying palms of Hawaii. He may think it a gimmick—the less you say, the smarter politics it is. But the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, is the work of a government that has grown feeble with age and is utterly infirm of purpose.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Right you are.

Mr. Trotter: What is more, Mr. Speaker, it is a cynical effort that deliberately and calculatedly ignores any attempt at any solutions of the problems of the aged, of education, of housing, of pollution, and of all the miriad of problems that are facing our society today. There is not a single solution in all the words that were uttered by His Honour, and when we listen to the speeches that have been made by the members of the government side we realize the situation is even worse.

The member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith) who moved the acceptance of the Speech from the Throne, made reference, for example, to nursing homes, and pointed out how people were often reduced to welfare before they were able to gt help from the government in nursing homes. It is almost an insult to the intelligence of the members of this House, Mr. Speaker, when a member from the government side gets up and talks about the need for nursing homes.

We have had so many new speeches on this subject in the House; we have had a select committee of this Legislature that recommended that nursing homes should be covered under the premiums for our hospital insurance. Indeed, the time is long overdue when we should give the assistance that the member for Simcoe East has asked for, and yet nothing has been done, and I suspect that nothing will be done unless it is just before an election campaign is called.

Mr. Speaker, the speech of the Premier is evidence that this government is bankrupt of ideas, and with all due respect to the Premier, Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge the efforts that he has made as the Premier of the province of Ontario. I can remember when I first came to this House, Mr. Speaker, the hon. Speaker always looked to the Premier to see what to do next. Those were the days of the predecessor of the present incumbent.

It was not a very high water mark in the days of this House when the Speaker looked to the leader of the government on what to do next. One of the things that I have always credited the Prime Minister with is that he has done more than any man I have known in the government side to permit the freedom of debate in this House, so I give him credit for it.

Up until recently, up until the recent meeting of the federal, provincial governments in Ottawa, I thought that the Premier of this province did a very good job on behalf, not only of Ontario, but of Canada as a whole. I have often said that if a Mitchell Hepburn, or a George Drew, or a Les Frost, had been in the position that the present Premier has been in in the last two years, it would have been a disaster for the country as a whole.

The present Premier of this province, up until this last year, has had a responsibility and really a sense of Canada as a whole. But —and this is what has happened in the last year; a very serious matter for this province and for the country as a whole—in the first instance, the ridiculous situation that we had where he was calling the Medicare scheme "a Machiavellian fraud."

Again we see today, the matter of trying to make the Benson tax plan a provincial issue. The argument that the present Premier is throwing up today against the Benson tax plan is nothing but an attempt to hide the errors and omissions of this government in the province of Ontario.

This government is no longer capable of coming to grips with the issues that it must face today and now. There is no question that many of us—that most people—do not accept the Benson tax proposals 100 per cent as they are. They are open to debate, and I for one do not pretend to be an apologist for the federal government or to be an apologist for the Benson tax plan. They are certainly open to changes.

The issues that should be solved in this House are those issues that affect the province of Ontario and we have heard nothing in regard to the problems of the cities, of the aged, the problems of our highways. Instead we get from the Premier of this province, the continual talk about the Benson tax plan.

Then there is a third matter where I think the Premier—because he is afraid and because the government is afraid to face the issues of

today—is letting down the committee system that could be used in this House. I think that is very obvious with our standing committee on health, where the rumour got loose that they are about to throttle the member for Quinte (Mr. Potter) and no longer permit him to be the chairman of the health committee.

I think in this Legislature there should be room for dissent within one's own party. And the fact that the provincial government today is in fear of one dissenter, is evidence to me, Mr. Speaker, that it knows in its own heart it is on very thin ice.

There is no question, Mr. Speaker, that if we are to use the committee system, it would seem fair and proper that we would have chairmen capable of giving vigorous leadership in investigating whatever problems we have.

In my view, the member for Quinte—particularly when we had the rather extensive hearing on what we call the cat and dog bill—was every bit as fair to the government as he was to the opposition; and so a chairman should be. I do not think that, as from the government's point of view that they complain of, he ever stopped any legislation. I think the committee system is important and I think it is also important that we allow, within our own parties, people or individual members who wish to dissent on particular issues.

We, on this side of the House, have urged that a select committee be established and that it should sit while the Legislature is sitting, so that time would not be wasted; so that we could look into the problems of expressways that are affecting the province of Ontario. I know that the major issue that is highlighted at this time is the Spadina expressway and just as I disagree with the remarks of the member for Downsview (Mr. Singer)—I admit I disagree with what he says about the Spadina expressway, and I agree with the member for Scarborough East (Mr. T. Reid)—but the whole problem of expressways, Mr. Speaker, is that we do not know enough about them.

It is just not the problem of expressways, it is any kind of highway that is going through various communities in this province. When I became interested in this subject, I found I got calls not just from the city of Toornto but from King City, from Pickering, and from Waterdown. They are wondering what is going to happen to their communities when large highways go roaring through the main streets.

Is this the proper way our communities should be developed as the years unfold? I think there is a tremendous amount to be learned and this is why some of us on this side of the House, because the government is not taking the necessary action that there probably will be little opportunity—or that the government is not going to avail itself of an opportunity—to have a select committee, are going down to parts of the United States where they have had these very serious problems as to what expressways and highways are doing to communities like Boston and the city of New York.

We believe and hope there are other alternatives and options to just having expressways, and these are the matters that are utterly important to the future of our civilization in this province. Again I want to emphasize to the members of this House, through you, Mr. Speaker, that it is not just the large city of Toronto but it is the communities throughout the province that are bound to be affected with the ever-growing network of concrete and asphalt that is being spread throughout the province. It is going to be a tremendously serious problem. It is with us now, and it is going to get worse unless we have the courage to take some action.

I would think, Mr. Speaker, that we could use a select committee while the House is sitting to look into the problems of the pollution of our waters. I know that many committees have sat, and there have been many reports from other jurisdictions, but we in this province and in this country are not coming to grips with the problems of pollution and it is becoming extremely obvious.

I am not going to go into details because of the lateness of the hour, and the hon. member for Scarborough West has covered this, particularly the Great Lakes situation and the Niagara escarpment to some tremendous extent, but we have to come to some decision in the immediate future or we, as a province, are going to be losing one of our main resources.

We in this province probably have more fresh water than any other jurisdiction in all of the world, and we have taken this for granted, but the truth of the matter is this tremendous resource is wasting away and the inaction of government is doing nothing to preserve and to protect a resource that can be our very lifeblood.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): What are you talking about? Provincal land use—

Mr. Trotter: For pollution? When I say pollution I would take in land, air and water. Right now the main problem is water and air, but the erosion of land is—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: What is the member advocating? Provincial land use control?

Mr. Trotter: I would not hesitate to suggest this problem should be looked into in a select committee, because you are going to have to have some type of planning in the future as to how our land is going to be used, and I would say as far as water is used, I think that water should be used the same way as we use hydro. What we need in Ontario is a grid system built around the Great Lakes, if we have not already destroyed the Great Lakes, where we can supply water where it is needed just as we supply hydro wherever it is needed in the province of Ontario.

In reply to the question of the Minister of Mines, I would go further—that we are going to eventually harness the waters that flow up into James Bay. There is no question that we are going to have to use it, and you are going to say, "How are you going to do it?" Certainly in the future years this water is bound to be used, so again if it is polluted it will be of little use if we do not have an overall scheme, an overall plan. A tremendous asset will be wasted; there will be nothing to harness or organize unless we look into the problem of how to prevent the pollution of this asset.

When I mention the use of the committee system—and particularly the first one I mentioned was the use of expressways—the city of Toronto public works committee has suggested that a commission be set up to look into the problems that expressways cause. I would suggest to this House, Mr. Speaker, through you, that instead of a commission being set up, a select committee of elected members look into this problem so that it is really closer to the people. Too often we set up commissions and get reports and they are often filed away. I think that there is a far greater opportunity of making use of any report that is brought in and setting a deadline so that we can get some action.

I think, Mr. Speaker, one of the best examples we have had of that is the select committee we had on taxation. The present Minister of Revenue was a hard driver; he brought in a report and he has implemented some of that report—not all of it, he has a long way to go, but at least a great deal was accomplished in relatively short order.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): He has been coasting ever since.

Mr. Trotter: Well, he may have been coasting, but my experience from the select committee on taxation demonstrated to me that you can get from a select committee a report in a relatively short period of time, literally in a matter of a very few months, and the recommendations can be implemented in the next sitting of the House. This is what we need when it comes to expressways, when it comes to the problem of the pollution of our natural resources.

I may add one other item, that I think what we have been extremely lax on as a society and as a government, Mr. Speaker, is mental health. Almost every occasion when I have spoken in the throne debate I have complained bitterly about the lack of the treatment of mental illness in this province and throughout the country as a whole. I think very few people still realize that there is more mental illness than all the other diseases combined. We talk about heart disease and cancer—these are certainly serious, but cancer and heart disease and all the others are still less than the number of cases we have in our hospitals from mental illness, and yet in this country as a nation we spend more money on military brass bands than we do on research in mental health.

In the province of Ontario we do extremely little. I have complained for years about the condition of 999 Queen Street, and we are now promised that there are going to be tenders called to begin the rebuilding of that bastille down on Queen Street. There is still no evidence of a change; I hope it is coming. We have been promised it for over 10 years, that that building will eventually be removed. I have said, Mr. Speaker, that there were two buildings in west Toronto that I would like to see removed; one is Mercer Reformatory—and I enjoy driving down King Street now, Mr. Speaker, because Mercer Reformatory had nothing left but the doorway last time I looked—and I hope that the mental health unit at 999 Queen Street will be rebuilt. I expect to see a new mental hospital there; I do not want to see a vacant field, I want to see a mental health centre.

We as a government have been extremely slow, and this again is something that we need to have a select committee examine, and to bring in in short order recommendations that can be implemented by this government.

Mr. Speaker, when one thinks of the speed with which this government moves, I really do not hold out much hope for any reform

in the three items that I have mentioned. If you just use as an example the productivity improvement project which the Treasurer of this province (Mr. MacNaughton) announced just about a year ago; he informed us during the estimates of the civil service that they had a scheme within the government where they were going to get the top civil servants together in this group in order to get the various departments of government co-operating to cut costs of administration. This was a year ago, and on various occasions he has been asked questions of when they are really going to get organized and get operating on such things as central purchasing.

Yet, you know, in this organization that they call Productivity Improvement Project, we find on January 16, 1970, they are finally advertising for a director, and yet a year has gone by. To me that is an example of what goes on in this government. A lackadaisical attitude because they have been there so long that they feel they have a divine right to rule and they make very little effort and use very little energy to bring in the changes that are much needed.

Mr. Speaker, it may seem a small item, but it is an indication—they can rapidly put down broadloom over marble floors and spend a few thousand dollars on this building with the broadloom and it is something that defies the imagination. I suppose if the government owned the Taj Mahal they would want to cover the floors with broadloom. I think it is a waste of time and certainly a waste of money.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): The member is one of the few.

Mr. Trotter: Well, I may be one of the few, Mr. Speaker, but a number of the public have remarked to me, "Why in the world do they cover up the marble floors of the building?" So that is an indication of really wasting money; it is a waste of public money and marble floors, I suppose, will be there long after the broadloom has been worn away.

Well, Mr. Speaker, with the lateness of the hour I do not intend to go on at great length.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): The NDP have folded.

Mr. Trotter: Pardon, I missed that.

Hon. Mr. White: The NDP have folded. They are not good in the stretch.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, well they fold very easily. I am sorry they have folded because I have remarks, and I am going to make them anyway, about the NDP.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Trotter: I did wish to speak about the matter of the NDP, and it boils down, in many respects, to the relevancy of this Legislature in the times in which we live.

I criticized the government at the very beginning because the Speech from the Throne signifies nothing. It is a mumbo-jumbo of words, and in bringing forth such a speech, really the government shows its lack of respect for the Legislature. I think we have seen indications, when the member for Dovercourt (Mr. De Monte) complained today about the workmen's compensation board holding a press conference in order to contradict the remarks made by the member for Dovercourt. I do not think a civil sevant, or quasi-civil servant, if you wish, should argue that members of the workmen's compensation board are not really civil servants. I think they are showing real impertinence to this Legislature when they hold the type of press conference they did after the remarks of the member for Dovercourt. If anything, they should complain to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) and let him do the talking.

What I want to signify, Mr. Speaker, is that we have to have respect for the Legislature, and this is why I want to deal with the New Democratic Party, because in the time that I have been in the House, I have never seen this House treated with such disrespect as I have by the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) and I think it is time that we spoke out as to what goes on in this House. It is all right for the member for Scarborough West, the last speaker, to make the statement, "We shall revive Parliament." I tell him, through you, Mr. Speaker, that they will crucify Parliament if we continue to tolerate —and the government is even more responsible for this than anyone—if we continue to tolerate members who bring into disrepute the credibility not only of this Legislature but particularly even of his own party.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Point of order, Mr. Speaker. My point of order is that if the member is going to make direct allegations that any member has brought this House into disrepute, then he must be prepared to substantiate it with proof and documentation.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I think the hon. member for Parkdale was speaking on that

particular topic and he had only made those statements. Perhaps he intends to.

Mr. Trotter: I want to give you some examples of what has gone on and why I am concerned. For example—

Mr. Gisborn: We do not want examples. We want documentation.

Mr. Trotter: All right. I am glad to see they are finally taking their seats in this House.

Mr. Lawlor: Just recharging the batteries.

Mr. Trotter: We have read in the paper recently, Mr. Speaker, that the member for Beaches-Woodbine (Mr. Brown) does not wish to run again for the New Democratic Party.

An hon. member: Very wise, too.

Mr. Trotter: He finds that he does not like political life, he does not like going for the jugular vein, and I want to tell him, through you, Mr. Speaker, and to every member of this House, that really in the successful politicians in Great Britain or Canada, or in the United States, despite all the rough and tumble of politics, the outstanding ones have been not men who have gone for the jugular vein—even Franklin Roosevelt. You know they criticized him; he loved to hire but he hated to fire; he was too good-natured, he did not like to fire. Well, that may be an example.

I think what you have to do in politics, in order to survive, is know how to protect yourself from those people who go for the jugular vein, and we survive as a society, no matter what our party, because we have the ability to stand up and speak our mind and protect ourselves against those people who would go for the jugular vein.

I have had tremendous respect, Mr. Speaker, for the CCF movement. There is no question in my mind that probably the greatest single Canadian ever in politics—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): You have not had the courage to join.

Mr. Trotter: Well, I have good reason for it. There is no question in my mind the greatest single politician as an individual and a person was James Shafer Woodsworth. I have tremendous respect for the things he said and did, although I disagree with maybe his approach to politics. But one must remember this, that of the group of politicians who founded that movement and were in Parliament, they were of the highest credibility, they were outstanding. Even today, Stanley Knowles is probably the greatest expert on parliamentary procedure.

But you know, when this new group came in, one of the first things they did—I think it was the member for Timiskaming (Mr. Jackson), when we were on the budget debate—he picked up the budget and hurled it on the ground. Well now, I do not agree with what this Tory government produces in its budget, but I think if we are to survive as a Parliament we have to have respect for the government that was elected by the people.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Trotter: One could not conceive of a Stanley Knowles or a Tommy Douglas or John J. Coldwell doing things like that.

Mr. MacDonald: That is where you do not know the history. M. J. Coldwell walked up the centre aisle and shook his fist at the Speaker in the pipeline debate.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Trotter: I think I might tell the member for Beaches-Woodbine, who is concerned about the jugular vein, that I think James Woodsworth said something to the effect that co-operation is working together because of the hurt it can avoid and the self help that it can give. That does not sound like the group of opportunists to my left. It is no wonder the member for Beaches-Woodbine—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Trotter: The thing that has concerned me about the member for High Park is that this last session we met in the health committee as a result of certain charges he had made about Brockville hospital. Now, I want to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the system of mental care in this province is a disgrace and when the member for High Park stood up and criticized Brockville, to a point he was right. But the difficulty was he carried it to such an extreme that he almost played into the hands of the government. Not only was what he said completely wrong—I think he said there were 400 illegitimate children born in the mental institutions here, and then he said perhaps it was 100, and then it turned out to be four—but the trouble is, it destroys the credibility of this House. I think the general public is foolish if it regards this party as a credible alternative.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): The hon. member should quit while he is ahead.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): That will never save them.

Mr. Trotter: I want to say this, Mr. Speaker, and I think it should be said, because this is the situation that we are faced with in this province. I think in order to protect the Parliament, the Legislature of this province, it should be said.

And incidentally, one other thing struck me when the member for Scarborough West said that he would allow demonstrations in the galleries. You know, one thing that destroyed the French revolution, Mr. Speaker, was when the Paris mob took over the Estates General. That is one of the lessons of history and one reason the British parliamentary democracy survived; the mob never did take over. And the minute you let anybody take over and shout during debates, you will destroy the freedom of debate.

I want to say, as a Liberal, that whether you are to the left or the right, or to the centre, unless you have the rules of debate, you simply will never be able to carry on a parliamentary democracy. And in the age in which we live, these are things that are going to have to be restated—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Trotter: We have thrown off the bonds of the past on many things, but this is the only way we can protect ourselves—and I am sorry to go on at length, Mr. Speaker, at this late hour—but it should be said and it must be said. There are other forms of bondage, Mr. Speaker, and the various forms of bondage are ever-changing in the type of world in which we live. Many of these changes and these dangers that we face come because of the urbanization of the society in which we live.

Mr. Speaker, I have probably said this to the House before, but it is going to have to be said again, that we who live in the cities or in a province that is becoming largely urbanized, are living on the urban frontier. We often think of a frontier as an area between two countries or we may think of it as pioneering—going out to the frontier to the west.

This was where our country was built, on the frontiers. It began when the early settlers came to Upper Canada and to Halifax, and moved forward. But today the urban frontier is where our life is going to be decided, where the future of our society will be decided; whether we are going to succeed. And although we take big cities for granted, they are really a relatively unexplored frontier.

This is why I have urged various select committees to examine the problems that are caused by the urbanization of the communities in which we live. Because it affects the quality of our life and the quality of life is the key to the success or failure of the urban frontier; the quality of life means placing the emphasis on the welfare of the individual in society.

I may have an open disagreement with the member for Downsview. When he was talking about the Spadina expressway he mentioned the importance of the assessment that expressways bring—the increased assessments. What we have to reassess is the future of our roadways in terms, not of whether it is going to bring a better reassessment of land, but what it is doing to the quality of life for the individual. And these are the things that we are going to have.

An hon. member: You fellows had better get together.

Mr. Trotter: Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the study—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): He is entitled to his views and he is a fine fellow.

Mr. Trotter: The study of the urban frontier, Mr. Speaker, crosses all departments of the government today. I think many have the erroneous impression that when we discuss urban frontiers, and frontiers generally, we are really thinking of The Department of Municipal Affairs. But when you look at it, this is just not so. It affects Highways, it means Health, it affects the Attorney General's (Mr. Wishart's) department—just on a seemingly small matter such as I brought before him the other day—the question of lie detector tests.

This was something not thought of a few years ago, but there is no legislation to protect the individual from lie detector tests. So I say to him, Mr. Speaker—and I am glad he is in his seat—this is a bondage on the individual; it is another form of bondage that results from a changing society—of electronics and urbanization. And we simply have not come to grips with problems such as that.

Mr. Speaker, the estimates at the beginning of the seventies are that Metropolitan Toronto is going to have three million people in 10 years. In other words, by 1980 we are going to have three million people in Metropolitan Toronto. A million of them are going to be in the city of Toronto—in what we call the old boundaries of the city of Toronto.

What is going to be the growth plan for that area? What is going to be the plan for urban renewal, for urban rehabilitation? Are our people just going to live in the huge filing cabinets that we call apartment complexes? You know, our laws are so outdated that even today in one borough in Metropolitan Toronto it is against the zoning bylaw to have a nursery in an apartment building. If we have any idea of city life, we must know that we are going to have to have nurseries in apartment buildings; and yet there is not the necessary legislation in many of our urban areas today, let alone the money, to make this possible.

I know, Mr. Speaker, we have new landlord and tenant legislation, and it is an improvement, but you often wonder how much good it is. From one building alone in my riding, I have a list of over 40 names of people who have either not been able to get their 1968 tax rebate, their 1969 tax rebate or their deposit money back. And you say, "Well, take them to court. You know, they have taken this individual, a man named Phil Wynn, to court and the case has been adjourned. The crown attorney's office—

Hon. J. White (Minister of Revenue): Give me the list and I will get it for them.

Mr. Trotter: All right.

Hon. Mr. White: There is a very simple procedure.

Mr. Trotter: Very well, Mr. Speaker, I am going to take the Minister of Revenue up on that, because we have tried other government agencies and we have had a great deal of difficulty. He is getting some advice now and they know what he is getting into.

But here is a situation, Mr. Speaker, where 50 people—there were between 40 and 50 people—in a modern-day society, and I admit the laws are there. I am not denying the laws are there, but it is trying to get the law to work. And this is from one apartment building.

Hon. Mr. White: It is the simplest thing in the world.

Mr. Trotter: And here again, the tenant gets a notice that the rent is being raised. It is a short note, Mr. Speaker, from the landlord:

> This note is to inform you that your rent will be raised $5 as of April 1, 1970. This is due to the tax increase, the maintenance increase, mortgage and tax rebate. The increase is unavoidable.

Why rents would go up because of the tax rebate, I do not know, and yet I rather suspect that notice of an increase of rent is legal under the present law. It is something that thousands of people in a large area like the city of Toronto—I think in any large urban area—are suffering. It is, again, I repeat, a form of bondage.

Mr. Speaker, you may be happy to know that I am about to conclude because of the hour. I want to emphasize the dangers of poverty in a large urban centre. I know that there is poverty where we have insufficient food and shelter, but there is another poverty that is a sickness in our society today. That poverty is where we can say people are poverty-stricken. When their income, even if adequate for survival, falls markedly behind that of the majority of people living in a particular community. In other words, about 25 per cent in our community, particularly in Toronto, or in most areas in Ontario, and Canada, are below what they call the poverty level.

We are developing hard cores of poverty in the city of Toronto, in many cases because of a lack of opportunity. What should the policy of a government be? There is no one single solution; I say it goes into every department.

One solution is this, we should see to it that every child should have the opportunity of going to nursery school, let us say at the age of three or four. I know that in some of our families many do. Like in my family, they have the opportunity of going because I can afford it. But where the real emphasis should be is on seeing to it that children that come from the lower income groups get to nursery schools, because they are going to need the help more. They need the opportunity.

Remember this. There is much good in free enterprise. I know there have been many changes and there may be many more, but the ignition system of free enterprise is opportunity and, because of modern-day society, there is a hard core of our community that is not getting that opportunity. That is the poverty syndrome and it is up to us to get them out of it. Nursery schools are just one point of it; there are many other aspects.

But this is something that could be done now. It could be done and an Act could be passed in this Legislature now to make funds available to municipalities. So that this I emphasize as one single practical point that must be used in order to help the municipalities, particularly the large municipalities, that

are facing the hard-core poverty problem that we have.

The municipalities today, when they are facing the problems of the urban frontier, are not going to be able to come to grips with the problems that they have unless there is more home rules. This does not excuse the federal government from assisting the cities that are growing.

I do not agree with some of my confreres in Ottawa when they say that this is just a provincial problem, or it belongs to the municipalities, because most of our population is going to be living in cities. It is a national problem. But it does not excuse this government, whose primary responsibility it is to rescue the municipalities from the dire straits in which they are in.

What has happened? There has been too much buck-passing and most of the buck-passing has been from this provincial government. Much as you might try to criticize the federal government, remember that the vast majority of houses that have been built in this country have been built through Central Mortgage and Housing. They say, "A federal department."

We here are apologizing for no one. What we want to emphasize is what the policy of the province of Ontario should be and the main problem is to give the cities more home rule. I grant you that we, as a province, must have overall policies, and there must be overall planning for the province as a whole. Just as with the telephone, or the telegraph, or TV, they spread over larger areas, but the success of TV depends on the number of local stations. This is what we need in the improvement of local government in the province of Ontario.

Surely the province of Ontario could assist in the rehabilitation of these large urban cities, much more than they do? It is simply not good enough to complain to the federal government that they do not give enough money for rehabilitation. I asked, Mr. Speaker, what is the policy of this government. They do not have a policy on rehabilitation for the urban centres.

You are never going to reform the urban centres or any municipality, no matter how much regional government you have, until you reform the educational tax system. As long as you insist that property taxes are used for services, you are going to encumber the municipalities with an albatross they can never throw off. Property taxes should be used for the services to property and not services just for people. You are going to have to completely reform your tax system and you show no indication of doing such a thing.

We are often criticized—and wrongly, just for something to say—by both the parties in this House about not taking a firm stand on various items, but we have certainly taken a firm stand on medical insurance. The premium system should be done away with.

We have taken a firm stand on the equality of education. It is a controversial issue, but let us face it, our leader and the members of this caucus have had the guts to stand up and tackle what has been a very controversial issue in the province of Ontario. We will solve that issue.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): They will do it just like Hepburn; they will double-cross.

Mr. Trotter: We will not doublecross. There is a voice from the past. There is a voice from the wilderness. I know the member for Simcoe East was talking about Mitch Hepburn back in 1931. After all, Mitch Hepburn was not around until 1934, so I think you should check your dates over there.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Trotter: So seldom do we see the member from Killaloe in this House that I welcome him here this evening—or should I say early in the morning? But, Mr. Speaker, we in the seventies do face tremendous problems, just as the Speech from the Throne said. But we on this side of the House have the answers. We have not just given the mumbo jumbo.

The infirm purpose of the Tory government will be replaced by a vigorous Liberal administration to give the people of this province the release from the high taxation, and from the waste that has gone on in this province for over a quarter of a century.

There is no question in my mind that we, in the Liberal Party, can solve the problems of the pollution of our natural resources; that we can solve the housing problem; that we can reach out into the urban frontier and give the people of this province the leadership they should have and they will get from the Liberal Party.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, first I want to congratulate the hon. member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith), the mover, and the seconder, the member for Ontario South (Mr. W. Newman), on the very fine, thoughtful

speeches they made on the occasion on which they were honoured in moving and seconding the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order please. Let us give this speaker our attention.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Fellows, I have a cold, give me a break, will you?

I also want to congratulate the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) for what I thought was generally a good speech; a very thoughtful one. He came to some wrong conclusions but aside from that, I think it was a very good contribution to this debate.

Mr. Speaker, as hon. members know, I have been in my seat for quite a while and I am a fairly regular attender in the House, and I listen with a great deal of interest. I find the Legislature very exhilarating. I enjoy the debates in the House, and I have listened with a great deal of interest to various members here today and on previous occasions expressing their ideas and their concerns on a variety of subjects. I agree, of course, with some of the points raised, and disagree with many of them, sometimes quite vocally, and Mr. Deputy Speaker, if the Speaker were here I think he would agree with that latter part too.

Sometimes I have made some observations which have created some quarrelsome debates, but I would remind hon. members that they should not expect a man to be sitting in this House day after day, week after week, month after month, without getting involved in some of the crossfire.

I must say something about the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Lewis). When he is here, which is not too often, I think it ill-behooves him to mention that he thought the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) was losing interest in the debates in the House, and so on. The Prime Minister is in his seat more often than the hon. member for Scarborough West.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I think it was the last session, or the one before that, when the member for Scarborough West was away practically the whole session. I do not think he sent back his pay, but he was away.

The hon. member for Scarborough West has the idea—and it is fairly obvious when we watch him from here—that the ability to glue beautiful phrases together is a substitute for the ability to govern, or even the ability to legislate. When one watches him one gets the idea that he knows he is the grand orator, and I think we will all agree with him on that. You get the idea when you watch him that he is saying to himself, "Today, Ontario, tomorrow the world," and as a matter of fact I think he is convinced he could become master of the world.

He is so obviously pleased with his own oratory, there is no doubt about it; but you know when you listen to him for an hour, with his theme of Henny-Penny the sky is falling, you just get a picture of all the people dying in the streets from pollution; the drinking water is filthy and the air is filthy. After about an hour of this, you want to go outside and commit suicide; until you go outside, Mr. Speaker, and see this beautiful city and this wonderful Ontario and you see how it is thriving and that most people are doing very well in it.

Nobody is dying in the streets, but you get this terrible feeling of pessimism when you listen to his speech; you think Ontario is just about the worst place in the world. Our housing problem is caused by the fact—and many of our problems are caused by the fact—that this is such a wonderful province and city that people are coming from all over the world to live here. The hon. member was so concerned that we were letting the Bruce Trail go, the Niagara escarpment go, and the beaches go; he need have no fear, action is being taken in these areas and this government is doing all that it possibly can to make sure they are protected.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): That is not enough.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Oh well, nothing is ever enough when you are on the other side of the House.

The hon. member for Parkdale mentioned a matter which I think is quite pertinent and that is the fact that the socialist party is constantly talking about Parliament being irrelevant. He was quite right, too, when he suggested—as a matter of fact, I think he said it quite bluntly—that if it is becoming irrelevant, it is because the NDP want to make it so, and is doing their best to make it so.

I have had the honour to be in this Legislature a little over 14 years and never before saw what I have seen since this 28th Legislature started. A couple of members putting their feet right up on their desks showing a great disregard for the traditions of this

House; bringing in cameras and taking pictures of one or two of the hon. members who may have been sitting here day after day, week after week, snapping their picture because they apparently had their eyes closed and maybe even were sleeping, by some member who has not even been here for two or three weeks.

Mr. Speaker, one topic which has been discussed by several hon. members, is one that concerns me, not only as a member of this Legislature, but in the portfolio which I have the honour to hold. And that is the problem of drug abuse by the young people of this province.

I have spent a considerable amount of time meeting with professional and voluntary workers in the community who are close to young people, including speaking to those who are often referred to as "hippies." I have made a number of public speeches on this matter, that is, on the subject of drugs. I have done research in Yorkville, worked with the Digger House on numerous occasions, conferred with workers and met with them at Rochdale College, and met, on various occasions, not only with professional workers, but with young drug users, to discuss matters related to the drug culture.

And I must say, too, Mr. Speaker, that I was planning on bringing to this House some samples of pills which are being manufactured by amateurs today, which have become a very great danger to the community. You do not even have to get them from a pharmaceutical house. The amateurs are doing a fairly professional job. I would have brought some of those pills here, except that I found I could not do so without breaking the law, because I could be charged with being in possession of narcotics.

And I want to mention to the hon. members that this is of great concern to me in this particular portfolio which I have the honour to hold. This is a phenomenon of recent years, as hon. members know, which threatens to become—and some people say it has already become—one of the most serious problems of the 1970s.

I am sure that all hon. members join me in applauding the commitment of the honourable, the Prime Minister to attack this problem through combining the resources of the various government departments.

There is much to be done in this field, Mr. Speaker, and I join my cabinet colleagues in accepting the challenge of developing programmes to meet the needs of the people of Ontario in this connection. Indeed, some of us on this side have already done a great deal of spade work on this problem.

Mr. Speaker, there have been some comments made and some pressure applied for the appointment of an ombudsman. I am a bit ambivalent about this proposal. Sometimes I feel it would be a good thing to have one. On other occasions I just wonder whether this is not going to change the responsibility and the concern which the hon. members of this House should have.

Is it not taking more responsibility away from them? Is it going to be another area where the member of the Legislature is going to lose more of his power, Mr. Speaker, for digging into some of the things that he would like to dig into? In other words, would it get further away from elected representatives?

I think these are things which have to be considered.

Mr. Speaker, I have had some considerable experiences, as have all members of this assembly, with ratepayers' groups, citizens who have banded together in an attempt to make improvements in their community, for themselves and for other citizens. There is no doubt that the New Democratic Party, particularly, has destroyed the potential of some viable, meaningful ratepayers' groups, by attempting to take over some of them.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, it does not concern me a bit, because I am in touch with my constituents every day of the week. It is old stuff for me. I know precisely what these people are doing. No matter which ratepayers' group one attends, you find the same faces throughout the audience, attempting to take over the organization, making it very difficult for the ratepayers' groups to be truly represented.

And, Mr. Speaker—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Oh, I am not afraid of that competition, let the hon. member not concern himself with me. I look after myself because I know how, and I know how the NDP worms its way through to some of these institutions in order to—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps we could have a little order and get this business concluded.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What is the matter, fellows? They can dish it out but they cannot take it.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make some reference to Ontario's new Judy LaMarsh, Mr. Benson, and this great white paper which is supposed to be discussed—it has only been brought forward for discussion they say. They tell us that Mr. Benson wants it discussed; he wants everybody to have a discussion on this and give their views, and so on. But it must not be discussed by the Prime Minister of this province. He must not discuss it at all, because if he does, he is charged with looking for a fight. In other words, the head of the government of the province representing 7.5 million people is not supposed to give an opinion on these things.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to discuss a little meeting we had yesterday. There was a meeting yesterday out in the front of the Legislature and—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Another NDP takeover.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: No, he attempted to take it over but did not quite make it. There were some fine people out there who were concerned.

Mr. Lewis: There are always some concerned people in every crowd.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: But who took over the meeting? My good friend, Alderman Horace Brown, NDP.

Mr. Lewis: No.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: And Alderman Horace Brown was there with his megaphone and he said: "Let us hear what you have to say, boys," and they said: "We want the Prime Minister out here." We want this and we want that. Now that the civic election is over and some of these people have not been able to have their way, they are now sort of saying, "There is only one person involved now to a large extent in this riding, and that is Grossman, because the balance of the expressway is going down his riding."

Mr. MacDonald: Persecution complex again.

Mr. Lewis: Did you see any of those faces in that crowd?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The hon. leader of the NDP got up and made a wonderful—

Mr. MacDonald: They knew who to boo anyway.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He made a great hero of himself, you see. He wore the "Stop the Spadina expressway" button. Then he got up and started to holler that his party, in 1961, had spoken against this expressway.

Mr. MacDonald: And has the minister not read the speech?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I gave my view on his speech. I thought that at the time I said to the young students who were there—

Mr. MacDonald: Paternalism!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I should advise the hon. leader of the NDP to control his exuberance because it is going to get worse, it is not going to get better. You just wait for a few moments.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): It could not get any worse. It is horrible now.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, the hon. leader of the NDP got up before these students and said that in 1961 he had spoken against this expressway. He was a great hero. You know, I thought I remembered something about that because I was around here in 1961 too. It just did not jell. The crowd out there wanted to hear what the hon. member who was from the NDP would say, and also what the representative of the Liberal Party told the hon. member for Parkdale to say. That is what they were there to hear. They wanted to hear somebody who would say: "Let us stop the Spadina expressway."

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Where was the member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) at that point?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is a good question. The hon. leader of the NDP got up and made a great speech about how away back in 1961 he was against the expressway—

Mr. MacDonald: The minister is repeating himself.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I said that I thought he had objected to this in 1961 not merely on the expressway going through at all.

Mr. MacDonald: This is where the minister has not read the speech at all.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I am going to read it in a minute.

Mr. MacDonald: Just go ahead and read it.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I told the students out there that if my memory served me correctly, that he had objected to it at the time—

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Was that 1961?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That was 1961.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Then read it to us. It must be great.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Where were you then? Not on the basis, Mr. Speaker, of its need or otherwise but on the basis that it was being pushed by powerful—

Mr. MacDonald: That is only a part of it. You have not read the speech.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is what I told them. This is what I said and I thought that if I was wrong I would get up and apologize to him.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: There is nothing I distrust more than the minister giving my speeches.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I said, Mr. Speaker, that it was not on those grounds that I thought that he had—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Deans: They are not laughing with the minister; they are laughing at him.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I take it the hon. member for York South does not want me to read his speech, then.

Mr. MacDonald: I know my speech.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order please!

Mr. MacDonald: But give it complete, not just a part of it.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: His argument before those students was: "I was against it in 1961 and my party was against it in 1961. So, let us go back. I am quoting from March 27, 1961."

Mr. Lewis: Where did this all take place?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: This all took place on the front steps of the Parliament Buildings yesterday. To continue the quote, on March 27, 1961, from *Hansard*, at page 2615. I am quoting the hon. member for York South:

> I am referring to the issue of the proposed Spadina expressway extension. Let me say quite frankly at the outset, Mr. Speaker, that the people who are most opposed to this are the people who live in a portion of York South known as Cedarvale. And it is by no mischance that portion of the riding where the Spadina expressway will pass through—

And I do not know what that means, as if they were persecuting the hon. member:

> If you talk to the people who have approached me individually and collectively on behalf of the Cedarvale Ratepayers' Association, Mr. Speaker, you will find them frankly admitting that part of their interest is a selfish interest. When this kind of development takes place, it is a common experience that everyone wants it to be in somebody else's backyard, not in their own, and they will concede this. However, they will add, and I think with some justification, that there are other points to be considered here besides this.

Now listen to this one:

> For example, what disturbs me is that we are going to be putting an expressway through one of the better residential areas of the city.

So the area where my residents live is not one of the better areas; it is all right for them to go down there, I suppose.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: If I may continue, Mr. Speaker, at that time the hon. member for York South was representing some very rich residents and he was speaking for them then. I will go back to the quotation.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: If the hon. member will just listen he will hear some beautiful words of wisdom come back to haunt him. And I quote again, Mr. Speaker:

> Now it would seem to me it would be desirable if we are going to drive an expressway through, with all of the consequential altering of the area, the tearing down of buildings and so on—that the choice of the route would be made in terms of overall redevelopment of the city and we would pick areas that require redevelopment, not an area which is one of the better residential sections. And yet that is precisely what is going to happen.

He says, go down where the poor people are! Put the expressway through there—that is what he was saying.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: There is more to come, Mr. Speaker. However, that is only aspect of the question, Mr. Speaker, because I now want to consider what I described earlier as the broader principles.

> It would seem to me that if we are building expressways, they should be built as we see in Toronto at the present time, to provide rapid transit in bypassing the city at the north, such as Highway No. 401, or bypassing it at the south, such as the Gardiner Expressway, or the Don Valley Expressway in the east—

and—listen to this—

> —though exactly when it is scheduled I do not know —and the proposed extension of Highway No. 400 southward so that it can link up with the Gardiner Expressway.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): That is the one I am opposed to.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Now, Mr. Speaker, for those members who are not familiar with downtown Toronto, what the hon. member was saying at the time, was: "Get them away from my fine residential area!" "Put them down Christie Street, down—"

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Down through Bellwoods.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: "Down through the ridings downtown."

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: And it was shameful, Mr. Speaker, to watch him out there with that crowd—still being the hero who knew what they wanted to hear. They wanted to hear him say: stop the Spadina expressway, and he went further; he said: I was always against it. That is the way he was against it. He was against them tearing down some of the houses in his area.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Better not let an NDP run in Bellwoods.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Just in case, Mr. Speaker, somebody still feels that he was against them at the time, for what they call ecological or environmental reasons, this was what my recollection was. Further on he said, and I quote:

> In other words, Mr. Speaker: here you have what has all the earmarks of a behind-the-scenes deal, with certain powerful financial interests—primarily Eaton's and Simpson's—to build a cloverleaf on Highway 401, to facilitate their big new shopping centre which they are going to start this coming year.

That is what I have remembered, and I am glad I went to look it up, because actually what the hon. member was doing is just what everybody else tries to do, protect their own residents. "Take it some place else," he said. "Take it where the poor people are!" That is what he was saying.

Mr. MacDonald: You want to take it down among the poor people and tear their houses down.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Now, Mr. Speaker, I said to the people on the front steps of the Legislature—

Mr. MacDonald: And they booed you.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Of course they did; they did not come to hear what I had to say. It had been manipulated by your group to begin with—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, let me see if I am using my imagination.

An hon. member: Let us see how much imagination he has to use.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The chap leading them was Alderman Horace Brown, of the city council, and an NDP member of city council. He had this bullhorn and he said: "Now all together: We want John Robarts. We want John Robarts. Stop the Spadina expressway."

Now, it was not manipulated by the NDP, not much it was not.

Mr. Speaker, let me make this clear, I am not saying for a moment that there are not some very fine people concerned about this, and so they should be concerned. Everybody who is involved wherever there is an expressway going through is concerned. And let me not give the impression that they are all NDPers or anything of that nature, I am only describing what is going on in the city today. In many instances you look around at such meetings and you can see almost the same people at every one of them. The NDP pushing from behind.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Now, the Liberals were represented there too, they were represented on the steps yesterday by the hon. member for Parkdale. He was the official Liberal representative at that meeting—I think the hon. Leader of the Opposition would agree on that.

Mr. Nixon: No, anybody could go.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, the hon. member for Scarborough East was there. He did not speak and I think the hon. member for Parkdale would agree that he was introduced as speaking for his party.

Mr. Nixon: He was speaking for himself.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I was there; I am asking the hon. member for Parkdale. Am I correct that they introduced the hon. member as speaking for his party? Am I correct when I state that the hon. member was introduced as representing his party? The hon. member says yes.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): It has been denied by the member's leader. He says he was not.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He was representing the party. Now, the member merely said—no, the Liberal Party knows what the crowd wants to hear, too, you see, and so he merely said that "they are concerned about it and therefore their caucus was sending a couple of members down to Chicago or New York or Boston to study it." Of course, they got a bit of applause. Not quite as much as the NDP. And, of course, when I was called upon, I said that it was the government's policy not to interfere with Metropolitan Toronto in its plans.

The member for Parkdale himself said a few moments ago that what the municipalities want is more home rule and less interference. This is precisely what we are doing here. It is entirely up to Metropolitan Toronto. Even the member for Scarborough East, who made a very long speech on this the other day, on March 10, and it was a rather convoluted speech, goes back and forth, but said at one stage, in the middle of his speech, at page 433—the hon. member for Scarborough East who was there and could not speak for his party; he was not appointed so I presume—he said, however, in speaking of the matter of the expressway:

> These are matters to which we must leave Metro to its own devices.

And he went on later to give it word for word.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, if the hon. members do not mind, now that the municipal elections are over, you see, the idea was put up by some of these people, some of the manipulators, that "There is only one member involved here, and it is going right through the heart of Grossman's riding so let us try and give it to Grossman." So that was the deal. And so they converged on me. But they will never fool my people, because my people know that I have always been concerned with their interests and always will be and they trust me more than they will trust any of these manipulators.

I also pointed out to those in attendance that both the Liberal Party and the NDP in the last municipal election insisted on bringing party politics into the election. That both their parties had representatives running for council in the metropolitan area who were in favour of a continuation of the Spadina expressway. So what kind of nonsense is that? Who are you trying to kid?

I think it is an insult to the intelligence of the electorate for some of these people to carry on in the way that they have been. It was nothing but what my friend George Wardrope used to call "circumlocution and chicanery"; and you know, I do not think they fooled anybody there, if my political antenna is still as sensitive as it was, and I think it is. Those kids, those young people out there in front of the Legislature, after about 15 minutes began to sense what was going on. They knew they were being "given the gears" by the NDP and sort of suspected the Liberals were doing the same thing. Even though I did not tell them what they wanted to hear, I did not do too badly because young people are intelligent.

But just in case there still is any doubt in anyone's mind as to how the Liberal Party stands on this, I can quote the leader of that party on March 13, not so long ago, from the Toronto *Daily Star*, March 13, page 40, with a Kitchener dateline:

> Ontario Liberal leader Robert Nixon last night called for a committee of the Legislature to study future expressway construction. He said the Ontario government could not interfere with the present controversy over completing the Spadina expressway.

So you were kidding the troops out there yesterday. You went out there to give them an idea that you were stopping the Spadina expressway.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, in watching the debates of this House, the opposition has made quite a bit about the fact that some speeches by our PC members have been critical of the government. Well, "big deal". We have always had members who are critical of our government. And we are pleased that we have such members. That kind of constructive criticism can be offered openly in our party. They do not have to leave the party, as they do in the Liberal Party when they have some difficulties. And, of course, the New Democrats never split in a vote, never do; they are afraid to vote on their own. In all the years that I was a private member and went to the committees I recall only one occasion when there was only—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: In all the years that I was a member—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Yes, where is the member for Quinte (Mr. Potter)?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Delivering another blow to Grey-Bruce progress.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, in all the years that I have attended standing committees, I only recall one instance where the NDP once split on a vote, even in committee, let alone in this Legislature. And I recall one man in the Legislature and that was a gentleman, a former member for Woodbine, who spoke against something, and he was leaving the Legislature that year anyway.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I am coming to that. I do my research, do not worry about that.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The other one that I recall, of course, is the one we all witnessed where the hon. member for Cochrane South (Mr. Ferrier) voted for increasing the tax exemption for the mining companies, and in that case, of course, it is all right. Principle went down the drain there, because he had to look after his own votes, so these great principles that we are all expected to recognize and follow do not really matter as far as the NDP are concerned. They have got to look after where the votes are.

Mr. Stokes: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) would like to straighten his colleague out.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I understand, Mr. Speaker, that the member for Thunder Bay also voted that way. That only proves my point. You voted what you thought would be good for votes in your own riding.

Mr. Stokes: Well, that just deflates your whole argument.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I do not know why anything I say is so controversial. I am so reasonable about these things.

Mr. Speaker, I might as well clear this up. On March 18, the Toronto *Daily Star* had a headline, "Grossman Criticizes Fry Society for Assailing MPPs' jail visits", and I must say I do not know how that happened. It is not the reporter's fault. Somebody put this heading—

Mr. Nixon: That is the way it sounded from over here.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, the text says nothing about it. I just want to say that is a bit of irresponsible headline handling, that is all. And let us get that in the clear because I did not say that at all.

Mr. Speaker, in winding up this debate I would like to commend the two opposition parties for bringing certain matters to our attention and making suggestions for improvement in existing government programmes. We are always willing, as the Prime Minister has said in the past, to accept any good and reasonable suggestions. I must say this, it is difficult to commend them because as usual, well-intentioned though they may have been, in their enthusiasm half of their positions on how we should govern tended to go off the track and lose their way. Too often their thinking has been muddled, their proposals contradictory, their ideas merely extensions of programmes already initiated by this government and under consideration for further expansion.

Let me give you an example about the confusion on Medicare. We have heard the leader of the opposition and members of his party say, "Reduce the premiums by the amount of money you get back from the federal government", and then they said, "Take the premiums all off." Well, the hon. member—you are applauding that—you waffled on this too as you do on many other things.

Mr. Singer: The old Machiavellian plot.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Let me read what the hon. leader of the opposition said, according to the *Globe and Mail* on January 11—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: —January 11, 1968, in the *Globe and Mail*:

> At a press conference following the first day of a two-day Liberal caucus meeting, Mr. Nixon said Ontario could enter the scheme without spending any more money than at present and use the $150 million to $160 million in first year federal subsidies for whatever purpose it liked.

And further down:

> Mr. Nixon said the grant money should not be used for other than medical services, such as improving hospital facilities and training more doctors. But in fact the province could use it for housing or anything else, he said.

How can you use it to reduce premiums and use it for these other matters—

Mr. Nixon: I simply pointed out the flexibility of the federal programme.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Let us find out what some of the opposition's proposals for spending money would amount to. Frequently they have been long on idealism and short on practicality. However, as I say, the government welcomes constructive criticism, rare as it is from the opposition benches.

I would like to take a few minutes to deal with some of the recommendations, resolutions, and bills put forward by members of the Liberal and New Democratic parties in this third session of the 28th Legislature, and of one instance just prior to the session. These proposals illustrate the muddled thinking and the contradictions about which I have been speaking. Of course, as usual the opposition want things both ways. In one breath they advocate "hold the tax line", or "reduce taxes". In the next breath they put forward proposals which would break the back of the already heavily burdened taxpayer.

I have some rough estimates here, Mr. Speaker, of what the opposition proposals and various bills would cost the taxpayers of this province, and these recommendations, 90 per cent of them, were all made in less than the last four weeks. Imagine if this session goes on ten months; I do not know where we would get all the money, we would have to collect all the money in the world. Roughly, the total cost of these recommendations would be $1,341 million, or about one third on top of the current budget.

I have not even taken into consideration today's recommendations. The member for Scarborough West, for example, talked about purchasing land for millions and millions and millions of dollars. I have not taken that into consideration. He spoke about one item for $31 million. Mr. Speaker, in "education" here is an example of a bill and a resolution put forward by the hon. member for Scarborough East (Mr. T. Reid), who presumably, if the Liberals ever got into power, would be the Minister of Education.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, the member for Scarborough East has a bill to permit school boards to pay the full amount of the cost of providing hospital care, health services, group insurance and the like to its employees. It is similar to the amendment to The Municipal Act, passed in 1968-69 in that regard. That is estimated by the specialists in the department of economics as costing some $16 million. The member for Scarborough East has a resolution on the order paper:

> That in the opinion of this House, the government of Ontario should:
>
> 1. Immediately grant adjustments to superannuated teachers on the basis of 2.5 per cent per year that each teacher has been receiving as his or her pension.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: One fool at a time please.

Mr. Speaker, that would cost approximately $7 million.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, number two:

> Accept the offer of the Ontario Teachers' Federation to undertake an increase in contributions of non-retired contributors up to one-half of one per cent.

Four million dollars.

> 3. Amend The Teachers' Superannuation Act to include provision for the escalation of pensions as they relate to increases in the cost of living.

The estimated cost of this, sir, is $40 million annually.

Mr. Speaker, in itself, this totals to $67 million and does not even include an estimate on what his fourth suggestion is:

> Amend The Teacher's Superannuation Act to include provision for increases in practising teachers' median salaries.

It does not even include that, because at the moment, we were not—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I agree that it would be wonderful to do all of these things. I do not disagree with them.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: While discussing the hon. member's resolution proposals—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister has the floor and I would ask for a little bit of quietness for him.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: While discussing the hon. member's educational proposals—I am not accustomed to reading press clippings, except, as the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) would probably say, "as long as they are saying something nice about me"—but the *Globe and Mail* of Thursday, March 19, which was yesterday, and you have all seen this, I presume, but just in case somebody missed it: "Mr. Reid's double vision." It starts off: "No man in Ontario was more—"

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I am going to put it into the record, do you mind? The hon. member is going to send out *Hansard*, I would like to have it on record.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Just settle back and listen.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Quoting:

> No man in Ontario was more aware of the need for economy in education spending, on March 10, than Liberal MPP Timothy Reid.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Quoting:

> Mr. Reid was so concerned, speaking in the Legislature, that he called for "an immediate freeze on new secondary school provincial capital grants pending."

And further on:

> Mr. Reid certainly, on March 10, was a man deeply concerned, and rightly, to protect the taxpayer from what he viewed as an extravagant waste of dollars in the education field. But Mr. Reid, on March 17, was a different fellow altogether.
>
> The issue then was the number of candidates for training as secondary school teachers who are likely to be turned away this fall from the colleges of education, perhaps as many as four out of five. Mr. Reid contended that The Department of Education should not turn away any highly qualified applicant; it should train them all, and use them to reduce the ratio of students to teachers.
>
> The operating costs of schools, which apparently do not concern Mr. Reid, are incomparably greater than the capital costs, which do. In Metro Toronto this year operating costs will be somewhere in the neighbourhood of eight times as high as capital costs, and the overwhelming amount of that eight-times figure will go to pay teachers' salaries.
>
> Somehow Mr. Reid's attitude strikes us a little inconsistent, and a little political. Where lies his deepest interest—in protecting the taxpayer or getting the government?

A good question.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: "Penny wise, pound foolish."

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Incidentally, Mr. Speaker, I did not even include this in the calculations on what all these suggestions would cost.

With reference to education, a suggestion was made just prior to this session by the hon. leader of the opposition. I have not got the exact date but it was just prior to the session. The suggestion was made that the province ought to assume 80 per cent of the cost of education at the local level. This would cost approximately $492,500,000.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, the opposition also made very many costly proposals relating to health. The health proposals they made—I will not go into them in detail—amounted to $488 million.

You want me to go on with the details, I will be glad to, but I presume you will take my word for it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The hon. member for Hamilton Centre (Mr. Davison) made a recommendation regarding social and family services which would add another $293,600,000 on to the bill.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Now, Mr. Speaker, all of these recommendations are all very, very estimable. We all would like to see them put into effect, but sitting here, we have to find the money for them. I would like to find out just exactly where the opposition would like us to find that money.

Using the estimated revenue, Mr. Speaker, from the 1969 budget for the fiscal year 1969-1970, should this additional $1.3 billion be raised from increased gasoline taxes? In the current fiscal year, the collections estimated in gasoline tax are $358 million. To reach this amount of money, that is $1.3 billion, would require an increase of 363 per cent in collections. You tell us where to get the money.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The present tax on gasoline amounts to about 18 cents a gallon. In other words, we have to raise the tax by about 65 cents a gallon.

This would mean a total gasoline tax of 83 cents per gallon. Now, Mr. Speaker, this government does not believe that the citizens of this province should pay $1.13 for a gallon of gas.

Perhaps the opposition parties will say, "Take it out on income tax—that portion which you pay to the province." To reach this $1.3 billion would require an increase of 183 per cent of what is being paid now. This government does not believe that the citizens of this province should pay personal income tax of 183 per cent more than at present to the Ontario government.

Perhaps the retail sales tax—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You perhaps should be a little more careful about the recommendations you make or you are going to cost the people a lot of money.

Mr. Speaker, maybe they would perhaps take the money from the retail sales tax. They would have to raise the tax to 15 per cent. This government does not believe that the taxpayers of this province should have to pay a retail sales tax of 15 per cent.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, while I agree that the hon. member for Downsview, when he got up on his feet and spoke for over an hour, was really very brilliant—and that is why I stayed here to listen to him—we cannot all be brilliant. I am doing the best I can with what I have got, so I am sorry to lose him.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What I have got here is this. Of course, the Liberals and I am sure the NDP would say, "Well, soak the corporations; get the money out of them." To reach this amount of money, we would require an increase of 319 per cent in corporations tax and I do not think that even the socialist party would want to see such an increase because they know where all the industry would go. To the States or Timbuktu.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Even Premier Schreyer of Manitoba has realized the value of not overtaxing corporations, because he is making sure that some of them will not be afraid to come to Manitoba for fear that they are going to be overtaxed. So I do not know what the opposition parties want us to do to get this extra $1.3 billion.

Mr. Speaker, the Liberal amendment is a vague combination of convoluted thinking, arrived at by—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: —by ineffectual attack on government. It blatantly avoids the tremendous strides forward made by this government.

For instance, it talks about failure to provide adequate housing for the people. Just how ridiculous this contention is becomes quickly apparent when one takes even a passing look at the true situation. Even in public housing alone in 1967, the Ontario Housing Corporation built more public housing in one year than the whole of Canada had built in the previous 15 years.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: This has got to be repeated because you are giving the impression across the province that this government is not doing enough in public housing.

In 1964 Ontario provided 33.8 per cent of the total of all the public housing in Canada. In 1965, 79.6 per cent of the total for all of Canada. In 1966, 72.6 per cent of the total and, as I said, in 1967, 98 per cent of the total, and in 1968, 93.5 per cent of the total. That is not a bad record in public housing.

Mr. MacDonald: How many people are waiting for a house in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, one of the things that really rubbed me, I must admit, was the Liberal amendment which stated: "the failure of the government to provide initiative and co-operation and efforts to bring reform and equity into federal and municipal tax arrangements."

Mr. Nixon: Right. Point number one.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Why, if there is anything you cannot charge this government with it is that.

Mr. Nixon: We can and we will.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Our government has proposed that federal-provincial fiscal policy co-ordination will be made much more meaningful through a ministerial committee with responsibility for the complete range of intergovernmental economic and fiscal policy.

Our government suggested the creation of a federal-provincial tax commission to ensure a high degree of continuous co-operation of the administration of the tax system in this country.

Our government proposed the development of a permanent and independent intergovernmental affairs secretariat.

Our government officials are in contact with other governments in Canada on a day-to-day basis, as a matter of fact, and our government will convene, on April 24, a provincial-municipal conference on this topic, which as an end result will produce a great deal of equity and rationality in the entire financial structure of all three levels of government.

In any case, Mr. Speaker, the attempt to paint our Prime Minister as a divisive factor in this country just will not wash with the people.

Mr. Nixon: I do not talk that way.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: To suggest that our leader here is looking for a fight with Ottawa is the most absurd thing I have ever heard in my life. He has done more to keep this country together than any other man in this country.

Mr. Nixon: He is not doing it very effectively.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I have got much more I would like to say about these amendments which have been made. Just let me speak about one more amendment made by the Liberal Party, and that is that the suggestion that this government, somehow or other, is neglecting northern development.

How would they ever have the unmitigated gall to even suggest this, when as a matter of fact the last Liberal government we had liquidated the Northern Development Department.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: They make the northern minister a lawyer from Rosedale, they have got to be kidding. He should be decentralized.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He is already proving he is a more capable minister than anybody on that side could be, and I will say this: a minister from Timbuktu, for northern affairs, would still be an improvement over what the Liberals did when they eliminated the department altogether.

Mr. Nixon: You are going to be wiped out of the north.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make another comment or two. As usual, the NDP like its father the CCF, is smug and self righteous, only more so. They do not even make an attempt at having any principles; they have practically said so at their conventions: "we want power; to hell with principle" that is what they have in fact said, they just will not budge.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I will prophesy that they will make the same mistake as they did before. The moment they get more than a half dozen members in the Legislature they get smug, they get arrogant, they talk like the member for Scarborough West and as they did in the mid 40s—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I pointed out one example of their contempt for the intelligence of the electorate by their behaviour outside in front of the Parliament buildings yesterday. Now let me give you another example; the grandstand play in the House the other day, which was a shameful thing.

On Tuesday of this week the hon. member for York South requested information from the Prime Minister about the proposed shutdown of the Dunlop rubber plant. The Prime Minister offered to refer the question to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) "so that he might tell the House exactly what had been done to date in order to provide some assistance to those people who are going to be put out of work because of these events". That is the end of the quote.

The Prime Minister went on to propose that the House go on to receive a full statement from the Minister of Labour, but the leader of the New Democratic Party did not want that. He did not want the facts. He said, and I quote from *Hansard*: "If the minister wants to make that statement, I suggest that it is a ministerial statement as of tomorrow".

Now it was so urgent, so important, that it could wait until the next day. But a short time later the hon. member for Riverdale

(Mr. J. Renwick) made a great grandstand play over this in the House. He demanded a government statement; the matter was urgent he said. Yet a few short hours before, the NDP did not want to hear a statement from the Minister of Labour on this matter.

Mr. Nixon: Is that the day he used those bad words?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: It is understandable, Mr. Speaker, that the member for Riverdale would be concerned. All members of this House and this government are concerned about the situation. But we have on the one hand the members of the NDP asking for information and then not wanting to hear it.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): We did hear it though, it was nothing.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: As usual they were playing politics with the plight of the unfortunate. Now the NDP amendment, as the Liberals have said, is one of the most ridiculous amendments that the NDP has ever put forward; bankrupt of ideas. What they are saying in effect is that the taxpayers of this province should be required to cough up $6 million for an election; and for what purpose? The only conclusion we can reach about a call for an election, is that it is a desperate attempt by the leader of the NDP to draw his party together after the leadership convention which split his party and put him in the position of bucking, amongst others, that mixed bag of millionaires, Maoists, Marxists, new leftists, and some completely reactionary types. What a mixed bag they have over there.

Incidentally, Mr. Speaker, I think this is why they get into trouble after they have more than half a dozen. You see you get half a dozen socialists together and if they talk to other socialists they can usually go along with the same policy. But if they get themselves 15 or 20 seats, they get a mixed bag; they've got all these types and they are having trouble, and we know they are having trouble; we can see the trouble going on there.

Mr. Speaker, I have only touched on some of the points here; I could go on and give you many more reasons the amendments should be defeated.

Now we realize there is much to be done; we realize, Mr Speaker, that there are, and always will be, major problems to cope with. We are eager and anxious to encourage growth and progress. We are committed to continually keeping Ontario "a place to stand and a place to grow".

I am sure this government is meeting the expectations of the people of this province and providing sound and courageous leadership. Now what does the public call for, when they call for courageous leadership and courageous government? What do they mean?

Mr. Speaker, they mean action which needs to be taken but which they, and the government, know is most difficult; that it has a lot of hazards. This we have done and now the opposition is counting on the fact that having done these courageous things—such as reassessment, consolidation of school boards, and regional government—these things will play against us at an election. That is what they are planning on.

It is our view, Mr. Speaker, when the chips are down, that people will respect a government which stands up straight, talks straight, and brings in the legislation which is needed in these difficult times.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, they will support our government which with integrity forges ahead with these things which are needed by the people of Ontario, even with the knowledge of the political risks involved.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I am only going to have to repeat it.

Mr. Speaker: Order:

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Is the minister finished?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: No, I am going to repeat this, and say they will support a government with integrity like ours, which forges ahead with those things which are needed by the people of Ontario even with the knowledge of the political risk involved and there is more to come and we will bring it in if the people need it.

Mr. Speaker, in the final analysis the public will recognize that in Ontario, in spite of all the doom and gloom handed out here in this House tonight, we have one of the most prosperous jurisdictions in the world. When they, the people, look around at this world of ours, Mr. Speaker, they see Ontario as an oasis of stability, prosperity and integrity.

Mr. Speaker, I realize that the opposition felt they had to bring in some amendments, but I am sure that after the reasoned argument I put forward they will either withdraw their amendments or vote for the main motion.

Mr. Speaker: If the members are ready I will proceed to put the motion and the amendment. The throne debate being now concluded I shall call for the vote as follows:

Mr. G. E. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. W. Newman that the following humble address be presented to the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Ontario:

> May it please Your Honour, we, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the legislative assembly of the province of Ontario, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us.

Mr. Nixon moved, seconded by Mr. Singer, that the following words be added to the motion:

> That this House regrets the failure of the government,
>
> 1. To provide initiative and co-operation in efforts to bring reform and equity into federal, provincial and municipal tax systems;
>
> 2. To provide an efficient system of comprehensive medical insurance funded from the tax base;
>
> 3. To provide for equality of educational opportunity in the public and separate systems;
>
> 4. To strengthen and decentralize municipal and regional government and instead has imposed autocratic and centralizing policies seriously eroding local autonomy while ignoring the special needs of large urban centres;
>
> 5. To take meaningful action to combat the pollution of our environment or to provide a plan for Ontario which will direct the strengthening of the quality of life in the face of growing population and industrialization;
>
> 6. To include agriculture and northern development in a programme for economic development;
>
> 7. To provide jobs for the growing work force of this province;
>
> 8. To provide adequate housing for the people of Ontario;
>
> and therefore the government does not have the confidence of this House.

Mr. MacDonald moved, seconded by Mr. J. Renwick, that the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, now before this House, be amended by deleting all the words after the words "housing for the people of Ontario" and substituting

> And further, this House regrets the failure of the government to provide in the Speech from the Throne any significant proposals to deal with the real social and economic problems faced by the people of Ontario, and therefore, since the present government has lost the will to govern, this House calls upon the Prime Minister to advise His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, to dissolve this legislative assembly and to issue forthwith the writs for a general election of members to serve in a new legislative assembly.

We will, of course, first vote on the amendment to the amendment moved by Mr. MacDonald.

All those in favour of the amendment to the amendment will please say "aye."

Those opposed will please say "nay."

In my opinion, the "nays" have it.

Call in the members.

It will be necessary for the members to preserve a certain amount of decorum so that the Clerk may have the count on the vote completed.

The vote is on the amendment to the amendment moved by Mr. MacDonald.

The amendment to the amendment by Mr. MacDonald, having been put, was lost on the following division:

Ayes	Nays
Bolton	Allan
Braithwaite	Apps
Breithaupt	Auld
Bukator	Bales
Burr	Bernier
Davison	Boyer
Deacon	Brunelle
Deans	Carruthers
De Monte	Connell
Edighoffer	Davis
Ferrier	Demers
Gaunt	Downer
Gisborn	Dunlop
Good	Evans
Lawlor	Gilbertson
Lewis	Grossman
MacDonald	Guindon
MacKenzie	Hamilton
Martel	Haskett
Newman (Windsor-Walkerville)	Henderson
	Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton)

Ayes	Nays
Nixon	Hodgson
Paterson	(York North)
Peacock	Jessiman
Pilkey	Johnston
Pitman	(Parry Sound)
Reid	Johnston
(Scarborough East)	(Carleton)
Renwick	Kennedy
(Scarborough	Kerr
Centre)	Knight
Ruston	Lawrence
Sargent	(Carleton East)
Singer	Lawrence
Smith	(St. George)
(Nipissing)	MacNaughton
Stokes	Morningstar
Trotter	Morrow
Worton	McKeough
Young—35.	McNeil
	Price
	Pritchard
	Reuter
	Robarts
	Rollins
	Root
	Rowe
	Rowntree
	Simonett
	Smith
	(Simcoe East)
	Smith
	(Hamilton
	Mountain)
	Snow
	Stewart
	Villeneuve
	Welch
	Wells
	White
	Whitney
	Winkler
	Wishart
	Yakabuski
	Yaremko—57.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the ayes are 35, the nays 57.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the amendment lost.

We will now vote on the amendment moved by Mr. Nixon. All those in favour of the amendment will please say "aye."

Those opposed, will please say "nay."

In my opinion the "nays" have it.

Call in the members.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Speaker, I had to smash the door to this House to get in.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is not entitled to entry to this House when the bells have stopped ringing.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Speaker, the vote had been taken on the previous motion. The door ought to have been open to admit members and I had to break into the chamber.

Mr. Speaker: The door is not opened until the division is completed and if the hon. member is not in at the beginning of the taking of the division, then as far as I am concerned—

Mr. Ben: The division was taken, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Was the bell ringing again?

Mr. Ben: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member then is quite correct, and I would call to the hon. member's attention that at the hour of 3.20 a.m. the people we have on the door are elderly people and it is quite likely they could be in that position and I have every sympathy with them.

I apologize to the hon. member if he was kept out when the bell was ringing, but those things happen. Perhaps at this hour of the morning it is quite understandable.

Now is it agreed by the parties that we accept the same vote reversed with two additional "aye"votes?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, you would have to deduct one and add two; may I suggest we have another vote?

Mr. Speaker: That is what I thought we were doing in the first place. May I ask the members to have a little patience if the doors happen to be locked, because I do not think there is an attendant for each one and I think there is probably one attendant trying to look after two or three doors.

Call in the members.

The vote is on the amendment moved by Mr. Nixon.

All those in favour of the amendment will please say "aye."

All those opposed, will please say "nay."

In my opinion, the "nays" have it.

Now are we agreed that there should be a count of the members again this time? The bells have rung; the Clerk will please take the count as I call for the vote.

The amendment by Mr. Nixon, having been put, was lost on the following division:

Ayes	Nays
Ben	Allan
Bolton	Apps
Braithwaite	Auld
Breithaupt	Bales
Bukator	Bernier
Burr	Boyer
Davison	Brunelle
Deacon	Carruthers
Deans	Connell
De Monte	Davis
Edighoffer	Demers
Ferrier	Downer
Gaunt	Dunlop
Gisborn	Evans
Good	Gilbertson
Knight	Grossman
Lawlor	Guindon
Lewis	Hamilton
MacDonald	Haskett
MacKenzie	Henderson
Martel	Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton)
Newman (Windsor-Walkerville)	Hodgson (York North)
Nixon	Jessiman
Paterson	Johnston (Parry Sound)
Peacock	Johnston (Carleton)
Pilkey	Kennedy
Pitman	Kerr
Reid (Scarborough East)	Lawrence (Carleton East)
Renwick (Scarborough Centre)	Lawrence (St. George)
Ruston	MacNaughton
Sargent	Morningstar
Singer	Morrow
Smith (Nipissing)	McKeough
Stokes	McNeil
Trotter	Price
Worton	Pritchard
Young—37.	Reuter
	Robarts
	Rollins
	Root
	Rowe
	Rowntree
	Simonett
	Smith (Simcoe East)
	Smith (Hamilton Mountain)
	Snow
	Stewart
	Villeneuve
	Welch
	Wells
	White
	Whitney
	Winkler
	Wishart
	Yakabuski
	Yaremko—56.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 37, the "nays" 56.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the amendment lost.

We will now vote on the motion by Mr. G. E. Smith of Simcoe East.

All those in favour of the motion will please say "aye."

Those opposed, please say "nay."

In my opinion, the "ayes" have it.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): We would accept the same vote reversed.

Mr. Speaker: The same vote as recorded reversed. Agreed? I declare the motion agreed to.

Resolved: that a humble address be presented to the Honourable W. Ross MacDonald, Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Ontario:

May it please Your Honour, we, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the legislative assembly of the province of Ontario, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour hath addressed to us.

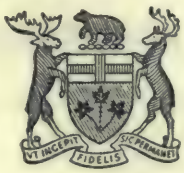
Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, I would like to inform the House that when we get into the estimates, which will be after the budget is presented, the first department will be Tourism and Information, the second The Department of Transport, the third The Department of the Civil Service, the fourth The Department of Mines. And then, subject to the exigencies of life in this House, the next three will be The Department of the Provincial Secretary, The Department of Correctional Services and The Department of Public Works.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, March 31, 1970, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 3.30 o'clock, a.m.

No. 24



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, March 31, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, March 31, 1970

Budget address, Mr. MacNaughton 943

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Nixon, agreed to 958

Federal prohibition of sale and export of commercial fish caught in Lake St. Clair, statement by Mr. Kerr 958

Mercury pollution in Lake St. Clair, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Singer, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Paterson, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Burr 959

Incendiary fires in OHC apartment buildings, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Singer 962

Committee investigating tenants' complaints in Porter Avenue housing, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. MacDonald 965

Draft position paper re setting up a committee to look after Harbour City, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Singer 965

Study based on original MTART study, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 965

Compensation for fishermen in Lake St. Clair, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Ruston, Mr. Paterson 966

Prohibition of ownership of recreational lands by foreigners, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Sopha 966

Announcement by Provincial Treasurer about mortgages for housing, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Peacock, Mr. Lewis 966

Action to stop rug companies from using deodrene, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Trotter 967

Ontario pavilion at Osaka, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Pitman, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Sopha 967

Reviewing applications for designated areas in Essex-Kent region, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. Ruston 968

Restoration and upkeep of lighthouse in Essex county, questions to Mr. Auld, Mr. Ruston 969

Details re Stelco and Dofasco programmes for water pollution control, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Deans 969

Archaeological and Historic Sites Protection Act, bill to amend, Mr. Pitman, first reading 969

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 969

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have here a message from the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, signed by his own hand.

Mr. Speaker: By his own hand, W. R. Macdonald, the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, transmits estimates of certain sums required for the services of the province for the year ending March 31, 1971, and recommends them to the legislative assembly, Toronto, March 31, 1970.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The eighth order; House in committee on ways and means.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and that the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

BUDGET ADDRESS

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, the government has promised the people of Ontario that its 1970 budget would be balanced, without tax increases. I am pleased to submit to you today a budget that honours this commitment and goes even further toward meeting other important objectives.

This 1970 budget has been constructed in a difficult economic and fiscal environment. In the decade ahead, the continuing potential for economic and social development is unquestionable. However, our immediate legacy from the 1960s is an economy and a public sector in Canada that are fundamentally out of balance. The evidence is abundant:

The economy is struggling under persistent inflation, tight money and increasing unemployment;

Expectations and appetites are rising far faster than the real resources available to satisfy them;

The public sector is growing excessively, relative to private production, investment and consumption; and,

The chronic fiscal mismatch of governments is steadily worsening.

The challenge to public policy in the 1970s, therefore, is the restoration of balance and stability in the economy and in the federal system. The achievement of these goals will require long-run strategies to deflate expectations and combat latent inflationary tendencies, to keep the economy operating at full potential, to contain growth in the public sector within the bounds of present taxes, and to achieve a closer matching between the responsibilities of and the resources available to each level of government. Only with concerted government action to meet these requirements can Canada regain the essential balance necessary for real economic progress and true social reform.

The small surplus, which will be proposed in this budget, demonstrates that, in this uncertain period, the Ontario government is steering a responsible course of moderation and consolidation in the province while contributing, in a constructive manner, toward the achievement of these broad national purposes.

As in the past three years, this budget statement is complemented by three budget papers in order to provide a broader perspective on the economic, fiscal and financial policies of the government.

I call the members' attention particularly to budget paper B, which contains an analysis of the operations and financing of the total government sector within Ontario. It illustrates the fiscal role, in this province, of each of the three levels of government and shows the significant financial interactions among them. It documents the amount of taxes raised by the federal, provincial and municipal governments and shows where this money is spent. Budget paper B reveals that in 1968-69, for example, the federal government drew off $1.4 billion in financial resources from Ontario for redistribution to the fiscally weaker provinces. The magnitude of this reallocation, which can be expected to

grow annually, indicates the importance of Ontario as a generator of wealth and fiscal resources for the entire country.

Budget paper A discusses current economic problems and the outlook for 1970, which is the background for the determination of our fiscal policies. It focuses on the problem of inflation and discusses the merits of present stabilization policies. It presents the government's views on the long-run strategies and changes that are required to achieve price stability without high unemployment, and suggests means of improving federal-provincial policy co-ordination.

Budget paper C is a comprehensive presentation of the government's financial statements. The facts and figures for budgetary, non-budgetary and debt transactions which are presented in that paper provide a complete overview of the financial activities of the Ontario government.

Before proceeding with the details of this budget I should like to discuss the major developments on the economic and federal-provincial fronts that directly affect the Ontario government's immediate and longer-run budgetary plans. The first and most immediate factor influencing our 1970 fiscal plans is the performance of the Ontario economy. After nearly a decade of unprecedented growth, our economy is undergoing a significant slowdown while struggling with persistent inflation at the same time. Therefore, our 1970 fiscal policy is intended to provide a moderate, yet positive, thrust to the economy.

Second, the matter of tax-sharing reform continues to be of paramount importance. Notwithstanding the widespread recognition of the totally unsatisfactory distribution of revenue sources, I must report, with regret, the recent tax structure committee exercise has left us no closer to resolution of the problem of federal-provincial fiscal imbalance.

Third, the equally vital and related matter of tax-structure reform is a public issue of high priority. In my last budget I set out the government's proposals for achieving comprehensive and co-ordinated tax reform, both in the provincial-municipal sphere and the federal-provincial shared-tax fields. In the interval, the federal government has brought forward its proposals for reform in these shared-tax areas and encouraged commentary or criticism. In recent weeks, we have asserted our fundamental disagreement with the federal approach to tax reform. We will continue to make proposals for a more acceptable tax system and to suggest means of achieving that goal.

As 1970 unfolds it is becoming increasingly evident that the Ontario economy is experiencing a significant slowdown.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Always passing the buck to Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Growth in production and sales is leveling off, corporate profits are dropping, housing starts are down sharply and unemployment is rising. Prices, however, are reacting very slowly to this deceleration in economic activity. Consequently, I anticipate that our gross provincial product will rise by only seven per cent in 1970—about 3 per cent in volume of output and about 4 per cent in prices. By comparison, output rose by more than 5 per cent in 1969 and gross provincial product advanced by 9.6 per cent. The prospects for 1970, therefore, add up to a below-potential performance for the Ontario economy.

This retreat from the buoyant economic advances of the preceding decade is largely the result of stringent monetary and fiscal policies designed to combat inflation. Budget paper B shows the massive impact of federal fiscal action in Ontario. As I have noted, in the expansionary fiscal year 1968-1969, the federal government drew off $1.4 billion in financial resources from Ontario. Based on the large surplus that the federal government is now running, the current reallocation out of Ontario probably exceeds $1.8 billion — or more than $250 from every person in Ontario. Obviously this creates a huge fiscal drag and a strong deflationary bias in the Ontario economy.

The government of Ontario agrees that price stability must be restored. However, the costs of present federal policies are already very high: fewer new jobs, higher unemployment, lower real growth and reduced productivity.

Mr. Sargent: And millions of dollars in forgiveness loans to Americans.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: This economic slackening is detrimental not only to Ontario but also to the country as a whole. Certainly any further restraint would be excessive, creating still higher unemployment and little further improvement in prices and costs. Budget paper A deals with this problem of inflation and pubic policy in detail. It suggests that we must seek longer-run strategies to prevent wide economic swings in the future.

In particular, we must devise better co-ordinating mechanisms among governments and find a way to achieve orderly growth in the public sector. The lesson to be learned from our present difficulties is to avoid excesses, particularly within the public sector; it is these excesses which have been built into the inflationary spiral over many years.

Our fiscal policy for 1970 is designed to provide a moderate expansionary stimulus to the Ontario economy. Given the evidence of economic softening and the uncertainty that continued restrictive fiscal policies will be effective against inflation, we believe that some relaxation of provincial restraint is required. To achieve this positive fiscal impact, while at the same time keeping our finances in balance, we have applied part of the 1969-1970 surplus against 1970-1971 commitments. We have planned to maintain essential provincial expenditures and to increase our aid to municipalities without raising taxes. In fact, we are reducing taxes in selected areas to provide incentives and to reduce certain burdens. We also intend to refrain from new borrowing for provincial account in order to avoid added pressure on strained capital markets. Finally, we are co-operating with the prices and incomes commission in its efforts to secure voluntary restraint in all sectors of the economy. We believe that such a fiscal programme is appropriate in the face of an uncertain economic environment. Should the economic outlook deteriorate in the coming months we stand ready to adjust our policies quickly.

In 1969, the tax structure was reactivated to examine again the balance of fiscal responsibilities and resources of each level of government. Its 1970 report confirms the findings of the original 1966 study, which documented the chronic underfinancing at the provincial-municipal level and the potential fiscal surpluses at the federal level. The new projections show that, by 1971-1972, provincial-municipal deficits will be in the order of $1.8 billion, while the federal government will enjoy a substantial surplus.

The 1970 report reveals the inevitable results of independent financing and uncoordinated growth in public expenditures. The federal government virtually ignored the 1966 findings and told the provinces "to go out and raise taxes." That is exactly what has happened; property taxes and provincial taxes have been increased regularly to finance fast-growing costs in education, health, transportation and urban development. Meanwhile, the federal government has developed new programmes to dispose of its potential surpluses. As a consequence, the total government sector is steadily pre-empting a larger share of the national product. The 1970 report shows that all government expenditures, which took up 29 per cent of gross national product in 1964-1965, have grown to over 33 per cent in 1969-1970 and should reach 35 per cent by 1971-1972. In just five years, the public sector has increased its claim on the national product by about 15 per cent. This trend must be halted.

The government has consistently argued that rapid growth of government expenditures would be the inevitable result of unco-ordinated tax programmes. Unless the financial requirements at each level of government can be accommodated and harmonized within one integrated system, the public sector will continue to encroach on the economy and the overall tax system will degenerate, with the taxpayer as the ultimate victim.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): This is not necessarily bad.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: On the basis—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Is that what you want? More taxes!

Mr. Sopha: More government services!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: On the basis of the new tax structure committee findings Ontario, along with other provinces, recommended that present fiscal arrangements be modified so that the provinces together would have greater revenue at their disposal for 1970-1971 and 1971-1972, without channeling a greater proportion of national product into the public sector. The federal government was again unwilling to consider new fiscal arrangements and restated its position that each government should proceed with independent taxing and spending decisions.

Such is the intergovernmental framework within which we must operate for 1970, and presumably, for subsequent years. The failure to obtain a sensible resolution of federal-provincial tax-sharing problems will inevitably limit the government's ability to increase aid to municipalities and to maintain essential provincial services.

Since my last budget, which set out the province's plan for reform of taxation and government structure in Ontario, the federal government has brought forth its proposals for tax reform. The Ontario government agrees with some of the federal objectives, particularly tax relief for low-income families,

fairer treatment of wage and salary earners, child care allowances for working mothers, and a fair and equitable form of taxation of capital gains.

On the other hand, we have serious reservations about the validity and workability of the federal proposals as a whole. We believe that the federal approach to tax reform is deficient on three major grounds: it increases federal taxes rather than maintaining or reducing them; it is piecemeal rather than comprehensive; and it will generate adverse rather than positive economic effects.

The federal white paper proposals have been designed to produce a significant increase in federal revenue-raising capacity, a move which we regard as totally retrograde. Given the surplus fiscal resources already available to the federal government, and the need to contain public sector growth, federal tax reform should aim to reduce taxes, not increase them. By contrast with Canada, the recent United States tax reform legislation entails a substantial reduction in federal tax revenues and, hence, a reduced federal claim on gross national product.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Now we know where this government stands.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We believe Canada should be moving in a similar direction. The best guarantee to taxpayers that there will be some control of government spending is to leave resources in the hands of the people, rather than taking more under the guise of reform.

Mr. J. Renwick: In the hands of what people?

Mr. Sopha: To take them to the Bahamas like E. P. Taylor, is that what you mean?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We strongly urge, therefore, that the federal proposals be amended to produce no net revenue gains. This can be achieved by offsetting the ultimate increases which will accrue in the corporation tax field by reductions in federal income tax rates, thereby providing—

Mr. Sargent: Do not worry about Ottawa, you run your own show.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —tax relief to low-income families without placing heavier burdens on all other taxpayers.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): What happened to the minister's tax reform?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The federal government is proceeding with reform by introducing changes in one tax field after another; first gift and estate taxes, then insurance company taxes, and now personal and corporate income taxes. Little regard has been shown for the cumulative effect on taxpayers. For example, the piling of capital gains taxes on top of the new estate tax amounts to confiscatory taxation. The piecemeal federal approach also fails to deal with tax reform in a comprehensive way—

Mr. Sargent: I thought it was the Ontario budget the minister was talking about.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —that the Ontario government advocated in its own white paper. Our mutual goal should be the redistribution of total federal-provincial-municipal tax burdens.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: The hon. minister should feel free to interject. It is all right, he does not have to stick to his speech.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The goal of equity demands this comprehensive approach, because it is the property tax, not the income tax, that bears most heavily on low-income families. By ignoring provincial-municipal needs and inhibiting complementary provincial-municipal reforms, the federal government's proposed tax reform is almost certain to be a hollow achievement. Equity gains in the income tax area, achieved in isolation, could well be negated by increased reliance on regressive property taxes and on provincial taxes generally. We urge that the broader requirements of comprehensive tax design and reallocation of tax revenues among governments be accommodated in any federal reform programme. Only in this way can government genuinely serve the best interests of taxpayers.

The federal tax reform proposals also contain major drawbacks in terms of their potential economic consequences. I have already set out our views in this regard at the appropriate federal-provincial meetings, drawing attention to the inflationary bias, and to the adverse effects on small businesses, on private savings and investment, on innovation and risk-taking, and on the long-run growth potential of the economy generally. In addition, the new proposals appear to create an unfavourable climate for Canadian-based international companies. Surely in the modern age

of multinational corporations, with their advantages of scale, technology and specialization, Canada should be trying to increase its participation in such international economic activity.

Our concern in these and other areas led the government to call for broad-ranging studies of the economic implications of the federal white paper along the lines of those undertaken for the Carter commission. Such studies would provide a concrete basis for moderating many of the federal reform proposals. We intend to continue to present our ideas on tax reform at future intergovernmental conferences and to press for comprehensive tax reform.

Let me outline briefly the tax reform strategy that we believe is appropriate in Canada to meet the problems and exploit the potential of the 1970s. We start with the fact that there is only one taxpayer for all levels of government. We believe his total tax bill is too high. Moreover, the present federal-provincial-municipal tax systems—

Mr. Sargent: Especially in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —bearing upon him are haphazard and unco-ordinated. The two essential conditions for reform, therefore, are to arrest the growth in total public expenditures and to rationalize the overall tax structure.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): You are opting out as a government!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Without these conditions, tax reform will be wiped out by the steady encroachment of government and by competition for the tax dollar.

Furthermore, we believe that tax reform must preserve a strong economy by fostering opportunity and productivity to achieve long-run growth and development. Unless taxes are redesigned to provide for sound economic growth, the result could be less real gain for all. Our approach, therefore, is to seek co-ordinated tax reforms that contain total tax burdens, that improve overall equity and that preserve economic incentives—in short, tax reforms that meet the needs of the taxpayers first and governments second.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): The needs of the people come first!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I should now like to report on the financial operations of our government during the 1969-1970 fiscal year.

Although the results of this fiscal year are not yet complete, I am confident that the interim picture, which I am presenting today, will mirror closely the final results for 1969-1970. This confidence is based on the successful development within The Department of Treasury and Economics of a sophisticated financial information system and the introduction of improved financial reporting within the government generally. The tables in budget paper C set out these interim financial figures in full detail for 1969-1970 based on actual performance for 11 months and estimates for the final month.

Our budget performance in 1969-1970 differs substantially from the original plan that I put forward last year. Two factors account for the difference: first, the performance of the economy in 1969; and second, the major new policies introduced by the government subsequent to my last budget.

The Ontario economy outperformed expectations at the time of the 1969 budget. As members will recall, it was estimated that our gross provincial product would rise by slightly less than eight per cent in 1969; in fact it rose by 9.6 per cent, an expansion clearly reflected by our revenues. Personal income taxes have produced revenue $50 million above my original forecast. Corporate taxes are up $73 million, mainly because 1969-1970 receipts include unusually large final settlements for the 1968-1969 fiscal year.

Post-secondary education adjustment payments, on the other hand, are down $43 million from last year's budget forecast. This resulted from $35 million in federal back payments being received at the end of the 1968-1969 fiscal year, rather than in 1969-1970 as we had anticipated. The largest in-year change on the revenue side, however, arises out of Medicare. The Ontario government's participation in universal Medicare since October 1, 1969, has brought into our provincial accounts $157 million in premium revenues that formerly flowed to private carriers and to OMSIP. In total, therefore, I expect our net general revenues for 1969-1970 to reach $3,292 million, compared with the original forecast of $2,998 million.

At this moment we expect net general expenditures for 1969-1970 to be $3,266 million, compared with our original target of $2,996 million. This increase of $270 million is entirely the result of policy initiatives introduced during the course of the 1969-1970 fiscal year. Medicare, of course, is the principal new programme. Under OHSIP, all medical expenditures are incorporated into the provincial accounts where formerly these outlays were recorded in the accounts of

private carriers and of OMSIP. Thus, provincial expenditures on Medicare in 1969-1970, net of federal payments, rose from $90 million to $161 million.

Expenditures for 1969-1970 also reflect other major in-year policy decisions. For instance, we decided to increase our 1969-1970 contribution to the Ontario hospital insurance plan so that hospital premiums would remain at the present level in 1970-1971. This decision required an added commitment of $125 million. We provided an additional $50 million in support of school boards to prevent steep rises in local mill rates. We also increased by $34 million our advance payments against 1970-1971 legislative grants in order to improve the cash flow to school boards.

Apart from these deliberate changes in expenditure policy, we have managed to hold our net general expenditures to the intended levels. All other provincial expenditures will reach $2,837 million, which represents a reduction from our target figure. This review of our 1969-1970 revenue and expenditure perfomance is documented in the table.

As a result of this revised revenue and expenditure performance, I now anticipate a budgetary surplus of $26 million in 1969-1970, which represents a modest increase over our original plan. Our nonbudgetary transactions will also show an improved position. Nonbudgetary sources of finance, including borrowings from the Canada Pension Plan and transfers into internal funds, are expected to yield $906 million while nonbudgetary outlays will require $616 million. The nonbudgetary surplus, therefore, should approximate $290 million. After allowing for net redemptions of maturing debt at $74 million, we can look forward to an overall cash buildup of $242 million in 1969-1970. The overall result of these financial operations will be to reduce our net capital debt by the end of the current year to $1,566 million. This presents a per capita net debt of only $206, down $8 per capita from the previous year, and a burden that could be retired with five months' revenue. Two years ago it would have required eight months' revenue.

In concluding this report on our financial operations for the current fiscal year, I wish to stress that several of the budgetary decisions we have taken during 1969-1970 will carry over and take effect in 1970-1971. This has important fiscal policy implications.

For example, most of our additional $125 million contribution to the hospital insurance plan will move into the spending stream in 1970-1971 as the Ontario Hospital Services Commission draws down the reserve for premium stabilization. What we are doing, in essence, is setting aside current funds to meet future obligations. This prudent funding will enable us to attain a financial balance in 1970-1971 without increasing taxes, while generating a positive fiscal impact on the economy. In this manner, our fiscal policy objectives will be achieved.

A year ago, the government of Ontario embarked upon a long-run programme of basic reforms in provincial-municipal taxation and finance. Today, I want to report on our progress toward these reform objectives and to outline how we intend to proceed in the future.

First, let me say that developments on the federal-provincial front have inevitably retarded our fiscal reform timetable. Our inability to secure a reasonable share of the jointly occupied growth tax fields has limited our ability to finance essential municipal reforms. Moreover, the recent federal tax reform proposals will inhibit complementary reforms at the provincial-municipal level. As I have already suggested, the federal government has adopted a unilateral approach to tax reform, whereas we believe a co-ordinated and comprehensive approach by all levels of government is essential. However, this lack of accord and progress at the federal-provincial level will not diminish our determination to achieve maximum reform within our own jurisdiction.

In this budget, the Ontario government is taking several significant steps toward reform of our existing provincial tax system. Later in this budget statement, I will outline major changes in the succession duties and the retail sales tax that we intend to implement. In the areas of personal and corporate income tax, on the other hand, we are not contemplating any major changes until federal-provincial tax-structure negotiations are concluded. Let me reiterate that we are prepared to explore fully with the federal government potential ways of achieving our reform objectives within the framework of the national income tax system. In the corporate area, we will also continue to seek maximum harmonization and consistency within the national tax structure.

In the provincial-municipal sphere the government is making substantial progress toward reform. The initiative provided for in this budget, in addition to the new policies announced during 1969, will advance our reform programme, on four fronts: increased aid to local governments, property tax relief

for needy pensioners, reform of assessment and reform of municipal structure.

One of our principal reform objectives is to increase financial support to local governments in order to reduce the burden of financing that falls upon the regressive property tax. In 1968 we took two major steps in this direction: the takeover of administration of justice, and the introduction of basic shelter tax exemption grants, thereby shifting more than $150 million from the property tax base to the provincial tax base.

The 1969 budget committed Ontario to further long-run financial aid to municipalities. In this budget we are increasing our long-run support to local governments by an additional $125 million. Let me enumerate these reform steps and indicate the additional costs that they will entail for the province in 1970-1971: Increase provincial support to school boards from 46 per cent to 51 per cent of total elementary and secondary education costs—$86.6 million;

Assume the costs of property assessment formerly borne by municipalities—$20.8 million;

Increase road construction and maintenance grants to cities and separated towns from 33⅓ per cent to 50 per cent of expenditures—$12.3 million;

Provide amortization subsidies to municipalities for sewerage projects and water pipelines—$1 million;

Increase unconditional aid to existing regional governments—$1.7 million;

Provide assistance to the proposed Muskoka district government—$0.4 million;

Increase university grants to permit partial taxation of university properties by municipalities—$2.5 million.

The total is $125.3 million.

The full details of these new provincial policies will be presented to the members by my colleagues, the Ministers of Education (Mr. Davis), Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough), Highways (Mr. Gomme), and Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr). For my part, I should like to point out that these provincial actions will have an immediate beneficial impact on municipal taxation and financing in 1970.

The increase in education grants represents the first step toward our target of 60 per cent provincial support by 1972-1973. The move to permit municipal taxation of university properties and to provide compensatory grants to universities represents a start toward our goal of broadening the local tax base by removing exemptions. For 1970 university cities will be empowered to tax formerly exempt university properties to the extent of $25 per fulltime student. This interim formula will be changed over to the normal method of taxation once university properties have been properly assessed. The new level and structure of aid to regional governments provides more unconditional assistance to municipalities. The assumption of the costs of property assessment will free municipal resources for other essential local services. The effect of these measures should be to place municipal financing on a sounder basis and relieve the pressure on mill rates.

This budget also recognizes the severe borrowing problems of Ontario municipalities, particularly smaller municipalities. I am satisfied that steps must be taken to enable municipal councils to secure the capital financing necessary to proceed with essential local facilities. Therefore we propose to make available, through the Ontario Municipal Improvement Corporation, $10 million in capital financing for smaller municipalities. This should be sufficient to supply the 1970 capital requirement of all municipalities in Ontario under 10,000 population. In addition, the province intends to review the borrowing situation of larger municipalities. Currently, these municipalities are severely restricted by the inflexibility of their serial debentures, and some are finding it difficult to borrow at all. During the present session, therefore, legislation will be introduced to allow more flexibility in municipal debt issues so that our larger municipalities can compete effectively in the capital markets.

I am proposing in this budget a major new thrust in our tax reform programme. Beginning this year, the government of Ontario will undertake a programme of supplementary tax relief to old age pensioners with limited incomes. We plan eventually to provide this type of selective tax relief through personal income tax credits. But given the uncertainty of the federal reform proposals we have decided to proceed on our own. Let me outline the main dimensions of the new programme we are proposing.

The Ontario government will provide up to $100 in supplementary tax relief to all elderly citizens or couples who receive the federal guaranteed income supplement and maintain an independent household. The supplementary tax relief grants will be in addition to the existing basic shelter grants up to the limit of actual property tax liability. This combined tax relief will eliminate the

property tax burden on many elderly householders and reduce it significantly for the rest.

The supplementary tax relief grants will be available to tenants as well as homeowners, but not to pensioners living in institutions or in subsidized senior citizen housing.

Mr. Lewis: Is this for the entire year?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Pensioners in these latter categories are already sheltered from rising property tax burdens.

Mr. Lewis: Ten dollars per month.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The supplementary tax relief grants will directly assist almost 200,000 needy pensioners living in their own homes or apartments, at a cost to the province of approximately $10 million per year. The supplementary tax relief programme will be administered directly by The Department of Municipal Affairs.

This new programme recognizes that pensioners with little or no outside income have been hardest hit by inflation and are least able to pay rising property taxes and rising rents.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, in the event that that last statement was not properly heard, I will repeat it. The extra $100 in tax relief will eliminate or reduce the claim of property taxes against the limited incomes of these needy pensioners. It will assist many of our senior citizens to continue living independently and in some dignity in their own homes or apartments.

The new supplementary tax relief grants should substantially reduce the number of applicants for property tax deferral under our municipal and school tax credit plan. Once the new programme is in effect, therefore, we intend to eliminate this existing tax loan programme.

As of January 1, 1970, the province became responsible for the assessment of all real property in Ontario. Over the next four years—

Mr. Sopha: That was a sad day.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Over the next four years, we plan to reassess all properties at current value in order to establish a uniform and consistent property tax base across the entire province. This reform of assessment is essential if we are to achieve equity among property owners, among property categories, and among municipalities.

Inevitably, as the process of reassessment proceeds there will be changes in the tax position of individual properties within each municipality. These changes from the existing situation reflect the varying degrees of under-assessment in the past.

Mr. Sargent: Six hundred per cent increase, that is how much.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Thus, reassessment may imply increases in taxation for some properties, but these increases will be balanced by decreases in taxation for other properties.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): I am surprised the Treasurer is not ashamed to say that.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Overall, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Deans: It is a hoax.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —there will be no increase in total collections of municipal taxes due to reassessment itself, in fact, the revised tax base resulting from reassessed values will be accompanied by corresponding reductions in mill rates.

Mr. Sargent: What a bunch of nonsense that is.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): You are telling me.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Reassessment has brought into relief the relationships and relative tax burdens among different classes of property: residential, farm, commercial and industrial. Depending on past assessment practices in a municipality, reassessment may produce shifts in tax burdens among property classes. From the results to date, reassessment appears to shift more of the total tax burden on to residential properties.

Mr. MacDonald: We told the government that last year.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The Department of Municipal Affairs is studying these effects of reassessment intensively.

Mr. Deans: When is the government going to stop studying and do something?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Is the Treasurer commissioning another study?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Once enough municipalities have been reassessed and a clear pattern of tax shifts emerges, the province will introduce legislation to prevent any major shift of tax burden from commercial to residential properties, or vice versa.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): You fellows look unhappy over there.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The government recognizes that the move toward a modern and equitable property tax base may involve financial hardships in some instances. We believe it is necessary and desirable to alleviate such hardships and to cushion the adjustment to a new system of taxation. During this session, therefore, we will introduce measures to permit a phasing-in of onerous increases in tax burdens. My colleague, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, has already described his intentions; he will elaborate further on the whole programme of reassessment and property tax reform next month at Ontario's first provincial-municipal conference.

The Ontario government's long-run programme to reorganize the structure of local government is proceeding in response to municipal desires and needs. We are establishing new regional governments where municipalities have requested broader-based units to cope with common problems. Last year Ottawa-Carleton was established. On January 1, 1970, the Niagara regional government came into being. By 1971, the Muskoka district government will be established. Within each of these new regions, moreover, we are achieving significant consolidation of municipalities. Our proposal for the Muskoka region, for example, will reduce the number of lower-tier municipalities from 25 to six. The province is supporting municipal consolidation in other areas as well. As a case in point, the cities of Fort William and Port Arthur and parts of the townships of Neebing and Shuniah have recently been joined to create the new municipality of Thunder Bay. In all of these moves, the province has sought the active participation and co-operation of the citizens and the local governments immediately affected. We intend to adhere to this principle in all future efforts to strengthen local government structure.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): How about Hamilton-Wentworth? The Treasurer forgot that one, almost.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Last year, in my budget papers, the interrelationship between the government's programmes of regional government and regional development was described. In the intervening year, steady progress has been made in the regional development programme in line with our original timetable.

Several specific reports have been made public, including a proposal for the retention and development of the recreational capacity of the Niagara escarpment, and a framework for development planning in southwestern Ontario. During the coming months a number of reports will also be made public, and comments from interested citizens will be invited on development plans for various regions of the province. The current schedule is to place comprehensive plans before the public in six of the ten economic regions in 1970; the remaining four will be released in 1971.

In concluding this part of my budget statement, I should like to discuss briefly the future directions of Ontario's reform programme. As I have already asserted, we must proceed systematically toward our goal of complete reassessment. We must also carry forward our reforms of municipal structure. We intend, as well, to continue increasing financial support to local governments up to the maximum limit of our resources.

Increased local aid will claim a high priority in future Ontario budgets, just as it has in this budget. During the past year we have undertaken a comprehensive review of our grant-in-aid policies with the objective of developing an improved unconditional grants system. In the future we will concentrate on the structure of provincial aid as well as on the level of support.

Finally, the government is embarking on a series of provincial-municipal conferences focusing on our long-run reform programme. These conferences will facilitate exchange of ideas with our municipal partners and fuller understanding of our long-run reform goals. We hope that this co-operative approach will ensure that reform remains a positive and a creative force within Ontario.

Let me turn now to our expenditure programme for the coming year. Generally, we have sought to hold down spending within the limits of present financial resources. We have made reform our highest priority. Finally, we have prudently pursued our long-term objective of expanding public services to meet the urgent and essential needs of this growing and prosperous province. During 1969-1970, the government followed a policy of severe and deliberate expenditure restraint.

As a result we have succeeded in slowing the rate of our growth and our spending compared with the record of previous years. But this has only been achieved at significant sacrifice, including under-achievement of our priorities, postponement of essential service facilities and creation of a backlog of unfilled needs. In planning for 1970-1971, therefore, we have had to face these delayed expenditure pressures plus normal growth requirements for existing services, along with our large outstanding commitments to reform. The cumulative effect of these pressures for increased spending in 1970-1971 has been enormous, making our task of expenditure rationing extremely difficult.

The recent tax structure committee exercise clearly illustrated the magnitude of expenditure claims on this 1970 budget. In our submission to the tax structure committee, we projected 1970-1971 expenditures at $5,037 million and revenues at $4,690 million, producing a potential deficit of $347 million. For the particular purposes of that exercise, expenditures and revenues were on a gross basis—including federal transfers on both sides and the gross costs and revenues of the Ontario Hospital Services Commission—whereas we customarily speak of net provincial expenditure and net provincial revenue. Translating the tax structure committee projections into net terms, our expenditures were forecast at $3,985 million and our revenues at $3,638 million, still leaving a potential deficit of $347 million.

The tax structure committee projection of $3,985 million for expenditures was based on the five-year forecasts prepared by each department and agency of the government during the summer of 1969. As such, it reflected the outlay needed to maintain existing services, to provide for normal expansion due to population growth, to cover normal price increases and to finance our commitments to local governments. By the year-end, however, many departments had revised their forecasts upward in recognition of increasing unemployment, rapidly rising prices and higher costs of municipal reform commitments. In short, even the tax structure committee figure of $3,985 million was an inadequate measure of the spending required to meet the province's real needs in 1970-1971.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): A completely misleading figure!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Financial considerations make it imperative for the government to continue its expenditure restraint in 1970-1971—

Mr. Nixon: The old fiscal nightmare business!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: In order to avoid tax increases we have cut back our spending as far as possible. Consequently, the expenditure package I am presenting today calls for a total outlay of $3,728 million in 1970-1971, a reduction of $257 million from the projection of the tax structure committee.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Together with $101 million more revenues than originally expected, this expenditure curtailment will permit the government to attain a financial balance in 1970-1971—

Mr. Lewis: What curtailment?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —as is shown in the tables.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I do not normally interject. This budget is for the people, it is not particularly for the opposition.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We have managed to hold 1970-1971 expenditures by applying strict guidelines to provincial own-account spending. These guidelines limit 1970-1971 capital expenditures in nearly every area to 1969-1970 levels. Also, direct operating expenditures have been limited to a six per cent increase over 1969-1970. These restraint guidelines reduce departmental expenditures to about $100 million. In addition, we have funded, over two years, obligations that otherwise would have fallen entirely in 1970-1971. It is—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): The government's whole expenditure is up half a billion. How can the minister say it is being limited when it is half a billion more?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: It is interesting to note the federal government adopted a similar practice in funding its new programme of assistance to farmers.

Mr. Singer: Oh, that is it; that is it.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: On the capital lending side, we have also exercised maximum restraint in this budget. Excluding debentures issued on behalf of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission—

An hon. member: Do you want the services?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! It is very difficult for not only the members who wish to hear the budget address, but also our visitors, to hear. It is customary, of course, that the budget address has the minimum of interruptions and interjections and I would request that the hon. members give a fair hearing to what we all have ahead of us in Ontario in this coming year.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: On the capital lending side, Mr. Speaker, we have also exercised maximum restraint in this budget. Excluding debentures issued on behalf of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission, our 1970-1971 loans and advances will amount to $601 million, up from $533 million in 1969-1970. Almost all of this increase in provincial capital financing will go into areas of urgent need: housing, water and sewerage projects and loans to municipalities.

Generally, we have designed our spending and lending programme for 1970-1971 to do all that is urgently required, yet still contain total provincial and municipal outlays. Our increased support to school boards, in particular, has been provided to control total education spending and give real relief to local taxpayers. We are confident that local governments in Ontario will join the province in drawing up moderate and responsible budgets for 1970.

Before discussing our specific spending allocations for the next year, I should like to present our provincial expenditures in a different perspective. In my last budget, I documented the government's long-run emphasis on the priority areas of education, health, housing and aid to local governments, and showed that these are the fastest growing and largest segments of the total budget. This year I want to focus on the dynamics of our expenditure structure from another viewpoint by considering the diminishing proportion of total outlays that the province spends and invests itself, and the increasing proportion it transfers to other spending units. It is this ongoing shift from own-account spending to transfer payments that makes our task of overall expenditure rationing and restraint so difficult.

Provincial net general expenditures fall into three broad categories: own-account operating expenditures, own-account capital investments and transfer payments. Own-account operating expenditure comprises civil service wages and salaries, and general administration costs. Capital investments consist of expenditures on physical assets such as highway construction, land acquisition and public works projects undertaken directly by provincial departments. Transfer payments include all of the grants, payments and subsidies the Ontario government makes available to persons, to institutions and to local governments.

In addition to net general expenditures, the province provides substantial non-budgetary outlays in the form of loans and advances to school boards, hospitals, universities, municipalities and other institutions. These loans and advances represent financial assets rather than physical assets of the province, though in economic terms their impact is much the same as direct capital formation by provincial departments.

As the accompanying table shows, more and more of our provincial expenditures are being taken up by transfer payments, while own-account spending and investment are diminishing in relative importance. Over the period 1967-1968 through 1970-1971, own-account expenditures have declined from 28 per cent to 25 per cent of net general expenditures. Similarly, provincial capital investment has fallen off from 11 per cent to seven per cent of net general expenditure. Transfer payments on the other hand have risen from 61 per cent to 68 per cent of our total budgetary outlays.

The major factors accounting for this dramatic shift in our expenditure structure become clear when one looks at the internal components of each of these broad spending categories. Turning first to the own-account category, it is evident civil service costs are declining in relative importance as the provincial budget expands. In 1967-1968 these direct operating costs took up 28 per cent of total spending, while in 1970-1971 they will account for less than 25 per cent of net general expenditure. This trend reflects the achievement of increasing economies of scale, in addition to our own efforts to contain growth in this area to the minimum consistent with effective government operations.

Since 1967-1968 there have been three significant new charges against own-account

spending resulting from our takeover of the administration of justice, the municipal assessment and the Medicare programme. If these expansions in provincial responsibility are excluded, our regular own-account operations would consume only 22 per cent of 1970-1971 net general expenditures.

Provincial direct investment is also declining in relative importance as the total budget grows. In 1967-1968, capital investment in physical assets amounted to $254 million or 11 per cent of overall spending: in 1970-1971 capital investment will take up $277 million, or only seven per cent of our net general expenditure. Two factors account for this trend. First, the government has followed a deliberate policy of holding down public works spending over the past few years as part of its austerity measures. Second, our outlays for new housing construction have leveled off since 1967-1968 following the massive buildup of earlier years. However, capital investment in the form of loans and advances has expanded strongly since 1967-1968, particularly in the vital areas of education, housing and water and sewer facilities.

Transfer payments, on the other hand, are consuming an increasing share of our total spending and are causing most of the pressure on the provincial budget. Between 1967-1968 and 1970-1971 transfer payments have grown from $1,384 million to $2,525 million, or from 61 per cent to almost 68 per cent of total provincial expenditures. The introduction of Medicare—the net costs of which are shown as transfer payments for medical services—has raised the 1970-1971 total transfer payments somewhat.

Nevertheless it is clear that our transfer payment programmes are outpacing the growth in provincial spending as a whole. For example, payments to universities, colleges of applied arts and technology and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute have more than doubled from $220 million in 1967-1968 to $468 million in 1970-1971. Grants to school boards, including our contribution to teachers' superannuation funds and our vocational construction grants, have risen from $583 million to $919 million. Payments to municipalities are up by 87 per cent, from $246 million in 1967-1968 to $460 million in 1970-1971.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): So what?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What does the member mean: "So what"? Does he not want to know about it?

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): I wish these people would get together at least.

Mr. T. Reid: What is the minister's point?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Provincial spending in these areas represents builtin commitments or open-ended programmes of financial support. These commitments are growing rapidly and are not amenable to large discretionary changes in the short run. Consequently we can anticipate that transfer payments will continue to place a heavy strain on the government's financing capacity.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is the point.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: As I have previously indicated, our net general expenditures for 1970-1971 will amount to an estimated $3,728 million. This is $462 million higher than our spending programme in 1969-1970. We have allocated the bulk of this overall increase to five departments:

$128 million to education, largely to increase support to school boards and for expanded operation of our colleges of applied arts and technology;

$110 million to health—after taking into account the reduced 1970-1971 contribution to the hospital insurance plan made possible by our extra contribution in 1969-1970—to provide for operation of Medicare over a full fiscal year, to expand our medical teaching facilities and to maintain our mental health programme;

$65 million to university affairs, largely to finance a six per cent increase in the basic income unit to bring it up to $1,650 for 1970-1971;

$37 million to municipal affairs, to provide increased financial support to municipalities, to assume the costs of municipal assessment and to finance supplementary tax relief to pensioners;

And $37 million to highways, to maintain our highway construction and maintenance programmes and to underwrite a larger share of road construction and maintenance by cities and separated towns.

The balance of increased expenditure is spread across the departments generally, most of it going to meet normal growth and increased costs of existing services. In addition to our net general expenditures, we are providing $601 million in loans and advances for 1970-1971, an increase of $68 million over the current year. This increased capital aid will be allocated to housing, water and sewage projects, and debt financing for smaller municipalities.

Following the convention of previous years I will table, along with this budget, the government's 1970-1971 estimates showing the complete detail of our proposed expenditures by department, programme and activity. I would also remind the members that the significant features and important items of our 1970-1971 expenditures are summarized in budget paper C, which accompanies this statement. At this time, therefore, I should like to concentrate on the policy highlights of our 1970-1971 expenditure programme and to outline the new directions and the new initiatives proposed by the government for the coming year.

Of all our objectives for 1970-1971 we have accorded the highest priority to reform. We have provided for substantially increased financial aid to local governments and have initiated a new programme of supplementary tax relief to elderly pensioners with limited incomes. Altogether, these reform measures add $135 million to the long-term financing load borne by the province.

This budget also accelerates the Ontario government's programme for effective pollution control. We are proposing three new expenditure measures to strengthen our campaign for environmental improvement.

First, we intend to initiate a five-year programme of tax expenditure grants to encourage industry to install anti-pollution equipment. These grants will be the equivalent of the Ontario retail sales tax paid by industries on approved pollution abatement equipment. As a parallel move, we intend to replace existing sales tax exemptions on anti-pollution equipment purchased by municipalities with tax-equivalent grants. As well, the incentive will be broadened to include water treatment equipment and incinerators, and will be extended to schools, hospitals and universities. These tax-expenditure grants, effective April 1, will be carried out under the Minister of Energy and Resources Management and are expected to cost approximately $2 million in 1970-1971.

Second, we are establishing a new programme under the Ontario Development Corporation to make loans to small businesses, at favourable interest rates, for the purchase of anti-pollution equipment. In 1970-1971 we are allocating $5 million to the ODC for such anti-pollution loans.

Third, the Ontario Water Resources Commission will broaden its programme to include capital assistance to small municipalities for sewage treatment plants and water pipelines. In 1970-1971 these OWRC capital grants to municipalities will amount to $5.4 million.

These three expenditure initiatives will be reinforced by a new anti-pollution incentive on the tax side, which I shall outline shortly. In addition, of course, the province will continue its own large programme of direct spending to combat pollution. This represents a co-ordinated package of policies designed to achieve and preserve a clean environment for Ontario citizens.

Ontario is keenly aware of the difficulties of many potential homeowners, caused by the extremely tight mortgage market. We are proposing in this budget, therefore, to take direct steps to fortify the supply of mortgage money for home ownership. In 1970-1971, we will set up a $50 million capital fund under the Ontario Housing Corporation Limited to provide first and second mortgages to purchasers of new dwellings. This initial allocation of $50 million will finance approximately 3,000 mortgages. The interest rate on these Ontario mortgages will be the same as the rate for direct loans made by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The terms will include a maximum loan of 95 per cent of the lending value of the dwelling and repayment periods up to 35 years.

As part of its expanding programme to provide a high level of health care in Ontario, the province intends to broaden the benefits available under the Ontario Health Service Insurance Plan. Beginning on July 1, 1970, certain services provided by chiropractors, podiatrists and osteopaths will be eligible as insured service under OHSIP.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The specific details of this extended coverage will be outlined to the members by my colleague, the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells). We anticipate that this enrichment of our health insurance plan will cost approximately $7 million in a full fiscal year.

The four areas which I have just discussed represent the policy highlights of our 1970-1971 spending programme. Within our total outlay of $3,728 million for 1970-1971 there are, of course, many other important and progressive items. We have increased our spending on day nurseries by 50 per cent, for example, in order to expand this vital service to working mothers.

The government has also recognized the need to re-examine the adequacy of existing welfare and assistance payments. The Department of Social and Family Services is

now reviewing our programmes in this area. Upon completion of that review, we are prepared to revise our 1970-1971 budgetary allocation for these basic income maintenance programmes.

In other areas as well, we are prepared to be flexible and to revise our budgetary plans as the year progresses, both for the purpose of maintaining the thrust of our priority and reform programme and to keep our fiscal operations finely tuned to changing economic conditions. In all, I believe the 1970-1971 spending programme we have drawn up represents a prudent and progressive use of resources available to the government.

As I have said, there will be no tax increase in the coming fiscal year, either in the form of increased rates on existing taxes, or through the introduction of new taxes. In fact, I shall ask the members to approve positive measures to provide substantial tax relief to both individuals and industries.

In determining our fiscal policy for 1970-1971, we have consciously restricted expenditure growth within the limits of our existing financial capacity, in order to relieve the pressure on the tax system and to avoid further tax increases. As emphasized in our white paper on tax reform last year, we are well aware that the benefits of expenditure increases are in danger of being offset by increases in tax burdens, and that in a meaningful way, reform must aim to halt tax increases as well as to redistribute tax loads on a more equitable basis. In determining our tax policy for 1970-1971, we have been obliged to take the following factors into consideration.

The national and provincial economies are in a period of extremely delicate balance between reduced and renewed economic growth, with particular signs of a weakening employment situation alongside continued inflation.

While it is unnecessary and inappropriate to increase taxes at this time, it is equally important that tax reductions and relief should not detract from the viability of the province's basic tax system in terms of its long-run revenue growth capacity.

And the limited capacity for tax relief should be used with maximum effectiveness in terms of achieving increased equity and promoting economic activity.

On the basis of these considerations we intend to recommend selective tax relief in three major areas: succession duties; retail sales tax on certain production goods; and corporation tax relief for environmental pollution control.

In the white-paper reform programme described in the 1969 budget, the Ontario government announced its intention to phase out succession duties while introducing a capital gains tax. In the interim, the federal government has published its proposals to introduce capital gains taxation. The federal proposals do not involve compensating changes in estates taxation, which we believe is in critical need of reform in terms of the total taxation of wealth. At this point, the federal reform proposals are being subjected to intensive public debate and scrutiny. In addition, only preliminary discussions have taken place on how the province will participate in the proposed new federal tax system. As a result, it is not possible to discern the outcome in the particular area of estate taxes and succession duties.

The Ontario government is convinced that it is necessary to introduce immediate relief in this area to ensure progress toward our ultimate reform objectives. We propose, therefore, to present legislation to effect the following changes in respect of deaths occurring after midnight this day, March 31, 1970:

The exemption for widows will be increased from $75,000 to $125,000; the present restrictions related to widowers will be removed and the exemption will be $125,000—

Mr. Sargent: That will not help a lot of people.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The exemptions granted to widows and widowers will be extended under certain circumstances to surviving common-law wives and husbands. And, in the event of the death or remarriage of an annuitant within four years of the death of the deceased, revaluation of assets is to be permitted, upon application, to take account of the reduced capital value of the annuity.

The proposed changes will provide substantial relief in the succession duties field. The increase in the exemption for widows to $125,000 recognizes the changes in living costs and will mean that less than one per cent of the estates assessed will involve duty payable by a widow. The granting of the same exemption to widowers and widows will recognize the interdependency of partners in a marriage.

Mr. Singer: That is terrible. The federal government does not tax it at all.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Similarly, the reform in respects of common-law spouses will relieve unnecessary hardships and bring the law into line with current social attitudes.

These moves are in line with the recommendations of the Ontario committee on taxation and the select committee of the Legislature.

The impact of the proposed relief for annuitants can best be described by the example of a widow who is the beneficiary under a pension plan provided by her deceased husband. Under existing law, the value of an annuity is related to the life expectancy of the widow. This may give rise to an excessive duty in the event of the subsequent early death or remarriage of the widow. The proposed amendment will reduce this burden, in the event that the annuity is terminated due to the death or remarriage of the widow within four years of the death of her husband.

The anticipated revenue loss resulting from these proposals will be in the order of $3 million in 1970-1971, and will increase to about $4.5 million a year as the new system matures.

The second area in which we propose to introduce significant tax relief is in the application of the retail sales tax to certain production goods. Our purpose is to assist industry in reducing costs and in improving competitive positions, as well as helping to defuse inflationary pressures on the economy.

In 1969 we extended the retail sales tax to cover production machinery in general. This was a deliberate policy move to strengthen our long-term tax base, to simplify the taxation of business purchases, and to increase the neutrality of taxation among different types of industries. Following intensive analysis of the retail sales tax in this area, we are now prepared to introduce further refinements to improve the economic efficiency of the tax. This covers the removal of the present five per cent tax from a number of production tools that are subject to extraordinarily rapid replacement from wear-and-tear, or that have a very short economic life. These exemptions will be particularly helpful to industries in which short-lived production tools account for a high proportion of production costs.

We propose, therefore, to exempt from the retail sales tax the following items when used directly in the manufacturing process:

Tools attached to production machinery that are used for milling, grinding, pressing, and similar purposes;

Explosives;

And, refractory materials, such as fire bricks and retorts.

The estimated revenue loss from these exemptions is over $7 million annually. The effective date of implementation will be June 1, 1970.

The third area of tax relief relates to the high priority we have given, and will continue to give, to the problem of bringing all forms of environmental pollution under control. I have already described the three-pronged effort we are making in the expenditures area, involving five per cent grants on anti-pollution equipment generally, selective loans to businesses on a needs basis and the direct outlay of public funds under a number of integrated programmes. At this point however, I wish to announce a fourth move in the tax area that will directly complement those on the expenditure side.

In his budget on March 12, 1970, the federal Minister of Finance announced the extension, for three years, of the special provisions for the accelerated write-off of the capital costs of industrial pollution control equipment. He also announced that these provisions would be extended to include air as well as water pollution control equipment. I should like at this time to thank the federal Minister of Finance on behalf on the Ontario government and welcome his move as a valuable support of our own efforts. More important, we will extend to the end of 1973 the accelerated capital cost write-off provisions for water pollution control equipment under our own corporation income tax system.

Mr. Sopha: That is the first nice thing the minister has said about him for a long time.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Similarly, we will make provisions in our own income tax system for air pollution control equipment at the same time that these provisions are enacted under The Income Tax Act (Canada). The joint effect of these federal and provincial initiatives will be to allow firms to depreciate the cost of water and air pollution control equipment in two years. For the Ontario government the extension of accelerated depreciation will cost about $2 million to $3 million in loss of corporation tax revenue in 1970-1971.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): What about noise control?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I am confident that this—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Leave that to the opposition!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I am confident that this tax move, together with those outlined on the expenditure side, constitutes an effective programme to facilitate pollution

control. This programme will continue to keep Ontario in the front ranks of North American jurisdictions in this high priority aea. I am certain that industry will respond to government aid and support.

Mr. Sargent: We are so far behind it is not even funny.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: However, I must emphasize that we also expect industry to accept pollution control as an ordinary cost and responsibility of doing business.

I will now summarize our overall budget position for the 1970-1971 fiscal year.

Since there will be no tax increases in 1970-1971, our revenue yield will depend primarily on the growth performance of the Ontario economy. As I have already said, the outlook for 1970 is less buoyant than in previous years. Our 1970 fiscal programme, however, will generate a moderate but positive reinforcement to economic activity; hence, I am basing my revenue forecast on an expansion of gross provincial product of seven per cent.

I expect our total revenues to reach $3,739 million in 1970-1971. Revenues from personal income taxes should rise by $186 million, of which $73 million represents an anticipated speedup in the transfer of collections from the federal government to the province. It might be noted here that, prior to the last meeting of the tax structure committee, we had not expected this once-and-for-all revenue gain from an improved income tax flow.

I expect the retail sales tax to yield an additional $42 million in 1970-1971, the gasoline tax a further $18 million, and post-secondary educational adjustment payments an increase of $46 million. However, corporation tax receipts are expected to be $23 million below the 1969-1970 level as a result of several factors, including the anticipated decline in corporate profits and the absence of the once-and-for-all gains from acceleration in 1969. Revenue from all other sources, including Medicare premiums for a full fiscal year, will add a further $178 million, bringing our total revenue increase expected for 1970-1971 to $447 million.

Against our projected revenues of $3,739 million in 1970-1971, we have planned an expenditure of $3,728 million, leaving a budgetary surplus of $11 million for next year.

Mr. MacDonald: Expenditures up 25 per cent.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Nonbudgetary sources of finance, including borrowings from the Canada Pension Plan, are expected to yield $806 million, while nonbudgetary disbursements should amount to $743 million, producing a nonbudgetary surplus of $63 million. After allowing for net debt retirements of $56 million, we should end the 1970-1971 year with a small increase in our liquid reserves.

Mr. Speaker, I have set before you and the members a constructive budget which meets the economic and social requirements of 1970 and charts Ontario's course for the years ahead.

It provides positive stimulus to our weakening economy. It holds down spending within the limits of present financial capacity. It accords the highest priority to reform and to relief for municipal taxpayers. It reduces provincial taxes to provide incentives and to moderate excessive burdens. It provides special help to pensioners on limited incomes, who have been hardest hit by inflation. It finances a broad package of new policies to improve the quality of the environment. It carries forward essential provincial services and investments.

Given the approval of the members, the programme outlined in this budget should enable Ontario to move ahead vigorously into the 1970s and to provide an environment in which our citizens can be proud and happy.

I am pleased, Mr. Speaker, to table a copy of the Ontario budget.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, my opportunity to reply to this budget address is still a week away. I can assure you there will be many things to be said at that time, and with this in mind I move the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Nixon moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: I thought that perhaps the members might like to know that among the guests here today are the Main Street School for New Canadians in Toronto, and I am sure they have enjoyed the presentation of the budget.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, I would like at this time to make a brief statement to the House on the decision of the federal authorities to prohibit the sale and

export of fish caught commercially in Lake St. Clair.

Jurisdiction over commercial fishing, of course, rests with the federal Department of Fisheries and the hon. Jack Davis took action as a result of a research report which showed that pickerel caught in the lake contained as much as seven parts per million mercury. Subsequent analysis of fish last week showed mercury counts averaging 1.3 parts per million—much less alarming although still above the level set by the federal food and drug directorate.

The Ontario Water Resources Commission has been aware for some time that there was a problem with mercury losses to the environment and I indicated in the Legislature last October that we were investigating the extent of the use of mercury in manufacturing processes in Ontario.

In addition, the Ontario Water Resources Commission and The Department of Lands and Forests worked together taking fish, water and sediment samples throughout the province. Samples analyzed during the winter indicated mercury levels in fish throughout Ontario, including Lake St. Clair, were not alarming. Of six samples taken, for instance, in Lake St. Clair, five were below the 0.5 parts per million level recommended by the food and drug directorate. Only one fish was above that level.

My department's investigation revealed that the predominant uses of mercury in Ontario were in chloralkali plants, such as Dow Chemical in Sarnia, and as mercurial base slimicides in the pulp and paper industry. There are nine chloralkali plants in the province, seven of which use mercury electrode cells. Eight pulp and paper mills in the province have been using mercurial slimicides.

As a result of action taken earlier this year by the Ontario Water Resources Commission, the use of mercurial slimicides by the pulp and paper industry has been reduced considerably. Three mills have, in fact, ceased to use these mercury compounds completely. In view of developments last week, however, I have now placed the remaining five pulp and paper mills using these slimicides under ministerial order requiring that they discontinue its use by April 15. We have advised all other pulp and paper mills in Ontario of the action taken.

The water resources commission has recommended control measures to the chloralkali plants — particularly Dow Chemical — which would eliminate their discharge of mercury to the water environment. The measures already taken by these plants at our instruction have brought about an estimated 80 per cent reduction in mercury losses.

Nevertheless, because of the high mercury content reported in fish from Lake St. Clair, I have placed Dow Chemical and other chloralkali plants in Ontario under ministerial order. We will give Dow Chemical at Sarnia until April 15 to completely eliminate all mercury loss from its operations. I understand that this goal has already been achieved through the use of temporary equipment and company spokesmen have indicated if it fails, they will close down their operations.

Five other chloralkali plants, where work is not so far advanced, have been given until May 1 to complete installation of equipment and eliminate mercury loss to the receiving waters.

The problem is further compounded by the fact that the fish that were found to have high mercury content are swimming in what is, in effect, international waters. We know, for instance, that there are significant losses of mercury from the American side. A fish tested in Ontario may actually have been contaminated by mercury spilled in Michigan, or vice versa.

OWRC officials alerted their Michigan counterparts about the potential hazard in February. As a result of inquiry calls to my office last week from Michigan authorities about our actions, I have written to the governor of Michigan, outlining the reasons for the ban and expressing the hope he will impose similar control on American firms contributing to mercury pollution.

I should make it clear, Mr. Speaker, that the discharge of mercury into waterways poses no danger to drinking water or to swimmers. The danger is to the food cycle from the absorption of mercury compounds by fish. Accumulation of mercury in the body tissue of the fish can be quite rapid, while elimination is slow. I hope that the action I have announced today will help to bring this problem under control just as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, arising out of the statement just delivered by the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, the question occurs as to whether or not any arrangements are being made for compensation to the fishermen who have been so badly hurt by reason of this mercury pollution. The second question is: Why did the minister not prosecute any of

these people when they were polluting the water and causing severe danger to people who might eat the fish?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, answering the first question, there has been correspondence between the hon. Jack Davis and my colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), regarding compensation. There will be a meeting tomorrow to discuss this particular subject. We hope that certainly some decision will be made to compensate the fishermen for their loss.

Regarding prosecution, as I indicated in my statement, Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to ascertain any, or the amount, of mercury in effluent water waste from these plants. It is only through analysing fish that we are able to establish there is, in fact, some form of mercury contamination.

Mr. Singer: But you have established that!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have now established of course, that certain plants in Ontario are using mercury in their processes and we have asked them to stop.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Would the minister explain why the daily discharge of 200 pounds of mercury into the St. Clair River was permitted by Dow Chemical after the OWRC discovered last fall that this was being discharged? And second, since the OWRC had informed the government of this discharge, why did the government not discover the pollution, for example, or the poisoning of the fish, rather than following only after the federal government had moved?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, when it was discovered that approximately 200 pounds—I am not sure if that is the exact figure—was being discharged from Dow Chemical into Lake St. Clair, this is when we immediately started working with Dow Chemical to reduce that to where it is now almost nil. It was at that point that OWRC moved in and steps were taken to reduce that waste.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): That is not so; that is just not so!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As far as OWRC discovering, as the member says, or the government acting, really we have been conducting our own analyses of fish. It was really as a result of some of our discoveries, the results of analyses of fish, particularly at the bottom of the lake, that we were able to work with Lands and Forests and the federal authorities. It was because of last week's finding from samples that were tested that the ban was imposed. In other words, data and information were given to the federal minister the day before the ban.

Mr. MacDonald: How can the minister contend that they started to move on this problem last fall when I drew his attention, and the attention of this government, to mercury poisoning in 1964 and the government dismissed it at that point? What have they done between 1964 and last fall?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge, certainly as of early last year, detailed analyses were being made of fish; and we also have been able to ascertain exactly what industries in the province were using mercury.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): That would be a tough problem!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As I have mentioned, it is very difficult, Mr. Speaker, to establish any form of contamination by just analysing the water, or the effluent. It is only through checking the fish that we are able to establish any danger area from contamination or pollution. This has only been established very recently.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, would the minister answer my question? Since I drew his attention to the fact that on the basis of evidence that was given to me Dow Chemical was polluting waters with mercury poison in 1964, what was done from 1964 on?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is repeating his question. The minister answered it in his own way.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The minister is entitled to answer as he wishes. If he wishes to add to his answer that is satisfactory; if not the member for Essex South has the floor for a supplementary.

Mr. MacDonald: That, Mr. Speaker, was the purpose of my repeating my question—to get an answer from the minister.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Well, he could repeat the answer!

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the member that the minister has the right to answer a question as he wishes, whether it satisfies the questioner or not. Now if the hon. minister has anything further to say in

answer to the question he has the floor; otherwise that is the end of it.

Mr. MacDonald: I am a little disturbed by your interruption. If he did not answer my question I have the right to get up and repeat the question and to seek an answer without interruption.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt if the hon. member has, because one of the rules of the House is that there be no repetition. The member asked his question. The minister answered as he feels it should be answered; and if the member is not satisfied then he tries to find another way of getting the information. Obviously he is not going to get an answer if the minister will not answer it the first time.

Mr. MacDonald: I repeated the question to get an answer, Mr. Speaker, and I would appreciate it if the minister were given an opportunity to either answer the question and give nothing more without interruptions, sir. It is as simple as that.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex South has the floor.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, in the minister's remarks—and for the purpose of clarification, or supplementary—he stated he had to test the fish. Now, there are many species of fish in the lake and specifically, I believe, it was pickerel that were first involved.

Has any new evidence come to the minister's attention in the past day or so that would indicate that other species of fish are affected with this mercury pollution; and if not, will fishing be allowed for these species?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, no evidence has come to my attention in the last few days that would indicate any danger level of mercury contamination of other species of fish.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville has a supplementary?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, the question that I was going to ask was asked by the leader of the New Democratic Party.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. Lewis: Yes, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary of the minister. What is wrong with the Ontario Water Resources Commission that, in five months of work with Dow Chemical, it was not able to reduce, other than marginally, the mercury discharge, but that Dow was able to terminate it altogether within 10 days of the poisoning being discovered?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is assuming something that just is not right.

Mr. Lewis: The minister said "last fall."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: OWRC has been working with Dow Chemical, is still working with Dow Chemical, was working with Dow Chemical last week and, as I indicated, has reduced mercury contamination to the point that it is almost eliminated, from the point where, as the member's leader said, it was about 200 pounds per day—always with OWRC on the site.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, am I right that the minister earlier said that OWRC began working with Dow in the fall of 1969?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: Right. Well, then, why was nothing done until the poisoning was found and then, suddenly, within 10 days, Dow was able to terminate the mercury discharge?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Something was done, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Lewis: Nothing was done. The OWRC sat on its hands for six months.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What did the hon. member say about parliamentary language?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Lewis: It is a defunct organization.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Speak to some of the scientists in the member's party and the member will understand a little bit.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Sandwich-Riverside a supplementary question? He has the floor.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question of the minister. Is there any other way of getting the mercury out of the river and the lake, other than allowing it to pass through the food chain, into the fish, and then removing the fish?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, it is quite possible that there could be some form of dredging, as the hon. member well knows. A great deal of this mercury compound sits

at the bottom of the lake. Some of the bottom fish accumulate this mercury and then, subsequently, they are gobbled up by fish such as walleye. So it may be, by some form of dredging, or cleaning, or scraping the bottom of the lake, we can eliminate what accumulation of mercury is there. That, coupled with prohibiting the discharge of mercury into the lake, seem to be the only two remedies we have.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Further supplementary?

Mr. Burr: Yes. If the dredging does not work out, would the minister be of the opinion that the catching of the fish and disposing of them would be the other method?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not want to be that pessimistic. I feel that if we can eliminate the source of the mercury pollution, that, by time, as well as by the methods I have explained, any fish that are contaminated will lose that contamination, and also more fish will not be contaminated. I am hoping that as the water becomes fresher the fish will become healthier; let us put it that way.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Hamilton East a supplementary? Well, then the member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the minister of Trade and Development, of which I have given notice to the minister.

In view of the two incendiary-caused fires which took place in Ontario Housing Corporation apartment buildings at 4 Replin Road, on March 26, 1970, and at 1 Flemingdon Road, on March 29, 1970, will the minister advise: 1. What steps are being taken to protect the residents of Lawrence Heights against any further incendiarist activities; 2. What investigations are presently being carried on to apprehend the persons responsible; 3. What improvements, if any, are being made to the present inadequate (a) fire alarm warning system, (b) fire evacuation procedures, (c) irregular and infrequent inspection of fire protection devices, (d) insufficient security patrols by Ontario Housing Corporation; 4. What arrangements are being made for compensation for those residents of Lawrence Heights who have suffered substantial financial damage as a result of these fires?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the hon. member called me this morning and gave me notice of this question, because I had to dig up considerable information and I hope I will be permitted to answer it in detail.

I find it extremely difficult to answer the hon. member's question as it is posed, because it is based on two assumptions which, as far as I am concerned, are totally unproved. The hon. member's question is, in fact, a categorical statement that the two fires which took place in the Lawrence Heights development over the weekend were the work of arsonists and also that fire prevention facilities in the building were inadequate. I very firmly reply to the hon. member's question in the context that his statement is hardly what one would expect from a responsible member of the Legislature.

On items 1 and 2: OHC has been in touch with North York Fire Department Chief Nelson, who advised that investigation of the fire is in the hands of the Ontario Fire Marshal's office which, as the hon. member will be aware, falls within the jurisdiction of the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart). Chief Nelson advises that it is standard practice to call in the arson squad in any fire of this nature and this in no way is indicative that arson is suspected.

Mr. Singer: No, but the police say it is suspected.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Wait a minute!

Mr. Singer: It is a fact.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Wait until I get finished. I will listen to the member, but give me a chance.

OHC has also been in touch with the 32nd division of the Metro police who advised that police officers attended the scene of the fire as a routine matter, as they do in the case of every fire. At this time no investigation concerning incendiaries is being carried out by the police.

Mr. Singer: That is not true!

Hon. Mr. Randall: Nor have they been requested by the fire department or the fire marshal's office to do so.

Mr. Singer: They are doing it on their own.

Hon. Mr. Randall: If, however, the hon. member has any information to substantiate his allegations, I would suggest he make this available to the appropriate authority. Until such time as a report is received from the

Ontario Fire Marshal's office, I have no intention of directing OHC to take premature action in carrying out an independent investigation based on statements which, to say the least, are alarmist.

Under item 3, the hon. member poses a number of questions which are based upon his personal assessment that the present fire prevention facilities in these buildings are inadequate, and I would like to answer these in the order in which they appear in the question.

(a) The question was that the present fire alarm warning system is inadequate. The answer, Mr. Speaker, is that the fire alarm warning system consists of manually operated gongs, two of which are located on each floor immediately adjacent to the fire escape stair wells.

Mr. Singer: If you are prepared to stand and work the gong it works fine; but you might get burned.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Despite statements which were made to the press, these floor alarms have all been tested and found to be in working order. I do not propose refuting the hon. member's statement that a big wedge of charred paper was behind the gong on one of the building's eight fire bells. No equipment is totally proof against tampering.

Question (b): The fire evacuation procedures are inadequate. I assume here, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member is referring to the fire drills to acquaint residents with the proper course of action they should take in the event of fire; and I agree that printed instructions should be issued to tenants of all multiple structures and I have directed OHC to take the necessary action in this regard.

The third question was about irregular and infrequent inspection of fire protection devices. Inspection of fire protection devices on an annual basis is carried out for OHC by Robinson Extinguisher Services for the Lawrence Heights development. To the best of my knowledge, an annual inspection of this nature is the normal practice in privately owned rental developments also. The fire protection device in 4 Replin Road was inspected by Robinson Extinguisher Services in July, 1969, and on 1 Flemingdon Road—the other building where a fire took place over the weekend—in February, 1970.

In addition to the inspections carried out by Robinson Extinguisher, OHC supervisory staff carry out regular inspections of all fire protection equipment, and I am advised that similar inspections are carried out by the North York Fire Department. Insofar as the latter is concerned, we have received no advice to the effect that the equipment is inadequate.

And question (d), insufficient security patrols by OHC. Security services at Lawrence Heights, in addition to one-site staff of the corporation, are provided by Phillips Security Services. On the day in question, a security guard was on duty in the development from 4 p.m. to midnight. The fire occurred during the time he was on duty.

The hon. member's last question deals with the arrangements for compensation for those residents of Lawrence Heights who have suffered substantial financial losses as a result of these fires. At the time of the fire, tenants were advised by OHC representatives on the site that accommodation would be provided for them free of charge in the Conroy Hotel if they so desired. No tenant took advantage of this offer.

OHC representatives on the site also offered cleaning services at no charge, to any tenant whose accommodation had suffered smoke damage. I have requested OHC to contact the tenants to determine the extent of any damage to the contents of their locker as a result of the fire. However, while we do our best to see that no hardship occurs, OHC does not assume responsibility for the personal effects of tenants.

For the information of hon. members generally, the Lawrence Heights development was built in 1957 by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation on behalf of the federal-provincial partnership. Responsibility for its management was assumed by OHC in 1964 from the Metropolitan Toronto housing authority. All of the equipment and fire protection devices installed in these buildings met the standards of the borough of North York, and I believe, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member was reeve at that time.

Mr. Singer: That is exactly right.

Hon. Mr. Randall: And the member did a good job.

Mr. Singer: I think so.

Hon. Mr. Randall: It has been suggested that—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Do not overdo it.

Hon. Mr. Randall: —exterior fire escapes should be installed with the implied suggestion that no proper escapes existed. There

are flights of stairs at each and of the building, properly protected by fire-resistant doors, which meet the appropriate standards and are common to all multiple buildings.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would like to deal with the irresponsible statements attributed to one of the tenants, Mr. Frederick Hood. Apparently he was unable to operate the fire valve on the fourth floor of the building and attributed it to OHC practice of overtightening the valve to prevent tampering by children. This has been checked by the North York Fire Department, which requested Mr. Hood to operate the valve and found he was turning it clockwise and thus tightening it instead of opening it.

We are also advised by the fire department that all equipment was operable and, furthermore, there was little point in Mr. Hood using the hose on the fourth floor when the fire was confined to the ground floor.

Mr. Hood is also reported as stating that OHC was criminally negligent because of the fact that hatches to the roof were chained and padlocked. It is normal practice in apartment buildings to lock outlets to the roof in order to prevent children getting on the roof and perhaps falling over the edge. These hatches are intended for maintenance and inspection purposes only and are not intended as a fire escape. They could in fact constitute a danger if improperly opened during a fire.

I cannot deplore too strongly the irresponsible statements to the press which have become so frequent of late, not in this case, but in many others and not by the hon. member, I might say. In this particular instance, statements which have been made concerning the fire protection equipment, the possibility of incendiarism, and so on, will undoubtedly have caused the residents of Lawrence Heights considerable unnecessary alarm.

Mr. Singer: Not unnecessary alarm.

Hon. Mr. Randall: And, Mr. Speaker, I say if this practice continues, I intend to seek advice from the appropriate legal officers of the Crown concerning possible legal action against individuals who make unsubstantiated accusations of this nature, because I believe the Ontario Housing Corporation officials are doing a better job of looking after their tenants than private landlords. It is a shame that every time anything happens to an Ontario Housing project, we are accused of being negligent. We are criminals; we are rapists; we are thieves; we are murderers; and I am getting just a little—

Mr. Lewis: The minister is not going to take the member for Downsview to court?

Hon. Mr. Randall: —and I am getting just a little bit tired of these charges.

I will tell the member what we are going to do. We are going to let them prove some of these points one of these days.

Mr. Singer: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister not agree that a hand-operated alarm system which necessitates the person operating it to stand there while the alarm is ringing, even though he might be surrounded by flames and smoke, is hardly an adequate way to warn people of a fire in a building?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Perhaps I would be permitted to say a few words about that as the hon. member is good enough to ask me about it. It would cost I do not know how many millions of dollars to change over some of our buildings in Ontario to an automatic alarm system, when the fire department and the various boroughs approve the system we now have.

Mr. Singer: North York does not. They want to change.

Hon. Mr. Randall: So far they approve everything we have done—

Mr. Singer: They want those alarms changed.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I might say this is the first time we have had the difficulty the hon. member mentions. We know the children in an area like that, as we said, can put some wadding behind a fire bell; anything can happen.

I can also understand if the flames are up around a man's feet, like the burning boy on the deck, he is not going to stand there and ring a bell. There are other alarms in the building and I am quite sure he would not have to stand there and be roasted.

Mr. Singer: As a further supplementary, would the minister be surprised to learn that the police advised me they are presently investigating the incendiary nature of these fires and have an idea who might have lit the fires?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I would be delighted to get the information from the police.

Mr. Singer: Yes; well why does the minister not speak to them?

Hon. Mr. Randall: We have talked to the fire chief, and I think the indications are that in the first fire somebody dropped a cigarette butt in their locker; and they are investigating the second fire. When I get further information I will be glad to give it to the hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Speak to the police, they know more about it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East (Mr. Gisborn); I am sorry, the member for York South is back.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Is the minister just back from Osaka?

Mr. MacDonald: I have two questions of the Minister of Trade and Development. We have a lot to catch up on since his absence.

Can the minister indicate to me when and how it is his intention to reconstitute the special committee that was investigating the complaints of the tenants in the Porter Avenue housing complex?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I understand that since I was away the committee finished its work and has been dissolved. Its recommendations were for a judicial inquiry, and it is in the hands of the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart). As soon as I hear from the Attorney General I will let the hon. member know what we are going to do.

Mr. MacDonald: Oh Mr. Speaker please! On a point of order!

The committee has not finished its work. Two members of the committee withdrew because they felt their position was an invidious one as directors of housing, and two alternatives were presented to the minister; namely a judicial committee or a citizens' committee.

My question to the minister, I repeat, is when and how is the minister likely to reconstitute it? Will it be on a judicial committee basis or, preferably, on a citizens' committee basis?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Frankly, at the moment I lean toward the judicial inquiry.

Mr. Lewis: I am sure the minister does.

Hon. Mr. Randall: The information I have indicates perhaps that is the way it should be done.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a second question of the minister.

On March 9, prior to his departure for the far east, the minister indicated that he had received a draft position paper from the city of Toronto and the harbour commission with regard to setting up a committee, such as we have talked about, to look after the Harbour City. During the minister's absence, the Toronto city council, and particularly the mayor, denied that any such draft was ever given to the minister. Would he please clarify the confusion in relation to this matter?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I do not know what was said in my absence. I know that the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and myself had a meeting, along with a couple of other ministers and some of my staff, with the harbour commission, the mayor and his four executive councillors. At that time he stated on a piece of paper as a memo to me and to the Prime Minister, what he would like to see done with a committee if it was formed to look after Harbour City—Harbour City only, not the Metro waterfront. I took the information he gave to me; we are now analysing, investigating and putting it with the facts that we have. I would hope in the next three or four weeks we can come up with a programme that will be satisfactory to all the parties concerned with the waterfront area. It is too premature for us, at the present time, to make statements as to what we are going to do, because there are two factors involved.

There is Harbour City development, which is strictly a commercial development; and then there is the major Metro waterfront plan, which is a programme embracing many of the municipalities all the way from Burlington perhaps down to Oshawa.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary: in view of the minister's present statement, how does he reconcile that with what he said during his estimates last year when he said it was well underway and we would have houses in Harbour City in 1970?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I said we would have houses in 1970. I said I hoped we would get the Harbour City project started in 1970. I still have these hopes.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Prime Minister. Is there a third MTART study, or government analysis of the first two MTART studies, that is about to be revealed; and if so, when can one expect it?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): there is a study going on, based on the original MTART study; and when the government

decides that the time has come we will announce it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East may have the floor.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): My question is also of the Minister of Trade and Development. In view of the announcement about a week ago by Mr. Tom Rahilly, general manager of National Steel Car, the wholly owned subsidiary of Dominion Foundries and Steel, that within four weeks it will be laying off 600 employees, has the minister made any approach to the company as to possible assistance in continuing employment in that plant?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I was not aware of this. I will take the question under advisement and will contact my staff and get an answer for the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests. Is the minister having any negotiations with fishermen in the Lake St. Clair area as to compensation? Some of them are now bringing fish in from the lake, in fact one was doing that just today. Is the minister having any meetings with federal officials this week with regard to compensation for fishermen?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member, as my colleague the Minister of Energy and Resources Management mentioned, negotiations are taking place between the federal and provincial governments and this matter is being very actively looked into.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary: Is the government considering any compensation with regard to the company that caused the pollution? Do they not think there should be some basis for getting compensation from the company causing the pollution; should they not be responsible in some way?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I can just say, Mr. Speaker, that we certainly are very sympathetic to the fishermen and there is a possibility this week that we may be going to Ottawa to look into this very question of compensation to fishermen.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth. A supplementary?

Sorry; the member for Essex South has a supplementary.

Mr. Paterson: Yes; has anything come to the minister's attention as to whether species other than pickerel are affected? Have the fish in Lake Erie been affected by the situation? Have any reports come in from the state of Michigan, to his knowledge?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: To my knowledge pickerel are the only fish affected. I would say, however, at the same time, that samples are being taken of other fish as well in other areas, so this whole matter is under very close investigation.

Mr. Paterson: There is no report on Lake Erie fish in the minister's hands at this point?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, there is not.

Mr. Speaker: Any further supplementaries? If not, the member for Wentworth has the floor.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Trade and Development: In view of the recent announcement by federal housing authorities of the acquisition of additional lands on Saltfleet Mountain adjacent to the lands presently held by Ontario Housing Corporation, would the minister undertake to make available a clear indication of the plans for the area in order that people who presently reside there will be relieved of much of the anxiety they face over the possibility of the loss of property and homes?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I will take that question as notice and get the information.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: A question of the Minister of Lands and Forests: Is the minister aware that last week the government of British Columbia moved to prohibit the ownership of recreational lands by foreigners? May we expect the early implementation of a similar prohibition in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, this matter is under very active consideration.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor West.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Trade and Development. Would he, under "statements", tell the House in what way the announcement today by the Treasurer of Ontario (Mr. MacNaughton) about mortgages for housing differs from the two earlier plans that the minister announced in the House in 1968-1969, both involving a $50 million sum?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I think the difference, Mr. Speaker, answering the hon. member, is that the Treasurer offered $50 million for second mortgage money if the traditional sources would put up the 75 per cent. As I have said in the House on several occasions, not one of the private sources came forward with their 75 per cent, so we are unable to use the $50 million.

In view of that we have had a number of discussions, as the Treasurer has outlined today. We intend to go ahead in the mortgage field ourselves, starting with the $50 million up to 95 per cent mortgage. I think that is the difference between what happened last May—I think it was last May we were allotted the funds—and what the Treasurer announced today.

Mr. Peacock: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is this, then, a continuation of the same programme that the minister offered the home buyers of the Borden Woods HOME project last May?

Hon. Mr. Randall: The one up in Ottawa, was it? Yes. I had been in contact with them before I went to Japan, and, as the member will recall, they asked us for mortgage money. We said we would put it up and then the federal authorities came forward and said, "We will take care of that." However, they did not take care of it, and the people are back on our doorstep again. I assured the people up there in Ottawa that this money would be used for that purpose, so it is, in essence, a completion of that programme that we announced last year.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker, on what basis will the $50 million be distributed for the 3,000 mortgages, I think, that might be available? On a first-come, first-served basis, or on an income basis?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I think it is an easy question—first come, first served, and when that is gone we will look around for a further source of money.

Mr. Lewis: You mean you have no built-in income—

Mr. Speaker: This has become a debate now and it is not the purpose of the question period to have a debate.

Mr. Lewis: Well, by way of a supplementary then. Will there be an income requirement involved, or a simple first come, first served?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we should pursue this matter further in the question period.

Mr. Peacock: That is right, I did not ask him to answer—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Are there further questions? Not supplementaries, but further questions?

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Has any action been taken by his department to stop rug companies using the toxic drug deodrene? I think it was outlawed by order-in-council and is still being used.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well this I think, will come under The Department of Health. I am not sure for what reasons the rug companies are using this chemical, possibly—

Mr. Trotter: They are using it in moth-proofing.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I will have to investigate that, but I think this particular spray or pesticide would still be under The Department of Health, but I will inquire.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Development? In light of his return from Osaka, I wonder if he could indicate why it is that the Ontario pavilion is not receiving as many visitors as expected and those who are going are somewhat disappointed by what they find there?

Mr. Lewis: And why have we no discotheque?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Maybe we are not the great lovers. Mr. Speaker, I think it is rather premature to criticize any building at Osaka or the fair at the present time. We had these same criticisms when Expo 67 opened up.

I may point out to the hon. member that the weather was bitterly cold all the time I was there. They expected 600,000 people on the first day; they got 286,000, and I am sure if they had got 600,000, they would have been standing on top of each other because it is a smaller area than Expo 67.

As far as our pavilion is concerned, we think it is in the right place—right in front of the Japanese gardens where millions of

people will go and sit enjoying those gardens in the warm weather. It has a moving sidewalk along one side and an elevated train on the other. We get 20,000 a hour going by it.

The Ontario building is designed for a new motion picture, and I might say that the total cost is $2.6 million. I think somebody has been comparing it with the $11.2 million for the federal building, plus another $8 million the federal building had to spend to bring in entertainment. If we wanted to spend $20 million, I think we could have done a bigger and a better job, but we think that the picture that we have prepared for the Japanese people is going to be well received. We are packing them in there—600 to 900 every half hour from now on—and I am sure that the pavilion will do a good job for the province of Ontario and will make many friends for us.

Mr. Pitman: Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister indicate the truth of the reports that the building is somewhat empty because the minister ran out of money, and therefore could not provide anything interesting inside the building after he got it up?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, that is not true. We have two displays in there. We have a $750,000 picture by Chris Chapman which is our major contribution to the Osaka fair. We also have the modular communications vehicle, which shows 9,000 imprints on a wall every 13 minutes. Our biggest problem there is to get the Japanese people, who go around in groups of 100, 200 and 300 with a fellow with a flag and a whistle, to stop long enough to see anything. They get their passport stamped and if there is an exit there, they walk out the exit looking at a white screen that does not even have anything on it. They do not even give the picture a chance to come on. I think possibly that what they are doing is collecting pavilions; I think primarily that is the first impression, but after this, I believe we will see more of these people coming back for a second helping.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask by way of a supplementary question, whether it is to be correctly inferred from what the minister has said that in some sense we are in competition with the federal government on the site?

Hon. Mr. Randall: No, none whatsoever.

Mr. Sopha: If not, then why do we not seek to co-operate with them in endeavouring to have, as far as possible, the same people who visit Canada's pavilion, go to Ontario? I notice in the press that one effort in that direction was taken a week or so ago. Why are there not more efforts along these lines, together with British Columbia and the federal government?

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member will now permit the Minister to answer.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I do not quite understand the question. The building is there. The people are in the fairgrounds and they eventually get around to it. They are going to be there more than one day. They eventually get around to visiting all the buildings, but if they are there just for one day, because of the crowds there are many buildings they cannot get into. They may never get around to the Ontario building.

Mr. Sopha: Why all the minister's talk about how much the federal government spends?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I did not bring it up. Somebody else did.

Mr. Sopha: No, the minister brought it up.

Hon. Mr. Randall: No, somebody else brought it up. I answered a question. I said we budgeted for $2.6 million; that is the kind of building we wanted and we knew exactly what we wanted to put in it. We think we are right.

The federal government decided to spend $11.2 million, and they have a fantastic building and they are getting great crowds and it is the hit of the show. They are doing a great job for Canada, and I might say, our sister provinces of B.C. and Quebec are also attracting great numbers of people. I think when the smoke clears away, they will not attract any more than us, and we have built our building to our cost and our standards and the kind of money we had to spend in Japan.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Put your faith in Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Trade and Development. Would the minister give any consideration to reviewing some of the applications for designated areas in Essex and Kent areas, due to another catastrophe such as we have just had with the fishing industry?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, if there is any area in Ontario that has had some difficulty, it can make application any time. If the member will ask the reeves or the mayors or the town clerks in those areas to send in applications, outlining the circumstances, we would be glad to review them.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Tourism and Information. Does the minister have any set policy as to what is eligible for a grant under his tourism department, or what we may classify as something that would be interesting, some history-making article, something that has been built a number of years? Does his department have any specifications as to what is eligible in these categories? I am thinking particularly of lighthouse area in Essex county. It has been spoken of a number of times, and it has been there for 100 or so years. The local municipality would like to have it kept in its original state. Does his department have anything to do with this?

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Speaker, if I understand the hon. member correctly, we have no funds in our budget for grants for restoration of historic buildings. We have the programmes of the Huronia Development Council, and of course, the St. Lawrence Parks Commission, which are specific organizations dealing with this kind of thing in an area, but there is no general grant programme for municipalities or private groups as such. The only thing I could suggest to the hon. member is that whatever group it is that is interested in the project which he has in mind, might get in touch with the executive director of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Mr. Ryan. It might be that the foundation would be able to assist in some way.

An hon. member: What about the Auld foundation?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mmm?

An hon. member: The Auld foundation?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is broke.

Mr. Deans: I wonder if I might ask the Minister of Energy and Resources Management a question in regard to the offer he made some two months ago to provide me with all the details surrounding the Stelco and Dofasco programmes for water pollution control. I wonder if the minister might be able to indicate when in the near future I could expect to receive this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Sorry, Mr. Speaker, I have given instructions that that be sent out to the hon. member. I will check it again to see that it goes out to him.

Mr. Lewis: Better check all the instructions.

Mr. Deans: Someone is undermining his efforts.

Mr. Speaker: Are there no further questions?

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC SITES PROTECTION ACT

Mr. Pitman moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Archaeological and Historic Sites Protection Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, this bill is very simple. It is to protect historic buildings of Ontario before they disappear. It will create a delay mechanism before a historic building is destroyed in any municipality.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, we had intended to proceed today with second reading of Bill 2, only to find that it is not in the members' books, so we will put that over for a day until such time as the printed bills are available. Before I move the adjournment of the House, tomorrow we will proceed with the estimates, starting, as the Prime Minister announced, with The Department of Tourism and Information. There is no night session tonight, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 4.20 o'clock, p.m.

Legislature of Ontario Debates

No. 25

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Wednesday, April 1, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Wednesday, April 1, 1970

Indian community development projects, questions to Mr. Welch, Mr. Nixon 973

Action to replenish funds of municipalities exhausted through unemployment so they can provide dentures, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Pitman 973

Compensation for fishermen in Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie area, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Nixon, Mr. B. Newman 974

E. B. Eddy Company polluting Ottawa River with mercury residues, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Nixon, Mr. T. Reid 975

Analysis of mud samples from Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald 976

Measurement of mercury poison, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald 976

Bait dealers, anglers and commercial fishermen using Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair waters, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Paterson, Mr. B. Newman 977

Winding up of Windsor Medical Services, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Peacock 977

Invitations from Geraldton chamber of commerce, question to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Stokes 977

Brief through OHC re Fyfe report, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. Good 978

Poisoning of animals in southern Ontario through licking materials placed on roads, question to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Pitman 978

Communications with governor of Michigan in past 48 hours, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Ruston 978

Enforcement of Air Pollution Act re open fires, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Gisborn 978

Levels of sodium dioxide pollution, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Martel 978

Data surveillance and privacy, bill to provide for, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 979

Estimates, Department of Tourism and Information, Mr. Auld 980

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 1014

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Today our guests in the east gallery are students from the Thomas L. Kennedy Collegiate Institute in Cooksville and from Eitz Chaim Junior High School in Toronto, and in the west gallery from St. Isaac Jogues' School in Don Mills.

Statements by the ministry.

Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, let us see, there is not much of a target over there. I will ask the Provincial Secretary, if I may, sir, if the Indian bands have been informed that he is now the responsible minister for the Indian community development projects.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I think the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) intends to make an official announcement with respect to this, I expect tomorrow. During the course of his presentation, there will be some time on that particular matter as well.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. In view of the fact that the estimate book has moved the allocation for the $1 million available for these projects from The Department of Social and Family Services to The Department of the Provincial Secretary, can we be assured that the Indian bands will be informed directly, above and beyond the statements to be made in the Legislature?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Yes, I can certainly give that assurance, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South; has he any targets here?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Yes, one minister has just entered. May I ask the Minister of Social and Family Services, what, if any, action the government has taken to replenish the exhausted funds of municipalities because of the unemployment situation, with the result that dentures are not available to people except "under emergency conditions"?

Mr. Nixon: Shame. No dentures.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member will give me the names of any specific instances, I would be pleased to look into the matter.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I am back to my old problem. May I repeat my question? What action, if any, has the government taken to replenish the exhausted funds of municipalities—exhausted because of an unemployment situation created by government policy—so that these municipalities may be able to provide dentures on something other than emergency conditions?

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): What government?

Mr. MacDonald: Federal and provincial.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: There is no government here and there is a bad government in Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, no action or policy by this government has depleted the resources of any municipalities.

I repeat to the hon. member, if he will give me the specific details of any such municipality, or if any individual who is short of dentures, I would be pleased to look into the specific matter, because we have legislation which provides for that type of situation.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough was on his feet for a supplementary.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Has there been any direct assent from this government, from the minister's department, to any municipality indicating that dentures are expendable items in terms of assistance to those who are on welfare or assistance under the minister's legislation?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: The legislation is known to everybody. There is a provision for special assistance to be provided for by municipalities which is subsidized.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: I have a question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further supplementaries? If not, the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Has he or his colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), made any definite arrangement with the government of Canada about compensation for the fishermen in the Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie area, who have had their fish impounded?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, there is to be a meeting tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock in Ottawa with the federal Department of Fisheries and Forestry, and representatives from my department, and from the department of my colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests, and The Department of Health, to discuss compensation.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. Can the minister assure the House that no officers of the OWRC or any other provincial department were responsible for the impounding of the fish, and was this entirely under the control of the federal government?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. I assume, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is referring to the story in this morning's newspaper regarding Lake Erie. Is this what he is referring to? Yes, that is true. The story is incorrect: Fishing in Lake Erie has not been banned. I am advised that the federal Department of Fisheries has, in fact, seized some of these fish for observation to see if they are contaminated prior to their being exported, but there is no ban and this action, was not taken as a result of any activity on the part of OWRC.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary. Is the testing for the presence of mercury in the fish being done completely by the OWRC or does the federal government have additional and parallel testing facilities?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that the federal laboratories in Winnipeg are being used to analyze fish taken, for example, from Lake St. Clair as well as our own lab facilities here in Toronto. However, because of the number of fish that are being tested, we can only take so much in our facilities, and therefore the federal lab in Winnipeg is also being utilized for this purpose.

Mr. Nixon: A final supplementary, as far as I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, relating to the story that the minister said was incorrectly reported in this morning's newspaper – I believe, the *Globe and Mail*. Can he substantiate his statement that the only way to remove the pollution would be to dig up the mercury from the bed of the Lake St. Clair, or to treat the lake chemically, and in fact, the pollution will not disappear as the additional mercury arriving through the effluent is stopped?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, this was in reply to a question, I believe, yesterday, from the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr). I indicated to him at that time that, first of all, we would eliminate the source of this pollution; secondly, in the event that the fish do not improve over a reasonable period of time in some areas, it may be possible to do some dredging. It depends, of course, on the depth of the body of water but, coupled with the fact that if the water is cleaned up, this means the fish themselves may lose whatever contamination they have, particularly at this time of year when there is more of a flow of fresh water into these particular bodies of water.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville. A supplementary?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Yes, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the Wyandotte Chemical Company discharged some of their effluent on Fighting Island, one of the islands on the Canadian side of the Detroit River, can the minister assure us that that effluent contains no mercury and is not harmful to the fishing industry?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I understand this particular island to which the hon. member referred has been consistently watched and monitored by OWRC, and our testing and analysis of the effluent—the waste from that area—has proved to be safe. In other words, there is no degree of pollution. However, it is quite possible that because of the operation of this particular industry – not necessarily from the island but the Michigan side—this is contributing substantially to the contamination of fish as far as mercury compound is concerned.

Mr. B. Newman: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, of the minister. Would not the minister consider it wise at this time to call a meeting of those heads of various provinces and states bordering the Great Lakes in an attempt to resolve this problem immediately because of the dire consequences?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, there is a meeting in Washington tomorrow morning with federal, provincial and state authorities to discuss the problem of the Great Lakes and, of course, now, more particularly, the matter of mercury pollution in the Great Lakes.

I have not really spoken to the Prime Minister about this, but I am convinced more than ever of the necessity of a conference at the prime minister or premier level to discuss the whole problem of Great Lakes pollution. My thinking at this time is to wait until the IJC report has been handed down after the current hearings are completed—we hope to have the final report within a month—and at that time we will discuss the problem of mercury pollution as well as all sources of pollution in the Great Lakes. But I think that a high-level conference of this type, in Toronto, is now required more than ever.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor West has a supplementary?

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary? This will then be the last because we have taken enough time with this question.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I wonder if the minister could indicate what action the Ontario government can take on pollution problems that originate on the American side of the border that have been reported by the IJC?

Mr. Speaker: This is not supplementary to the original question. The Leader of the Opposition has further questions?

Mr. Nixon: I have a new question of the same minister. Has he information that would indicate the E. B. Eddy Company is polluting the Ottawa River with mercury residues of a similar nature to that which is giving the problem in the Lake St. Clair or Lake Erie region?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, we are satisfied with the E. B. Eddy plant on the Ottawa River in Ontario. It is not polluting the Ottawa River, and certainly we are satisfied there is no mercury leakage from this source. However, there is a problem with the plant on the Quebec side, as well as a number of other plants on the Ottawa River on that side. So I think that any discussions, for example, about the Great Lakes or the Ottawa River or the St. Lawrence, involving state governors should certainly include officials from the province of Quebec.

Also, alluding to the previous question, which is a good one, this is one of the reasons why it will be necessary to have this conference because, as the hon. member knows, the International Joint Commission can only recommend. Certainly it would be our intention to follow those recommendations as much as possible, and we would hope that the states bordering the Great Lakes would do the same, but we have no authority to enforce Wyandotte in Michigan, for example, to stop polluting.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would it be the minister's intention then to recommend that such an international conference at the state and provincial level would be held before June of this year? Would that be a suitable time?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: When the final report of the IJC—which I was told within the last 10 days would be available this month—is available, certainly within a month to six weeks, immediately after we could call this conference. It is quite possible we should call a conference before the report is ready, if we can have an idea when it will be ready.

Mr. Nixon: The sooner the better.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East, a supplementary.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): With regard to the pollution of the Ottawa River; have there been any tests as to the level of mercury in fish near Ottawa?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There have been tests of fish in the Ottawa River. My information, as of now, is that there is nothing exceeding one part per million. As the hon. member knows, this is in excess of the criteria laid down by the food and drug directorate.

We are concerned with fish in the Ottawa River and this is why we are doing what we can in Ontario. But it is an interprovincial waterway and we are going to require more co-operation from Quebec.

Mr. T. Reid: A final supplementary. Is it possible for the minister to meet with his counterpart in the province of Quebec without first going to the federal government?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, it is possible.

Mr. T. Reid: Does the minister intend to do that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, I will, except they are in the midst of an election campaign and I think it would be better to go to the officials of their water commission or water board.

Mr. T. Reid: Does the national—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member said that he had a final supplementary. We will hold him to his word.

Mr. T. Reid: I forgot about the national—

Mr. Speaker: We will hold him to his word. Has the Leader of the Opposition anything further? The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: I have two further questions of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

The first is a four-part question: Where are the results of the analysis of mud samples taken from Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair that were initiated by the OWRC two years ago, back in 1968? Second, where was the analysis actually done? Third, how long did it take? And, fourth, what subsequent action was taken after the analysis was known to OWRC and the government?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I may lump all those questions together.

It is my information that there was a biological survey conducted in 1968. The results of that survey apparently were made known to the commission last May. I have no information of any advice or information given to the minister at that time, but I am advised by the commission that mercury content was found in the mud; it was not known at that time that it would definitely affect fish life.

However, they did sample the water—the usual analysis of water—from the point of view of mercury pollution. There was no indication of mercury pollution in this sampling. It really was as a result of experience in Sweden, where it was established at that point that fish in fact were being contaminated by a high degree of mercury pollution, that the commission started to arrange for the anlysis of fish in those areas.

Mr. Speaker, I am advised that we just did not have the facilities here to make a detailed analysis of fish. The fish that were taken out of the lake apparently were sent to California for analysis, and this takes some months. It was only in the last couple of months that the findings as a result of tests on those fish were made known.

So, all I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that action was taken to the point of analysing the water, when it was established that there was a danger to fish from mercury pollution. In spite of the lack of facilities here, these analyses were made and the results are known to the hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, could I, by supplementary question, clarify one point? Is the minister saying that his department now believes that fish can be poisoned with mercury if there is mercury in the mud bottom of the water, as well as in the water itself?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We know that quite definitely now. Yes.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister's department did not know it a year ago?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Apparently not.

Mr. MacDonald: My second question then, to the minister is this. Why does the OWRC, along with the federal government—the food and drug directorate, to be accurate and complete—use a so-called safe level of 0.5 parts per million in measuring mercury poison, rather than the WHO level of 0.05 which is 10 times more safe?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, this is not the criteria used by OWRC. This is the figure used by The Department of Fisheries and Forestry in Ottawa. This was the criterion used in originally prohibiting the export of fish from Lake St. Clair. I suppose that this is a U.S. criterion, because we are taking fish out of Canadian waters and exporting them to the U.S., we will have to meet their particular limitations. As far as our own Department of Health is concerned, they feel that 0.5 parts per million is too low. They feel that one part per million is more realistic really, so that certainly they would not accept 0.05 parts per million.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of supplementary question; has the minister or any of his agencies inquired of the World Health Organization to find why they think that 0.05 is necessary, when Ontario has lived with 0.5 and is now willing to go to 1.0?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think, Mr. Speaker, that these are sort of abstract questions, but I think that a great deal would depend on the amount of fish that would be consumed by a human

being, as to whether or not it would be safe. Certainly, if somebody was on a steady fish diet—such as the people in Japan who were contaminated by mercury in fish—and he consumed this three times a day over a steady period of time or two or three weeks, possibly 0.5 parts per million would be considered dangerous. But The Department of Health's opinion in this government is that one part per million is safe for the average consumption of fish.

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary?

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): No. New question.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for York South completed his questions? The member for Essex South.

Mr. Paterson: Yes. A question of the Minister of Lands and Forests in relation to the St. Clair-Lake Erie problems. Will bait dealers, who are selling live bait to sports fishermen, be prohibited from sales of their live product in Lake Erie-Lake St. Clair? Secondly, will sports fishermen be allowed to fish at their own discretion or will this be prohibited? And thirdly, will the minister order those commercial fishermen, who have nets in the lake or pound nets or gill nets, to release the catches therein so that these fish may proceed to spawn in the normal course of events?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): If I may, Mr. Speaker, reply first to the last part of the question. Looking at it from the view of conservation, we would prefer to see the live fish being released.

As to the first and second parts of the question, I should say that the full matter is under very close investigation. Analyses are continually being carried on. As my colleague mentioned a while ago, there is a meeting in Ottawa tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. There is a similar meeting in Washington, also tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. We hope within the next two or three days we will be in a better position to give directives as to what should be done.

Mr. Paterson: For clarification—at this point, are sports fishermen prohibited from taking species of their own volition?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: At this period, Mr. Speaker, there is no prohibition.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor West.

Mr. Peacock: A new question, Mr. Speaker. A question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Mr. Speaker: Pardon me, the member for Windsor-Walkerville has a supplementary. If the members would say supplementary, then the Speaker would know.

Mr. B. Newman: Supplementary to the Minister of Lands and Forests, Mr. Speaker. As we are approaching the smelt season, will the minister refund any licence fees paid by individuals in the purchase of licences to smelt fish, now that there may be a prohibition on smelt fishing in Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, this matter has not been given any consideration.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor West.

Mr. Peacock: A question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister say when he will be making a statement in respect to the winding up of Windsor Medical Services and the paying out of the $1 million to medical members of the plan?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker. As I intimated earlier, I have felt there was no rush insofar as intervention by my department was concerned. I would like to leave the matter as it now stands for a further period.

Mr. Peacock: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister then say whether the $1 million reserve fund has, in fact, been paid to the medical members of the plan at this date?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As I understand it, no, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): A question of the Minister of Social and Family Services. I wonder if the minister could indicate when he might reply to the two letters or the two invitations that were sent to him by the Geraldton Chamber of Commerce to address them and bring them up to date on the activities of his department?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, I would be very pleased if the hon. member were to make

available to me any copies he might have of those invitations. They have not been brought to my attention.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Waterloo North.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): A question of the Minister of Trade and Development. Is the minister, through Ontario Housing Corporation, planning to make a presentation of a brief to The Department of Municipal Affairs, as to whether it supports or rejects the recommendations of the Fyfe committee report on regional government, since OHC is its large landowner in the area for potential development?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): I have read part of Dr. Fyfe's report. I just got back and the report is on my desk. When I have completed reading the report, I will be discussing the matter with my colleague, the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough). I have no intention of making any special representation but we will discuss the matter in view of the report.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Lands and Forests. I would like to know whether he is aware of reports that animals in southern Ontario have been poisoned by eating or licking materials that have been placed on the roads; whether he is making any kind of an investigation of this matter, and whether he could report to the House what the results of that investigation are.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of this, but I will be pleased to look into the member's request and give him a report.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Has the minister had any communications with the governor of the state of Michigan in the last 48 hours?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated yesterday in my statement, I have written to him. I have received no reply as yet, nor have I had any direct communication with him.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): My question is of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. In view of the upholding of an appeal against a conviction under The Air Pollution Act on March 19 by His Honour Judge Joseph Sweet, that The Air Pollution Act in regard to open fires cannot be enforced, stating it is ineffective and without any validity whatsoever, does the minister intend to amend the legislation to provide protection against this defence?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, we have ordered a transcript of that trial and, of course, when we have had a chance to see it we will consider appealing that decision. If the solicitors or the advisers in my department feel that there are grounds for appeal, we would of course have to await results of that. Otherwise, if we feel the decision is a good one and a sound one, the necessary amendments to the Act will be made.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): A question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Because the American Department of Health and Welfare indicates that the maximum tolerable level of SO_2 is 1.7 parts per million for three minutes, is it his intention to have the level of five parts per million which is acceptable in Ontario reduced to meet the latest figures that are considered safe?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I am having a hard time converting from mercury pollution to SO_2 pollution. I am not aware of the figure referred to by the hon. member. I believe we have indicated that somewhere between one part per million and 1.5 parts per million is an objective—certainly for the industries in the hon. member's riding. The information I have, for example, on conditions in the city of New York indicates the regulation there is one per cent. We haven't considered going below that level to any great extent.

Mr. Martel: Is the minister aware that The Department of Health and Welfare in the United States maintains that it should be 1.7 parts per million for a maximum of three minutes and then it is no longer safe, which is far—

Mr. Speaker: Order, the hon. member has asked his question.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that in many parts of the United States the regulations are more stringent than ours, but I feel they are not enforcing them as we

are and they are not getting the results that we are.

Mr. Martel: Oh?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Because they are not practical.

Mr. Speaker: This concludes the oral question period.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

DATA SURVEILLANCE AND PRIVACY

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to provide for Data Surveillance and Privacy.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, the bill regulates and controls the dissemination of data from systematically stored files, including computers, that record and store personal information relating to identifiable individuals. It is designed to safeguard the privacy of such persons by preventing indiscriminate access to such information. Provision is made for any person whose name is programmed into a computer installation or stored in any other filing system to check the accuracy of the data recorded and to require the expunging of that which is incorrect, unfair or out of date as determined by an independent third party. Registration of all such computer installations is required and penalties are provided for any operator of an installation who contravenes the provisions of the Act. The bill is aimed especially at the private investigation activities of consumer credit companies.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I could give the floor to the member for Algoma.

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I have a pleasant duty to perform. I would like to announce to the hon. members of the House that the page boys are going to place some maple sugar on every member's desk with the compliments of the Algoma maple syrup producers.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a point of privilege and a point of order, which I will take in that order. My point of privilege to you, sir, and to the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) is that I think that our procedures, as indicated once again yesterday in the handling of the budget, are a breach of the privileges of the members of this House. We have had varying ways of handling the budget, in view of the necessary security required. We have on many occasions, including this year, asked the provincial Treasurer whether it would not be possible for members of the opposition parties to be locked up along with the press under such security precautions as the provincial Treasurer wishes to impose, but that right has been denied to us.

You have an added breach of privilege, I suggest, when we get to the actual delivery of the budget, where the leaders of the opposition parties are given a copy but all other members of the House have to sit and listen through the hour and a half with no copy on which they might make notations to be able to respond to the press who have had all these hours of advance notice. And, to add insult to injury, we sit in this House as elected representatives of the people while civil servants are sitting under the gallery, thumbing through the budget while it is being read by the provincial Treasurer.

My point, Mr. Speaker, is simply this. I think as members of this Legislature, as representatives of the people of Ontario, we are entitled to arrangements whereby we can have some prior knowledge of the budget under such security precautions as the provincial Treasurer wishes to impose. Secondly, as an absolute minimum, every member of this Legislature is entitled to have a copy of the budget while it is being distributed, rather than just the press and civil servants and others. Surely we come somewhat higher on the totem pole than that.

Mr. Speaker: I would hope the hon. member's assessment of the standing on the totem pole of members of this House is correct. I think the member has made a very good point, and I am sure the House leader would take it back to the Treasurer's office and discuss it with him, because I, too, find it would be much better to deal with a document in printed form than by the ear.

The matter of order now.

Mr. MacDonald: My point of order, in the absence of the Prime Minister, is addressed to the House leader. With regard to the report that stands on the order paper from the standing committee on rules, can that report not be called so that the recommendations of the committee might be implemented; and so that we can get into a new stage of rules in this House, rather than drifting, with those recommendations sitting there in limbo?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, I did not think the standing committee was completed yet. They have one further meeting, I was advised—a meeting on Thursday. The item to be discussed on Thursday, I am advised, is the matter of supply, and I thought that we would await that report and do the complete report at the one time.

Mr. MacDonald: Further to the point of order, I concede that there is an interim report, that it deals with specific packages, so to speak, that can be implemented by themselves. But there will be further committee meetings that may go on literally for weeks or months before they have completed their work. My point of order is, can we not have a ruling on an implementation of those recommendations that have already been made before we get further into the work of the session?

Hon. Mr. Welch: There may be a continuing discussion, Mr. Speaker, but I am sure all members of the House would agree that the determination of how we are going to handle supply is a very integral part of those recommendations. Surely we can wait until the committee has had that opportunity. I know that the Prime Minister—and, I think, most members of the House—hoped that the report of the committee on those major points would have been ready by now. I have no control, but I know that, in speaking to the chairman of the committee, the committee has had some problems in arranging times that did not conflict with the holding of other meetings and this perhaps explains the delay. But I hope that once we have the supply in, I believe we could proceed.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): On the point of order, Mr. Speaker, to appeal to the House leader, the topic he has before him deals very specifically with question period and with hours of adjournment, but it deals not at all with estimates. It is quite specific; it would be quite acceptable to the members of this House; it would allow us to function more appropriately in all those areas in which we have agreed.

The only outstanding matter which is significant is that of the estimates, and that may take a good deal of time to sort through. We would urge that all the other things which would greatly facilitate the activities in this House be accepted, and then later on we will deal with the estimates in a week or so when we have them.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I do not know whether this point of order is going to turn into a debate, Mr. Speaker, but we are now operating on new rules, so to speak, by an order of this House. As far as question period and as far as many things are concerned, I cannot quite understand why such a case is being made of those items now. I must say I am quite surprised to hear from the hon. member that the question of supply is going to take that much longer to discuss. I would have thought that the committee could have handled that in a much shorter period of time, although I am not a member of the committee.

Mr. Lewis: On the point of order, Mr. Speaker, we are given to understand that what the committee had resolved at its last series of meetings last year may now be altered. We will learn tomorrow morning by whom. If that is the case there will be a battle which may be prolonged.

Mr. Speaker: I would think the matter of order has been sufficiently brought to the attention of the House leader. I note that the chairman of the committee is in the House and I am sure that these matters will be determined in the best interests of all the members.

I agree with the member for York South that the sooner these matters are determined, the sooner we will operate at an efficiency rate which I would hope would be at least equal to last fall when things went very well under certain new rules or new procedures which we are trying out.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The eighth order; House in committee of supply, Mr. A. E. Reuter in the chair.

ESTIMATES, THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND INFORMATION

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Chairman, I have again this year the privilege of reporting to the members of the Legislature the activities of The Department of Tourism and Information and The Department of Public Records and Archives for the fiscal year 1969-1970.

I want to thank the hon. member for Algoma (Mr. Gilbertson) for at least starting off my estimates with an air of sweetness around this chamber.

1969 was a good year for tourism in the province of Ontario. The tourist industry registered a 5 per cent increase over 1968, and had an all-time record travel spending total of an estimated $1.740 billion. The

tourist industry's contribution to the provincial economy is clearly marked by the continuing and ascending pattern that has gained annually from the $265 million reported for 1961.

Today tourism is a big business. It directly employs almost 10 per cent of the province's work force and ranks third to pulp and paper and manufacturing as an export commodity.

Not including landings at international airports, the province welcomed, in 1969, 21.4 million visitors in cars at U.S. border crossing points. This represents more than two-thirds of all tourists driving into Canada yearly. It means that tourism, aside from being a major income generator, assumes the main role as a window of Ontario and, indeed, Canada, to the world—showing how we live, how we spend our leisure and, particularly, what we have to offer visitors for a vacation with a difference.

To assure the tourists of a friendly reception when they reach our borders, we now have 37 tourist reception centres, including 18 at selected points along the Macdonald-Cartier Freeway. These centres make certain visitors are welcomed in a warm, pleasant, knowledgeable manner and are supplied with the necessary maps and information literature. In 1969 we estimated that some 1,300,000 persons were furnished with travel information at these centres.

To give the hon. members some idea of the extent of my department's promotional programme, we distributed in 1969 over four million pieces of literature to various organizations in Canada and the U.S. As well, we received over 250,000 inquiries through the mail and by telephone about opportunities for tourists in Ontario.

Besides print promotion and displays at various travel and sport shows, the department continues to expand its emphasis on television advertising. I might add in this connection that we are making a major shift to more internal tourist promotion. That is to say, we are now about to focus additional attention to the tourist potential of our own residents, particularly urban southern Ontario. Actually, as hon. members know, most tourist spending is generated by Ontarians in Ontario. This internal expenditure represents about 60 per cent of all tourist dollars. Yet we do not believe that we have by any means exhausted the potential of the local market.

As hon. members will note in a few moments, through our expanded promotional techniques, we are attempting to convince people in southern Ontario to take wider advantage of the tremendous tourist attractions in the northern part of our province. This means that we must operate today a three-pronged approach—continuous efforts to attract the U.S. visitor; accelerated promotion in the local market; and the new plans now under way for a piece of the European travel trade, which I will say a few more words about in a few moments.

Until now we have mostly limited our internal tourist promotion programme to magazine advertising. In 1970, this will be expanded to a television campaign, particularly aimed at the more than six million people in the Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg areas, urging them to discover northern Ontario in particular. The full impact of the move to TV is realized in the change from a $700,000 television budget for 1969-1970 to over $1 million in 1970-1971. I might say this does not mean an entirely new advertising expenditure of $300,000, but rather a shift in priorities.

Mr. Chairman, before I leave this part of my remarks I would like to expand for a moment on the creation of a European travel representative. For some time I have believed that an increased market for Ontario tourist dollars exists in the British Isles and continental Europe. As these countries rapidly expand their industrial plants with a resultant increase in incomes, we are very much aware of the growing potential they offer to add to Ontario's tourist income. Along with these rising incomes, of course, is the possibility, the very strong possibility, of lower international air fares in the immediate future.

Many prospective overseas tourists have already exchanged vacations in each other's countries, and will, I believe, now begin searching for new lands and new adventures to satisfy their travel appetite. By establishing at this time our own representative in Ontario House in London, England, and having him travel throughout the continent to promote Ontario travel, I believe we will be making the best of a new opportunity. In other words, as one could say, "We are getting in on the ground floor."

There is another matter, Mr. Chairman, that I would bring to the attention of the hon. members. For many years we have been searching for ways and means to develop the province as a four-season, or to put it another way, a year-round tourist attraction. Essentially we have been highly successful in spring and fall fishing and hunting vacations and, of course, during the summer

months, the province offers, literally, a summer paradise for vacationers from both Ontario and other parts of Canada and the U.S.

During the winter period, we have been perhaps somewhat less successful in the past for the obvious reasons of major competition, particularly from ski operators south of the border and in Quebec. Yet, despite this, we have been improving our position every year. However, the big break we were looking for to expand our winter tourist plant has come in the form of the snowmobile.

Since 1968, when the Ontario government introduced legislation making registration of snowmobiles compulsory, the number of snowmobiles in the province has increased from 54,762 to the anticipated 1970 total of close to 120,000. We now estimate that approximately 250,000 people are using snowmobiles in the province. That is about one-sixteenth of our province's population. All of this points up the fact that Ontario has become essentially an all-year-round tourist attraction. Because of skiing, snowmobiles, ice fishing and other winter sports, we now have more U.S. visitors, for instance, arriving on our doorstep during our winter months every year.

To give the members a few figures: In December, 1968, nonresident vehicles entering Ontario, excluding commercial trucking vehicles, totaled 378,579, and in December, 1969, 381,950. In January, 1969, the figures were 345,817 and for January, 1970, 354,782. The number of persons in non-resident vehicles entering Ontario in January, 1968, was 735,932; in January, 1970, this increased to 749,569. Most significant were the number of persons in nonresident vehicles entering Ontario in the long-term category—that is, people who stayed in the province for more than 24 hours. In January, 1968, the figure was 90,124 and in January, 1969, the figure was 92,939—an increase of 3.1 per cent.

Parallel to this development, we now find that we have more Ontario residents making more trips in the province during the winter, and consequently, fewer trips out of the province. We find that more of our residents are winterizing their cottages instead of closing them immediately after Labour Day or Thanksgiving. Today we are noticing an increased demand made on our parks authorities for the opening of recreational areas during the winter.

Besides the effect on the tourist industry itself, the manufacture of snowmobiles results in new job opportunities, new income, capital investment and, of course, generates increased public revenue. Our figures tell us that more than $50 million will be spent in North America this year alone for snowmobile clothing. This amazing little machine has another impact on the economy—that is in the areas of service and repairs, particularly by farm implement and equipment dealers. Before, this type of operator usually closed down or laid off his mechanical staff during the winter months, but snowmobiling makes it possible for the dealer to keep his staff on a year-round basis and generate new income, which in return placed his business on a more solid financial foundation.

Because of the impact of the snowmobile, my department's travel research branch has been instructed to begin a survey of the socio-economic characteristics of snowmobilers, the intensity of usage and how much money is being spent in this area.

For some time, with the other provinces, we have been urging the federal government to institute a development loan fund for tourist industry. Ontario has raised this question at each of the last three federal-provincial conferences. So far it does not appear that any new assistance will be forthcoming from the federal authorities.

Tourist associations, hon. members of this House and myself have been urging the government of Ontario also to establish a loan fund to assist the tourist industry, similar to the conventional loan programme of the Ontario Development Corporation. I am happy to report that yesterday, in the budget presented by the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), there was included a $1 million fund for the tourist industry. Given the financial situation of the province and with the aim of a provincially balanced budget, one could say that it is a moderate beginning. At the present time, it appears that a $50,000 loan limit will be placed on individual projects, with ODC interest rates being those prevailing at the time. At the moment, I believe they are 9.5 per cent.

Of particular importance is the approach to term repayment, which will vary and be decided on each individual loan. Since tourism is considered of prime importance in northern Ontario where there are hunting and fishing camps and fly-in camps, the new loan fund will generally assist northern Ontario. I may say that preference will be given to those wishing to expand the season where there are winter opportunities for recreation in existence.

The fund will be determined by the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Ran-

dall) through the Ontario Development Corporation. Previously, where a loan was applied for by someone in the tourist industry, the ODC approached my department to discuss the application. Under the new fund, The Department of Tourism and Information will have representation on the ODC committee which judges the pros and cons of each application. We believe this new fund is an important step—albeit a moderate one at this point—to assist in a very practical way promotion of the physical development of tourist facilities and attractions in Ontario.

In 1969, my department issued one major new booklet, "Ontario Cruising," updated several existing ones, and we now have available for distribution, 31 pamphlets and booklets prepared and financed by the department. By the middle of this month we will issue a new booklet, "Our Parliamentary Heritage," which will be available to visitors to the very successful display of the same name on the floor of this legislative building.

In 1969, the travel research branch completed six major studies of the tourist industry, mostly related to visitors; 30 smaller research projects were completed, and 15 major research projects are under way. Four departmental studies are, I think, of particular note and give some general indication of the widespread activities of the department across the province.

First is the report on fly-in tourism in northwestern Ontario, which makes proposals for controls on U.S. aircraft by introducing water landing permits or their equivalent, initially for commercially operated aircraft only. As hon. members know, the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) continually has sought assistance from the federal department of Transport to plug this hole, but so far this has not come about.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): What about a direct line of beacons?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I may—

Mr. Sargent: There are no beacons up there at all.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, but we are not so concerned about navigation as we are about the chaps who fly in, catch fish over the limit and fly out. The hon. member knows the background of that one.

Mr. Sargent: You would get a lot more if you had beacons.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do not want more. Speak to your hon. friend behind you.

Mr. Sargent: Speak to who?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The hon. member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid).

It may be that if a water landing permit programme is introduced, this will offer Ontario operators a new opportunity for income in a field presently occupied almost entirely by our U.S. neighbours.

The second major study is the development of tourism in southern Ontario. In January of this year, my department contracted with Project Planning Associates to formulate planning concepts and guidelines to aid our field staff in carrying out their duties of administering their respective areas. This study is designed as an interim measure until the more comprehensive interdepartmental tourism and outdoor recreational plan is made operational.

The consultant's task is to draw up a composite picture of tourism as it exists at the present, to gain an appreciation of the problems and, as I have mentioned, to develop guidelines which will be useful, particularly to our field staff and, finally, to prepare an understanding of the relationship among tourists, attractions, corridors and supports.

The third study was one I mentioned in my estimates of last year: the preparation of a comprehensive document outlining the role and functions of the 36 regional tourist councils in the province. This report is presently in draft form and I am expecting to have the final report on my desk within 10 days.

The fourth report I will mention deals with the recommendations of the Northwestern Ontario Tourist Industry Study. The objectives of this study were to evaluate in broad terms that area's potentiality to support growth of the tourism and recreation sector and to identify, in terms of programmes and a limited number of potential projects, means whereby governments could encourage and stimulate this growth. We have had wide discussions on this, along with making representations to the dominion government. Rather than explain in detail at the present time the action so far taken, I will delay any further comments of my own until we get into the vote-by-vote discussion of my estimates, when I expect there will be a much broader opportunity to discuss these matters.

Mr. Chairman, in these estimates I am also asking the House to approve funds for the operation of the Ontario Science Centre, which I trust every member has now had an opportunity to visit since its official opening late last September.

Although it has been in operation for only six months, already the science centre has

proved to be one of Canada's most popular visitor attractions. Paid visits up to the end of March totaled more than 550,000 people, while almost 150,000 students have been admitted free in organized classroom groups.

With the approach of summer, I fully expect the centre to become Toronto's leading tourist attraction. I think it is unique in the respect that it serves, on the one hand, as a vehicle for education in science and technology, yet at the same time attracts hundreds of thousands of persons who might be said to be more in search of entertainment than of learning—and yet they learn in the bargain.

The major event at the centre this year will be the opening of the special exhibits section to be used for short-term exhibitions. Beyond that, the centre will carry out a continual evolution of exhibits to ensure that visitor interest is sustained and that the whole of the exhibit structure remains contemporary.

There are only two further areas I would pursue in these remarks. Both come under The Department of Public Records and Archives. I would point out that the wide accomplishments of the various branches of this department are recorded in detail in the annual report for 1969. However, there are two areas that I think should be especially noticed this afternoon.

First, is the continuous success as a major tourist and historical attraction of Sainte Marie among the Hurons. Large numbers of people continually visit the site, and an experienced archaeologist continues to survey and record aboriginal village sites in Huronia. Particular emphasis is being placed on this project since the area contains a high proportion of mission sites recorded in the 17th century "Jesuit Relations" and other contemporary historical accounts.

Second, I want to say a word about the records services branch, which, acting as a central operational agency, provides skilled advice and assistance to all Ontario government departments in the field of records management.

The basic aim of the records management programme is to achieve maximum economy and efficiency in record filing, storage, retention scheduling, and information retrieval. It is estimated that the records management programme has saved, through recoveries of space and equipment alone, some $407,450 in this last fiscal year, and up-to-date, since the origination of the programme two years ago, just a shade under $1 million. A very complete analysis of this programme will be found in the department's annual report and I would commend it to the hon. members. It makes very interesting reading.

Mr. Chairman, just before I conclude my remarks, I want at this time to extend my appreciation to the many members of my staff for the outstanding job that they have done for me as a minister for this House and for the people of Ontario. As civil servants, I do not think that they are always recognized for the great credit that they deserve.

Mr. H. Edighoffer (Perth): Mr. Chairman, I welcome this opportunity to rise in the House this afternoon and take part in the discussions of the estimates of The Department of Tourism and Information. It seems strange, while I am standing here, that I was chosen for this task, because I, as a tourist, ran into a little difficulty and now find a little difficulty in standing here discussing tourism. This, of course, is mainly because my cast makes me a little lopsided.

I would like to begin, Mr. Chairman, in saying how disappointed I was when I only had 24 or 23½ hours to review the proposed estimates of this department. But I would like to thank the minister, of course, for sending me a copy of the text of his remarks as well as the annual report of the department.

I, of course, am most keenly interested in the tourist industry and how it affects not only my own area, but all of Ontario. Tourism, as the minister stated, is now becoming one of the largest industries, and it does affect the economic climate in many areas of the province. I know in my own area, where the Stratford Shakespearean Festival is located, this has become a great tourist attraction. We find that approximately $8 million is spent in Stratford annually because of this attraction. And this represents 20 per cent of the total expenditure of the whole community.

In the last survey done by the department, it was noted that 26 per cent of the total tourist expenditure was on admissions to the festival. This means that the remaining 74 per cent was being spent on other facilities in the community. Now these figures vary in many communities and I have noted in particular, in the Lake of the Woods region, 57 per cent of the money that is expended is attributed to the tourist industry. In the Niagara region, 12 per cent of the money spent is tourist money.

These percentages vary right across the province, but it is most important to the economy and it should be nurtured in an orderly fashion by this department.

Mr. Chairman, because of the importance of the tourist business, I was very surprised to read in the minister's annual report, under the tourist industry development branch, where it stated: "Planning is beginning to assume an important role in shaping the Ontario tourist industry." I look back at the remarks of the minister two years ago on May 13, 1968. The minister announced that the travel research branch began one of its most far-reaching and important projects, "the development of a master tourist and outdoor recreation plan for Ontario."

I hope that the members of this House are aware that both these branches are situated on the same floor and in the same building and, Mr. Chairman, if this is the way that this minister operates the department, I really believe it is time for a review. In fact, it could be time either to dispense with the department, or else add more responsibility, in order that tourism in Ontario may develop to its maximum.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): The minister is not earning his money.

Mr. Edighoffer: Too many bits and pieces of that tourism promotion are being promoted on a helter-skelter basis by many departments.

Mr. Chairman, I want to be as brief as possible this afternoon. I have decided that I would like to keep my remarks to public liberty and public participation, in particular reference to censorship and the centennial science centre. Later in the votes, I want to discuss further the briefs that the tourist operators presented to the committee of tourism and natural resources and, of course, the ratio of salary and maintenance expenditures in the department compared to its productivity.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could suggest to the hon. member that if he proposes to discuss the briefs that I recall were submitted to the committee later on in the estimates, he is out of order, because as I recall there is only one thing in that brief that had to do with my department directly. I just suggest to him that if he wants to discuss those things he might find it better to do it now, rather than being found out of order when they do not relate to a vote later on.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): He is very fair.

Mr. Edighoffer: Mr. Chairman, censorship is very much in the news today. The reason is obvious. There is a clear division of opinion between those who want complete permissiveness, and who find any kind of censorship abhorrent; and those who are appalled by the exploitation of sex and violence that today's freedom has engendered. There is a strong backlash against permissiveness, stemming largely from the rural areas and the small towns and from people over 40. On the other hand, there is the willingness on the part of the young, the urban dwellers, and the sophisticated minority with above-average education to regard any abridgement of individual rights as an attack against all civil rights and therefore to be resisted.

Liberals are, I think in good conscience, split on this issue, as indeed I think are all parties. It would, in fact, be more correct to say that party lines have no significance in this context. There is a generation gap, an income gap, an environmental gap and a sophistication gap, and people fall on one side of it or the other.

It is in this atmosphere that my colleague from Humber (Mr. Ben) has introduced his amendment to The Theatres Act, that would extend film censorship to videotape and other modern methods of image presentation. The passage of this amendment would bring Cinema 2000 within the purview of Mr. Silverthorne's editing bench and, of course, he would need the videotape machines and the electronic editing equipment necessary to carry out this task if we were to assign such chores to him.

The point I want to make is that if anyone is to say if and when censorship shall take place in Ontario, it must be the members of this House and not the police, acting without responsibility to the elected representatives of the people. Mr. Chairman, the real question is not: to censor or not to censor; but rather that the power stay in the hands of the people, acting through their elected representatives in this House.

The minister has said that he would as soon have done away with the censorship function entirely. But so long as others, not democratically elected, are eager to fill the vacuum he makes by his abdicating his responsibility, then his action in pulling out of censorship will be irresponsible indeed.

Of course, no one wants censorship to become a political football, but better by far that errors be made at the level of political responsibility than at the level of non-accountable whim.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, if I could correct the hon. member. I think, when somebody asked me if the federal government got into the censorship field and we got out, what would my reaction be, as I recall, I said it would not break my heart.

Mr. Sargent: You get to look at all those movies without charge.

Mr. Edighoffer: There would presently seem to be an understanding among film distributors, dictated, I suspect, purely by market considerations, that certain films should not be seen in certain areas of Ontario. The purist might argue that distribution along these lines is itself a violation of the civil rights of the minorities in Orangeville and Parry Sound, or Dryden or Renfrew or even Preston.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Just home movies in Preston.

Mr. Edighoffer: However, the situation is transitory, and nobody should expect that the exercise of his personal freedoms is made without an effort. The Pembroke resident who wants to see "I, a Woman," or "I am Curious (Yellow)," can presently do one of two things. He can travel to Metropolitan Toronto or Ottawa or he can wait another year or two, by which time these movies will be packaged on the new electronic video recordings and either rented or sold for viewing through the home television set for a few dollars.

We can assume, then, that technology will gradually ease out the censorship function of the department, and that Mr. Silverthorne and his staff will gradually work themselves out of a job. But, of course, we hope not before they attain pension age.

But what concerns me is in the intervening years, when the desire to pull out of censorship on the part of the provincial government may well lead to the greater abuse of non-accountability, if police commissions take it upon themselves to do the job that the minister finds repugnant. Or I thought so.

Tonight my colleague who is sitting to my left, the member for Sarnia, is making a major address to the Beaches-Woodbine Liberal Association on the powers of police commissions.

Hon. Mr. Welch: What time will that be?

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): It is on "I am Curious (Yellow)" that I will be speaking.

Mr. Edighoffer: I have had the opportunity to read his notes, and the issues he raises are frightening in the extreme. There is little doubt that authoritarianism in its worst form, as capsuled in section 14 of the withdrawn version of the police bill, that is Bill 99 of 1964, is once more rearing its ugly head.

So I want to plead to the House today for a retention of the aura of responsible government in the field of censorship, until such time as through our technological inability to control the distribution of programmes, censorship fades away. It is no longer possible to censor phonograph records and soon it will be equally impossible to control the sale or loan of video cartridges for the new players that will flood the market next year.

But in the interim, Mr. Chairman, I hope we can go out of this in an orderly fashion and not be abdicating provincial powers, and the powers of democratically elected representatives, to appointed bodies responsible to no one but themselves. Because there is little doubt that it is the imposition of authority *per se*, rather than any concern with the social value, if any, of the materials seized, that motivates morality squads to act as they do.

The morality squad approach to censorship, since it is irresponsible, is more repugnant than no censorship. Which is not to say that I believe there should be no censorship, but only that it will, within a year or two, pass wholly beyond control and enforcement for technological reasons.

Mr. Chairman, my second theme is participation; again, this subject seems to divide people according to age and temperament. The minister, I believe or imagine, will have read the comments of Mr. Harley Parker in the Toronto *Daily Star* of Wednesday, March 25, 1970.

Mr. Parker, as noted in the newspaper report, sees the Ontario Science Centre as outdated and, of course, he may be right. The fundamental mistake has been made of thinking that because busloads of children can push buttons and press keys, they are participating in the process of scientific inquiry. This should be not so.

The real reason the science centre has been called "outdated" is precisely because it is packaged and wrapped to the North American antiseptic specification that cuts people off from one another and from the world around them. Mr. Parker points out that children cannot get their hands dirty, try as they might, at the science centre. They leave for home as clean as they arrived. There are no

torn trousers or torn stockings, no scuffed shoes or no tousled hair. We call this "experience" and pick up an enormous tab for it, if we count in all the gasoline of all the school buses that bring the children from far and near.

Now teenagers are trying their best to organize their own activities in the science centre, but they are being discouraged. The minister has answered the perfectly reasonable request of RJB Associates to hand out neat cards promoting forthcoming concerts in the Great Hall with a dismal "no".

The minister knows that both of the concerts organized by this group of three aspiring young men have been orderly. Perhaps he does not know that the most herculean efforts were necessary on the part of these students, and I class them as students, to raise the collateral for a $2,000 loan they needed to put on their first concert. Surely, the fact that they went out on a limb, having faith in themselves and in their ability to put this show on the road against all odds, augurs well for youth with this breed of determination. But they were discouraged and harassed by several members of the science centre staff, who found their activity in handing out printed notices in the foyer of the science centre, distasteful and not in keeping with the so-called educational nature of the complex.

What these three young men were doing was truly educational. It was not phoney; it was learning at first hand and backing their belief with hard cash to the tune of $2,000 needed. While not yet property taxpayers in their own right, these youths are the heirs of solid citizens who have, in bringing up their children, seen large sums flow into the educational coffers of the boroughs and the province.

Now people are beginning to say that the many are paying through the nose to maintain the few. There is a groundswell of resentment that is going to grow if facilities paid for out of the public purse, and by taxpayers at large, are kept artificially exclusive.

Let us look at the minister's two different answers to my question on Monday, March 16. Right off the top of his head he said at the foot of page 624 in *Hansard:*

> I assume that the hon. member is speaking about the Great Hall and the auditorium. They are available, on those occasions when the centre is not open, to anybody who wishes, as far as I know, on a first-come, first-served basis.

When he sent my question to the director-general of the centre for the composition of the official reply, Mr. Omand called in his staff and the document about rental policy that they put together and which the minister read in the House on the following day was very different in tone from his spontaneous remarks of the previous day.

No one is going to quarrel that financial responsibility is necessary and must be shown. Crowd control and the avoidance of panic is also clearly a must. But surely, built into the $200 fee for the auditorium and the $300 for the Great Hall is some provision for fair wear and tear to cover the odd cigarette burn where smoking is permitted?

The director gave the game away when he said that these rooms have been approved to provide facilities for scientific and engineering conventions, charitable cocktail parties and fashion shows. What, I wonder, have the last two kinds of functions to do with the provision of $30 million of taxpayers' money to provide this facility? Surely we are here concerned with the inquiring mind and the learning process?

We are concerned with the building of character and competence in the young. Yet when three youths come along, eager and confident in their ability to organize a rock festival if only they can get the hall, they are given a rough time in spite of the fact that they are able, through unbelievable ingenuity, to demonstrate their ability to lay $2,000 on the barrelhead, for all expenses connected with their show.

However, their educational prowess was not wasted on them. They knew what to do. They had learned enough political science, even in the community college, to know where to come to their elected representative through the caucus office. They were able to document their harassment, and to point out that the rules of the centre were not being uniformly applied; that there was, in fact, a good deal of intellectual snobbery at work so that a fashion show would be given the *carte blanche* whereas their own activities would be closely supervised at every turn with an unwarranted degree of suspicion.

In particular, this youthful management group, RJB Associates, is discouraged by the ban on advanced promotion and ticket sales in the centre. I understand they made $1,000 profit on their first show which they promoted, but only broke even on their second when their orderly promotion activities were curtailed by the new science centre rule.

As they rightly point out, the O'Keefe Centre can do it, the Town Hall can do it, so why cannot the science centre, built with

$30 million of public money and supported on a daily basis by educational visits paid for out of public money, encourage character-building ventures and enterprise on the part of youth?

Do you want to drive them to the pool hall? Do you want to alienate them and turn them off? Or do you want to encourage them through non-prejudiced application of the rules of fair play?

I suggest that the science centre should give priority to the entrepreneurial efforts of youth over the established social functions of the adult community, and that it should bend over backwards to assist in creating the atmosphere wherein enterprise on the part of the young will flourish.

There is no doubt that experimental theatre and film-making could flourish in the science centre if such leadership and drive were evident, and if the cobwebs of this intellectual snobbery were blown away. If, for example, the Studio Lab Theatre were without a home following the demolition of the Orange Hall on Queen Street East, would the group find a welcome in the great hall to carry out their exercises? Would the Claremont Experiment, which is also concerned with the intimate relationship of human beings one with another, ever be allowed to run its classes there?

The point is that this kind of activity, whether it be rock or dance, or touching or feeling, or any such thing, is at least one whole area of the new experience which we are aiming for—and what Harley Parker rightly points out is so desirable—that is, relating man once more to his environment in a whole and wholesome way.

Today, the science centre has cost the taxpayer $30 million. Will it tomorrow create an enriched experience to those who are prepared to invest not 50 cents or $1, but rather time and effort, not to look around and push buttons, but to enter into the creative process that is really living? At that time, and not until that time, will the province have a centre worthy of Canada's Centennial.

Mr. Chairman, at the outset I said I would be brief and keep my comments mainly to those two fields, but after looking over the estimates I feel I must make one other comment. I want to say how amazed I was when I looked over the estimates of this department very quickly and looked at the ratio of salary and maintenance expenditures in the department compared to its productivity. I refer to the estimates this year and I compared them with the estimates of 1969-70 as there is just a slight overall increase.

The salary and maintenance costs account for the bulk of the money expended. Out of the $12 million budget, almost $9 million is allotted to salaries and maintenance. When I compare this to the budget for promotion of tourism in the Stratford Shakespearean Festival budget, I find it very difficult to comprehend.

I talked to the office in Stratford this morning. I realize that this department, of course, uses the Stratford festival on many of its brochures. But I talked to them this morning just to find out what their advertising budget is. Their advertising and publicity was $200,000 out of a total budget of $2,225,000.

I am sure, Mr. Chairman, and I hope you will bear with me, that if William Shakespeare was living in my riding today and he was one of my constituents, he might himself say something like this when he sees what this department and the Minister of Tourism are doing in budgeting. I really feel he might say something like this: "It seems to me that our own riding doth provide reports abroad that far extend the efforts of those who do minister to us. And this be done at a cost 10 times, nay 10 times 10 less, than in the aulden days."

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): I welcome the opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to lead off for the New Democratic Party in the estimates of The Department of Tourism and Information.

It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that for an industry that is as important to the economy of the province of Ontario as tourism, The Department of Tourism and Information does precious little to contribute to the overall expansion and wellbeing of the industry generally.

I would like to register my disapproval over the late arrival of the annual report for The Department of Tourism and Information. It reached me about ten minutes to two yesterday afternoon, on the day of the bringing down of the budget. It gives very little time for one to do a complete analysis of what is good or what is bad with regard to the operation of the department.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): That is the idea; that is why it is late.

Mr. Stokes: About 15 minutes before the minister got up to speak, along came the report from the Ontario Science Centre, which

again gives precious little time for a comprehensive analysis of what is good or what is bad with the operation of the Ontario Science Centre.

If we are going to have a realistic appraisal of the expenditures which are being made by The Department of Tourism and Information, I think we are going to have to be given more advance notice of what is actually going on in the department and its various branches.

I would like, Mr. Chairman, to get into my remarks by referring to a speech made by the minister of this department to the annual convention of the Ontario Motel Association at the Skyline Hotel, Toronto, on Tuesday, November 4, 1969. Apparently, the minister has a series of speeches that he uses for almost any occasion and, if I might quote his remarks on that occasion, he said:

> Whenever I am invited to address a group such as yours, my first inclination is to dig into my bag of speeches for good, old reliable speech No. 14H.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): 14H?

Mr. Stokes: Yes, 14H, the dog-eared one that extols the virtues and the importance of hospitality, courtesy and so on. However, he goes on to say that he is not going to belabour them with that speech because they have heard it numerous times before; you know, about the need to upgrade the facilities, both eating and accommodation, associated with the tourist industry. He is not going to belabour them with that. He says:

> On the other hand, you may wish to suggest some of these things for yourselves. After all it is your livelihood.

Mr. Lawlor: There you are. That is the shampoo speech before you get to the rinsing.

Mr. Stokes: Yes. He said:

> I mentioned earlier that I wanted to say a few words about the financing of the tourist industry. If the truth were known, my real inclination is to haul out speech 17C.

Mr. Lawlor: Holy cow! How do you grade these things?

Mr. Stokes: He says:

> The one dealing with the need to upgrade our food service in Ontario hotels and motels, however, has become just as hackneyed as the hospitality speech, so for today you shall be spared that one as well.

He goes on to refer to the dire need for finances in the tourist industry. Of course, whenever this government and various departments and branches and agencies of this government find they have no answer for any particular problem, they say, "Go to the boys at Ottawa; they are the fellows who really should be bailing you out. We realize you have a problem but we are preoccupied with more important things, so go to Ottawa."

So he says:

> Tourist industry financing is a problem that reaches both senior levels of government and, quite frankly, I think it is one to which the federal government could pay a great deal more attention.
>
> During the federal-provincial conference on tourism a month ago, I reported on the needs as we see them for greater federal involvement. I said, for instance, that it has been estimated that about one third of private tourist establishments in Ontario are marginal with facilities far below North American standards.

He goes on to say that he realizes there is a problem with regard to financing in the tourist industry but Ontario does not have the time or the resources to get involved in this sort of thing, so go to the people in Ottawa.

He made a great fuss over the fact that in the budget that was brought down yesterday, we were going to get about $1 million through ODC conventional loans (I presume). From the Ontario Development Corporation, $1 million. He just translated this into actual dollars and cents for us in his opening remarks so I did a rapid calculation of what this would mean to the tourist industry based on the number of units in 1969 as reported in the annual report which was made available to us yesterday.

The number of units, motel and hotel, is 24,630. Now, by the minister's own words we have to get busy with upgrading the accommodation and the quality of service that is available to the tourists we are able to attract to the province of Ontario. In terms of the $1 million that is being made available to the industry, this works out to about $40 a unit. If anybody knows anything at all about construction or renovation or upgrading of facilities, he will realize that $40 is precious little when you consider what is at stake.

The minister goes on at some length to give the amount of dollars—it is the third largest industry in the province of Ontario—and I think the minister by his own admission states it is so important that we take full advantage of the tourist potential in the province of Ontario. Yet when the tourist industry

generally seeks assistance from the department or from the Ontario Development Corporation, we get $1 million for a $1 billion industry in the province of Ontario.

I want to refer, Mr. Chairman, to a report which came out, I think it was in June, 1969, entitled "Travel Habits of Ontario Households". Since the minister did not refer to it at any great length in his opening remarks, I would like, for the benefit of the House, to translate this into what the travel habits of Ontario householders mean in terms of expenditures in tourist dollars and trips taken within the province of Ontario. A trip is considered to be any trip of more than 25 miles in one direction but excluding any daily trip of any distance to or from place of residence to place of occupation.

The average household made 8.35 trips during the period studied, from June 15, 1966, to June 14, 1967, which is the latest date for which figures are available, according to the departmental report. Of the 8.35 trips per household, 3.11 of these trips were in the summer, for a total number of trips of 15,690,643. The Metropolitan Toronto households were the prime generators of travel, totaling about 43 per cent of all trips made by all Ontario households in a comparable period, which was from April, 1964, to April, 1965.

Places in Ontario are the destinations of 85.59 per cent of all trips originating in Ontario and receive a total of 50.17 per cent of total expenditures on all trips, or $435,-852,000. The main characteristic noted of origin and destination of all trips taken by Ontarians within their home province was that in each case the final destination of the majority was within their own region of origin. That is, the Metropolitan Toronto horseshoe region or Metropolitan Toronto and Niagara economic regions generated and received the most trips. They generated 39 per cent of all trips for a total of $6.1 million, and received 32 per cent of all trips. The highest expenditures were made on trips taken during the summer. Vacation trips generated 47.66 per cent, or $414.1 million of expenditure on all kinds of trips.

There were three kinds of trips. There were vacation trips, which generated an expenditure of $414.1 million, which included 47 per cent of all the trips and the average expenditure was $167.56. The personal trips amounted to an expenditure of $325.8 million or 37.50 per cent with an average expenditure of $28.94. The business trips amounted to an expenditure of $128.9 million or 14.84 per cent of the overall total and an average expenditure of $65.73. The average expenditure on all types of trips was $55.37.

More than half of all the tourist dollars expended, or $414 million, on vacation trips by Ontario households during the study period, were spent on summer vacation trips representing an expenditure of $252 million. Vacation trips taken during the summer generate the highest absolute spending on travel through the year. An annual average of 18 per cent of personal trips contains a vacation factor; by reason, the vacation factor was in the spring, 11.6 per cent of the trips; in the summer, 31.8 per cent of the trips; in the fall, 8.2 per cent of the trips; and in the winter, 7.8 per cent of the trips.

The vacation factor for all trips was much higher during the summer and although the annual average during the business trip was only 2.4 per cent this also peaked in summer to 6.5 per cent. The primary reasons for travel were sightseeing and relaxation. These were mentioned as the primary reasons on vacation trips in 36 per cent of the cases and on personal trips in 17.3 per cent of the cases. Recreational reasons, including the above, were mentioned as the primary reason for travel on vacation trips in 47.3 per cent of the cases and on personal trips in 33.4 per cent of the cases.

The average vacation trip in Ontario was for a duration of 6.4 days and on the personal trips it was 1.2 days. How did they travel? The mode of transportation was a passenger car, used most frequently in all trip categories. The average round-trip mileage for a vacation was 464 miles and for personal trips was 177 miles.

The average number of trips per household, as I mentioned before, was 8.35, of which 1.32 were vacation and 5.99 were personal, but the recreational element is high in both categories, as I noted earlier.

The most intensive use of facilities was made on vacation trips. Use of facilities was highest in the summer months and lowest in the winter.

Although vacations account for only 1.32 of the 8.35 average number of trips taken, or 15 per cent, almost half of the $868.8 million of the total expenditure on trips was generated by vacation trips. Recreational reasons were mentioned as the primary reasons for travel on vacation trips in 47.3 per cent of the cases—and that is a lot of money for recreation. Because of the high economic importance of vacation trips to the tourist industry, Ontario householders should be persuaded, by provision of attractive facilities, to

vacation within the province. There again it gets back to my earlier remarks about you taking a great deal of solace from the fact that you are making $1 million available to the tourist industry when you are talking about an industry that generates an expenditure of well over $800 million a year.

The city of Toronto was the destination of a great many trips of all types, showing there is a large potential for tourism in the metropolis. The average income for those Ontario families who took trips in 1966 and 1967 was $7,410.

It has been estimated that there will be 2.5 million households in Ontario by 1980. If the same income is in effect, then, as in 1966, approximately $1.2 billion will likely be spent as direct expenditure on travel.

If Ontario householders continue to spend half their tourist dollars in Ontario, this figure will amount to over $600 million by 1980. However, the Canadian economic council has estimated an average income increase of four per cent per year. By 1980 the total family income of the 2.5 million households then in existence in Ontario should amount to $32.4 billion.

The figure that I am going to quote later gives some indication of potential goals of tourism in the province in terms of these predictions. It is estimated that by the year 2000 the number of households in Ontario will be 3.46 million. Total family income per year will be $97.4 billion. Direct travel expenditure, or 6.2 per cent of the total family income will be $6.1 billion. Of the travel expenditure in Ontario approximately 50 per cent of the $6.1 billion will be $3.1 billion. With the expected four per cent increase in family income as estimated by the Canadian economic council and the increase in leisure time an even greater proportion of family income would likely be spent on direct travel expenditures.

If we can believe the prognosticators—and, indeed a good many of the figures that I used came from the minister's own department—this will indicate just how significant the tourist industry is to the province of Ontario and just how insignificant and inconsequential is the contribution of this department to acquiring a good share of this market and in trying to capture our share of even our own local market.

Mr. Chairman, I would like now to refer to a release by The Department of Tourism and Information that was done by Dr. Peter Klopchic, director of travel research. He tries to outline the economic importance of tourism in the province of Ontario. I quote:

> It was estimated that Ontario residents and other tourists spent approximately $1.6 billion on travel in the province of Ontario during 1968. Broken down by figures by origin of tourists, the amounts were as follows. Origin: U.S.A. and other foreign visitors, $555 million; other Canadian provinces, $252.8 million; Ontario residents, $850 million.
>
> Several economists commonly accepted the economic multiplier of tourist spending in Ontario to be at least two. Therefore, the tourist expenditure of $1.6 billion actually creates an economic activity of approximately $3.2 billion.
>
> Also, every earned dollar in Ontario was taxed by more than 30 per cent by the three levels of government—federal, provincial and municipal. As approximately 10 per cent of the provincial gross national product is absorbed by provincial taxes, it might be said that tourist spending of $1.6 billion generated approximately $250 million in provincial tax revenue.

Now, those were the figures produced by the minister's own department, and yet he considers an adequate amount of money toward the upgrading of facilities in the tourist industry to be $1 million.

Hon. Mr. Auld: A very modest beginning, I would say.

Mr. Stokes: I will say it is modest.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): It is more than last year.

Mr. Stokes: One dollar is a lot more than nothing.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): How much are you deriving from it?

Mr. Stokes: This tax revenue is made up of sales tax, gasoline tax, liquor tax revenues and income tax paid by persons directly or indirectly employed in the tourist or transportation industry. We believe it could be assumed that at least 100,000 heads of Ontario households are employed directly or indirectly by the tourist industry. For instance, there are about 8,000 owners or operators of tourist establishments in the province, many of them in the higher-income bracket. In addition, there are several thousand owners or operators of restaurants and entertainment facilities in the province, many of whom would not be in business if it were not for the traveling public.

Many of the studies done by this department and other agencies have shown that approximately one-quarter of the annual passenger car mileage in Ontario is made on vacation and recreation trips; well over 90 per cent of holiday trips are made by passenger car. It could be assumed, then, that approximately one quarter of employment in the automotive service industry is generated by tourism. The importance of tourism to the economic sectors cannot be measured only in terms of the large number of unskilled, lower-income summer staff employed in tourist establishments. Examination of the impact of tourism in one particular community, Bancroft, reveals that of 51 commercial outlets established there, only about 10 to 15 likely would survive financially if it were not for the usual summer influx of tourists.

The same situation exists in Westport and most communities located in the Canadian Shield where many businesses, other than tourist establishments, should be considered, such as restaurants, automobile suppliers, gas stations, sporting goods suppliers, boat suppliers, fishing and hunting guides and suppliers right down to the many local churches who raise funds during the summer months to aid in their economic survival. For many of them, the loss of $10,000 in yearly sales for instance, is of the utmost importance. If they obtain these additional sales, they survive; if they do not, they are in the red. Tourist expenditure is the only source from which they are able to obtain this last, all-important $10,000 a year that keeps them in operation. The traveling public now has characteristics of great mobility, together with the affluence and appetite, to see many places. If we in Ontario do not prepare our tourist plant for this change, many Ontario residents and much of the potential U.S. tourist market could easily be motivated to vacation elsewhere.

Canadian tourists are already spending approximately $50 million per year more abroad than U.S. and other foreign visitors are spending in Canada. This deficit could increase to embarrassing proportions if we do not strive to modernize and improve our tourist attractions and facilities in every way possible. Need I say more about that particular aspect of the operation of this department?

Does the minister think $1 million is an adequate fillip to throw to the tourist industry to allow them to maintain a fair share of the market, or indeed to improve it—particularly to the establishments of northern Ontario, where we do not have the various options that people have in the more affluent parts of Ontario, particularly in the "golden horseshoe"? If he is going to consider it in any significant way toward an upgrading of the standards and for a greater share of the tourist economic pie, he is going to have to come up with something much more meaningful than a $1 million contribution to what we consider to be about a $1 billion industry.

In that connection, I would also like to refer to a speech that my colleague, the hon. member for Windsor West (Mr. Peacock) made in the Legislature here on May 12, 1969, as his contribution toward a private members' hour where, I think it was the member from Haliburton who spoke about a loan for the tourist industry. If I might quote my colleague from Windsor West, speaking and addressing himself to this subject:

> One of the interesting contrasts between the kind of investment opportunities for these firms that ODC has been assisting with and the kind of investment opportunities that are available in the tourist industry, is that in the study undertaken by the Ontario Economic Council's committee on the tourist industry, entitled, "Its Potentials and its Problems: An Evaluation by the Ontario Economic Council, 1965," it was stated that each net addition of $2,100 in direct foreign tourist expenditure per annum appeared likely to create a new year-round job in the tourist industry in Ontario.
>
> Compare that, Mr. Speaker, with the investment per employee that the Ontario Development Corporation is making under the Equalization of Industrial Opportunity programme and you find that if this study by the Ontario Economic Council is correct, we would be getting a far better buy for the investment dollar in this province in terms of increased employment in the tourist industry than we are getting in the investments ODC is assisting with so generously to major international corporations establishing manufacturing and other non-recreational or resort industries.
>
> The firms I mentioned in that list a moment ago each received from the Ontario Development Corporation something in the order of a loan of $10,000 per new job created, in contrast to the $2,100 of direct tourist spending that results in the creation of one new job on a year-round basis in the tourist industry. Now there is a contrast that the Ontario Development Corporation ought to pay some attention to. Because, with a little bit of that aggressiveness that the Muskoka Tourist Association spoke of, and somewhat more regard for the elemental role that tourism plays in the economy, investment in the growth of that industry and the employment opportunities that would go with it and the increase in spending and the resulting increase in prosperity in the communities in which the tourist industries are carried on, would be handsomely paid back to the Ontario government and the Ontario people.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Unquote.

Mr. Stokes: Unquote, right. That is what the hon. member for Windsor West said when he was talking about making funds available; indeed, the member for Muskoka who took

part in that debate said essentially the same thing. The only difference between his remarks and the remarks of my colleague from Windsor West was that he felt again it was a federal matter and not a provincial matter. Now, we cannot sit idly by and wring our hands when we find an industry such as the tourist industry in trouble and slough off the responsibility for assistance to them to some other jurisdiction.

Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka): The hon. member is quite pleased with the minister's announcement this afternoon, I take it.

Mr. Stokes: No, I am very disappointed.

Mr. Boyer: Oh, are you indeed?

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Well, they would be anyway.

Mr. Stokes: No, I am very disappointed.

I would like to deal briefly with the activities of this department with regard to advertising the various attractions that we have in the province of Ontario for attracting the maximum number of tourists and the maximum number of tourist dollars into our economy. The minister made a great to-do of the fact that some four million pieces of literature were distributed during 1969, extrolling the virtues of the tourist attractions in the province of Ontario. I would like to refer the minister to a specific instance in my riding where I spoke to somebody whose livelihood depends entirely on the tourist industry. He owns an establishment at Jellicoe, where he made application to The Department of Tourism and Information for various pieces of literature so that he could have them available to the traveling public. Now, Jellicoe is along Highway 11 where it is quite removed from the usual sources of information. It is not the same situation where you have any one of maybe a dozen outlets in Metropolitan Toronto and access to the various pieces of literature that are distributed by this department.

He made application for the various publications that he thought might be of interest to the traveling public, and he was told that on a quota basis he could only get X-number of copies of certain publications, and that is all there was to it. It proved to be quite insufficient for the demands of the traveling public in that area, and he wrote to the department and got no reply. He ended up getting information from the federal government. I looked at the display in his little store and, lo and behold, the majority of the information that he had on display there for the use and for the information of the traveling public came from the federal government, dealing mainly with the facilities in national parks.

I do not know whether this is an isolated instance or not. In fact, I am quite convinced the amount of money and the kind of assistance this department is making available to tourist bureaus and little tourist information centres in northern Ontario seem to be completely inadequate. When you consider the great distances between population centres, I would think that this is where we are able to attract a lot of our people; a lot of our tourists are looking for a wilderness setting. They do not go to an urban centre and say: "Well, we want to go out into the wilderness. Could you tell us where the best places are?" They head out for the wilderness and, after they get there, they will stop in at a little white wayside store or some little place where they might buy a fishing or hunting licence. They ask: "What are the attractions in this area?" and they expect to find out right on the spot. They are not going to go out of their way, possibly 300 or 400 miles, to get information. They go to the general region where they want to spend their vacation and then they expect to find or get the necessary information after they get there.

I think this is something the minister should take into consideration when he gets a request from people such as the one I mentioned for an adequate supply of brochures and publications that are available.

I would like to turn to another topic, Mr. Chairman, and for want of a better phrase, I will refer to it as "The Ecological and Environmental Factors on the Future Development of Canada's Mid-North Recreation." Apparently this is a document that was made available to the minister and his department quite some time ago. I have not been able to acquire a copy of it, but I am wondering what the department has decided to do as a result of the information contained in that document. In what way is this department concerning itself with the effect of ecological and environmental changes on the Ontario scene, as it affects the tourist industry?

People, I think it is fair to say, will spend a great deal more money, or a large percentage of the money they have, on recreation in their immediate area if there are sufficient outlets and sufficient diversification of facilities in their particular area. I think it is fair to say that people do not want to travel

hundreds of miles for the recreational outlets if they can find them in their own regions.

Now, I think it is also fair to say that unless all departments of government start to become more concerned with intense industrial development in southern Ontario, you are either going to have to provide alternatives for them elsewhere or you are going to have to become involved with creating a much better environment for the people to pursue their recreational endeavours closer to home.

I would like to refer briefly to the Niagara Escarpment where The Department of Lands and Forests, when they were asked about it in a brief that was submitted to The Department of Tourism or to the committee on natural resources and tourism, said that some negotiations were going on for acquiring some of the land on the Niagara Escarpment, and as funds were made available they would do just that. I think this is one particular area where this department and the minister must become more actively involved with preserving areas such as the Niagara Escarpment to provide attractions for tourists and tourist dollars.

I think that the time has long since passed when departments such as The Department of Tourism and Information can slough off the responsibility for land-use planning and put the land to the best use for which it is suited. You allow people to pre-empt good agricultural land or good recreational land to allow these industries to spring up in an indiscriminate way, having no regard for the best use of the land. This is another area where this department must become actively involved and speak up on behalf of the tourist industry, because I can see the tourist industry going downhill fast and furious unless this department gets involved in this problem.

I would like also to refer to another study that the minister referred to in his opening remarks, and it is the one done by Kates, Peat, Marwick and Company in May, 1968—about 23 months ago—and it is entitled "The Northwestern Ontario Tourist Industry Study." The member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) is more familiar with the study than I am, because it pertains expressly to his area and the area around Rainy River. I am just wondering how long it takes any department of government to assess a study of this nature and implement some of its recommendations.

I am not going to bore you with the contents of this report in any great detail, but I would like to ask the minister why his department has failed to implement some of these recommendations, or at least to indicate what he intends to do with the report. And I quote:

> Governments should co-ordinate all departments dealing in some respect with tourism. Twelve Ontario government departments are involved.

The report goes on to say:

> They should establish a Northwestern Ontario regional tourism development committee with terms of reference to co-ordinate all departmental activities, to set up priorities for developing the various areas within an opportunity region and then survey each in detail and prepare a comprehensive plan. Where legislation is required to promote development, emphasis should be on incentives rather than on restrictions. Encourage motorists to stop over by use of large roadside maps showing the facilities and points of interest.

The commercial highways now passing through the Kenora area are dull and uninteresting and give no hint as to the beauty and attractions of the region, says the report. Do not promote an entire province, it says, when there are regional differences as in northwestern Ontario. There should be special regional campaigns aimed at specific markets. Planning of cottage development should be co-ordinated by the tourism development committee and, the report says, cottages provide the soundest economic base of any tourism facility.

Resorts should offer enough variety of activity to attract, hold and bring back family groups, and activities that appeal to women and children cannot be ignored in favour of men-only types of recreation.

Finally, the report strongly advocates a network of waterways to encourage more boating by well-heeled U.S. visitors. A waterway, to be classified as having cruising potential, must be navigable for at least 50 miles and have a diversity of interesting waters. Now, correct me if I am wrong, but I do not know of any of the recommendations that came out of that $25,000 survey having been implemented, and there is no indication that they ever will be implemented.

I would also like to refer briefly to the responsibilities of this department for the licensing of tourist establishments in the province of Ontario. I am not competent to speak of the way in which licences are issued in southern Ontario, I am not familiar enough with them, but I do have some knowledge of this department's responsibilities with regard

to licensing. A good many of the operations of fly-in tourist operators are in northern Ontario, where they operate under a land-use permit granted to them by The Department of Lands and Forests. They are able to operate by virtue of the fact that this department has granted them a licence to do so under the legislation provided for the establishment of such facilities.

A lot of these are not permanent in nature; that is a lot of them are tent-bottoms where people go in and operate. Inspectors from your department make routine inspections and satisfy themselves that they are operating within the legislation and the regulations providing for such an operation.

I would like to draw the minister's attention to one specific instance where The Department of Lands and Forests intercepted a party of American tourists heading south across the border back to the United States in possession of well in excess of 700 pickerel fillets that were caught in a lake in my riding. The Department of Tourism and Information became involved to see whether they were operating under a licence. The Department of Lands and Forests became involved and very concerned about the amount of illegal catches that were going south of the border and the magnitude of such catches.

I believe at one point even the Royal Canadian Mounted Police got involved. Nothing much happened as a result of that incident because when The Department of Tourism and Information made their investigation and when The Department of Lands and Forests made their investigation, they found out that these Americans were operating from a tent or a camp on an island that was not covered by a licence. They came to the conclusion that it was an illegal operation but they could not charge anybody here who was operating under a licence with complicity in such an act, where they could violate the fishing game laws to the extent that they had. So really nothing happened.

Hon. Mr. Auld: May I just interrupt the hon. member? You mean that in this case there was no licensed operator within where they were staying. They were in their own tent, were they?

Mr. Stokes: What happened was there was a licensed operator on the lake in very close proximity to where the violation took place. But when your Department went in, they made an investigation. It was his camp all right, I think it is fairly safe to say, but he denied that it was his, and so you people said that you had nothing to go on. But when The Department of Lands and Forests said that the camp had to be removed, it was the very same fellow who removed it, and claimed all of the equipment.

The thing is I do not know how you people hand out these licences, but you are responsible for handing out licences. I am not talking about the land-use permit, but the licence to operate a tourist establishment in remote areas.

You must shore up the laws in such a way that you can get at these people. Now you can well imagine that a group such as this, on this one occasion—I do not know how many went unnoticed—but in this one there were 700 and some odd pickerel fillets that were going south of the border. You can readily understand that we are not going to have a fishery in the province of Ontario very long if you allow those violations to continue.

Now they are operating under your licence and, as I say, when they ordered the camp destroyed the fellow who was operating under your licence was not long in getting it out of there. All I am saying is I think you should take another look at your legislation.

The legitimate operators do not condone this sort of thing; they are the first ones to blow the whistle and say, "Why not clean this thing up?" I am talking about the odd fellow who does take advantage of a situation and he is really going to clean out our resources in a very short time, unless your department fills those loopholes.

I would also like to allude briefly to other submissions that were made to the committee on natural resources and tourism. I mentioned earlier about the tourist resort financing. I would also like to prevail upon the minister to speak to his colleague, the Provincial Secretary, who is responsible for the administration of the liquor laws of the province of Ontario and the licensing of certain facilities.

I am not going to bore the committee this afternoon with the contents of those briefs that were presented but I think they do have a great deal of merit. I think that the minister should assure the industry that his department is doing everything possible to see that we can maximize the effect of the tourist industry on the economy of the province of Ontario I would like to add my support to a good many of the briefs and submissions made to that committee and would hope that the minister would take positive steps to assist them in maximizing the effect of the tourist

industry on the people in the province of Ontario. Thank you.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, if I might comment very briefly on the remarks of the first member, who was speaking about videotape and particularly about the theatres branch and that specific vote in the estimates. I am well aware of the electronic changes that have been taking and are taking place in the exhibition of films via videotape. In fact, I have been working with our counsel from the Attorney General's branch, and it may well be that I will shortly be bringing amendments to The Theatres Act to the House to deal with this specific situation.

The hon. member was speaking about police commissions and police morality squads acting as censors. I would simply remind him that the Criminal Code of Canada has provisions about obscenity which are the responsibility of the local police forces to enforce, and in this case there had been prosecutions. In fact, I think there is one presently before the courts dealing with this videotape situation in a hall in Toronto.

I can also tell him that the fact that a film may have been approved or classified by the board in the theatres branch does not mean it is necessarily immune from prosecution under the criminal code. There was a case in which a prosecution was started and then withdrawn last year, which he may recall.

Talking about the science centre and the reported comments of Mr. Harley Parker, I can only say he is entitled to his opinion. I think he is in a rather small minority as to his views of the conception and the carrying out of the plans for the science centre. I have read them and I think that is all I have to comment about it.

I am a little surprised about his comments concerning RJB Associates and their rock festival. As I said in the House at the time, I think to the hon. member who asked me a question about this, that the facilities there are available on basically a first-come, first-served basis to any responsible group—and I think this is a responsible group—at the normal rates of rental. The same rules apply to everybody. As far as promotion before the event in the centre is concerned, or the promotion and the sale of tickets in the centre, it has been part of the policy adopted by the board, and approved by myself, that this was not permitted.

No one is allowed to do it, and the reason should be fairly obvious. With the number of events which take place there we could wind up with more material around the place promoting coming events of all kinds than we would have exhibits. There have been something in the order, I think, of $20,000 worth of rentals which have taken place in the various facilities in the science centre since the opening. I have a list of them, but I will not attempt to read them. There are a great many ranging from the National Ballet to Boy Scouts, fashion shows and industrial displays and a whole host of things, and the same rules apply.

I might just comment briefly on several of the points that the hon. member for Thunder Bay brought up as far as our providing literature is concerned. We attempt to provide, first of all, to our information centres on the border points, to the Canadian government travel bureau and automobile association, and to other travel promotion people outside the province, and in other provinces and states, a reasonable supply of literature. This basically is one of two kinds. Either it is about the province as a whole, or about a specific activity in the province like camping or fishing or hunting; or on one of the six regions. These are the books that we have because Ontario being such a large province, it is just not possible to cover adequately the whole province in one brochure. We make grants to the 36 regional tourist councils and one of the purposes for which this money is normally spent is to produce literature for that region itself, which is distributed within that region and perhaps in adjacent areas.

Mr. B. Newman: That grant is too small to enable them to do the job well.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The hon. member may be right, if he assumes that the province should be paying the whole cost of it. The grant, which is a matching grant up to a maximum of $5,000, was a method used to get these regions started. In the estimates you will see $180,000. We could—

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, but it is the maximum that is too low. The maximum of $5,000 is too low.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is right, and many regional councils raise far more than another $5,000 to do this work. I do not want to debate that at this moment, but we can have an opportunity to discuss that a little further along.

The purpose of this, in terms of what we believe is good merchandising, is that a regional council can cover its area and its

immediately adjacent areas where the prospective customer is practically in the store. They can make the best use of their money by giving brochures and information literature to people who are actually on the spot—who are "live ones," if I can put it that way—instead of attempting to cover the whole of the province and the whole of North America with literature, a great deal of which would probably be wasted if it was sent, for instance to Texas or Vancouver.

We do try to provide some literature, particularly the regional booklets that I have mentioned, in the area because they cover a region, or perhaps two or three tourist council areas. This is one of perhaps three complaints that I have heard in the last four years, that sufficient literature was not available. If the hon. member would like to give me the details of the individual, I would be glad to look into it. I can only say that if the federal people were sending him lots of literature and it was good for the area, I am delighted, because our literature is expensive too, and we like to get as much mileage out of it as we can.

One of the things that comes up very often, in fact almost every year, in the estimates of my department, is the question of really what the department's job is. Very often questions are raised, as the hon. member for Thunder Bay did, about liquor legislation, the ecological study and so on.

I can only repeat that our primary job is the advertising and promotion of the province from the tourist's point of view; the assistance by the development branch in organization of area promotional groups; and the regulation of accommodation to see that it meets certain standards as far as size, sanitation, fire protection devices, and so on are concerned. We are, of course, interested—and very interested—in matters such as water pollution, fish and game management, highway construction, liquor legislation, garbage along the highways—just about everything. And the minister, because he is a member of the cabinet and a member of the parks integration board, and a member of other committees, is aware of what is being done by other departments. However, I do not think the hon. member would expect me to stand up here and say that I will guarantee to bring before cabinet a change in the liquor laws or The Highway Traffic Act, or something like that.

Consequently the members of our staff are on a number of interdepartmental committees. Because of the tourist's importance to just about everything that everybody does, we are there for communication. Our primary job is to promote and to advertise and to regulate the establishments which are not licensed by the liquor licence board.

If the hon. member for Thunder Bay would also give me the names of the people involved in the incident that he referred to just before he sat down, concerning what appeared to be an unlicensed camp, I would be delighted to look into that one. That is the first I have heard of it.

Mr. Chairman: Before we proceed, I should point out that there are six votes in this department and upon looking at the votes I would suggest that we deal with all, except 2102, in total. That is, we can take vote 2102 and deal with it by programmes of activity. The other five votes we can take in total. Would this be agreeable to the committee?

Agreed.

On vote 2101.

The hon. member for Essex South.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could inquire of the minister as to what the department's policy is in regard to promoting the sale of properties in Ontario to citizens from outside Ontario? Does your department promote people to come into Ontario to purchase cottage lots either from crown lands or private enterprise?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, we have never had any promotion in Ontario that I can recall which specifically suggested people come to the province to buy cottage lots, whether it be crown land or private land.

Mr. Paterson: Does the Minister have any comment on the words of the Minister of Lands and Forests who has indicated today that consideration of a ban on the sale of cottage lots to U.S. citizens may take place in this province? Do you feel this will enhance the tourist industry or possibly be a hindrance?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say that the Minister of Lands and Forests was talking about a possible change in government policy which would be announced in due course. Assuming that I would be a member of the government, I would agree with him whatever it might be.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Paterson: For the purposes of clarification, was the hon. minister speaking of crown

lands that are going to be put up for auction or any lands in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Auld: When I was speaking when? Just a minute ago or at first?

Mr. Paterson: Just a moment ago.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I simply said that if there was to be a change in government policy, I assume that this would be announced by the Minister of Lands and Forests, and assuming that I agree with it, I would still remain a member of the government. If I did not agree with it, I would leave here but I really could not comment because it is premature.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2101, the hon. member for Perth.

Mr. Edighoffer: I would just like to ask how many people are employed in the general office and administrative services?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Forty-one, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2101, the hon. member for Essex South.

Mr. Paterson: In this vote, following my colleague's remarks, I notice the increase in the budget is approximately 10 per cent in this first vote. Included in that is a sum of $20,000 for data processing and I believe a similar amount appears again in the esitmates. Is this two sets of $20,000 or just repetition?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is the same one and it is actually a journal entry. We are charged by the Treasury for the time that we use on their computers.

Mr. Paterson: What type of work are you doing with this computer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is primarily having to do with the research branch. Of course we are getting the where-to-stay booklet on cards so that we can get it printed shortly after we get it up to date. One of the problems we have always had with where-to-stay is getting the information in the spring in time to get it printed so that we can get it out to people when it is of use to them in the summer season.

Mr. Paterson: There is one other problem under the main office, Mr. Chairman, that I would like to question the minister about. That is in regard to the trailer parks in our province. I believe this would be a policy decision. I believe at the current time under the new assessment policies of this Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough), the operators of trailer parks are being assessed at quite a high rate and in competition with the provincial parks in the area which are operating, you might say, municipally tax-free.

I know I have had a number of letters from owners of camp grounds and also conversations with municipal councillors in this regard, and I wonder has your office made any representation to the Minister of Municipal Affairs to try to equalize the situation and give a break to these campground operators? It seems to be the mobile home people, I think, who are getting confused in this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Basically, the hon. member is quite right. There is a real problem. I do not think that he was at the standing committee of tourism's meeting the first day when the tourist industry briefs were put forward.

Basically, it is not generally a problem of the level of municipal assessment. It is a matter of municipal licensing. Many municipalities charge a licence fee per lot, which they have the authority to do under The Municipal Act. This authority was granted, as I recall, shortly after the war when there was a great influx of house trailers that were parked the year round and which were not otherwise taxable.

Mr. Paterson: I think this is part of the problem.

Hon. Mr. Auld: People from our department and from the industry have been meeting with people from The Department of Municipal Affairs to take a look at this and see if there is a way in which the Act can be amended to provide for the licensing or taxing of permanent mobile homes. But we want to avoid this very difficult situation that a few transient camp operators have been faced with, where their costs of licensing—and the licensing, of course, had to be whether the place was occupied or not—might add up to a dollar or two a day. We are aware of the problem. It is not under our direct jurisdiction but we are meeting with The Department of Municipal Affairs about it.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2101.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Chairman, does the minister have any consultation with the federal government with regard to tourists coming into Canada with items that they may be able to bring in, or Canadian tourists coming back? Is there ever any consultation with your department and the

federal government with regard to customs regulations?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Most recently about scuba divers' equipment. Apparently we have had representations from Canadians, as well as Americans, who were running into problems about a deposit on their equipment. We also have correspondence from people from time to time complaining or inquiring about certain customs regulations which we simply pass along to The Department of National Revenue.

Mr. Ruston: One thing I have in mind is the loss of revenue to our country and I am wondering if this does not involve you completely. I realize it could involve the liquor control board and the federal customs as well. There are stores that operate in what we call "no man's land", which is between the United States and Canada, and where you can buy a bottle of liquor for $2.50 which would cost you $6 in Canada. This is being rather abused on quite a large scale and has been for the last number of years.

They are trying to find new methods of coping with it but I think that the sale of liquor in some of the areas near the border points has decreased, or not increased as it should have. I think on some occasions as many as 1,000 to 2,000 bottles a day come across just at one joint, the city of Windsor.

To this department it is a great loss of revenue, and I think they should make a point of consulting with the federal government in this matter. Since the liquor licence board has a lot to do with the sale and outlets of liquor in Ontario, I think we have quite a responsibility there.

Mr. B. Newman: The Minister of Revenue will look into that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I understand it, you are speaking of the provision which prevails in the States where these duty-free shops can operate, because it is my understanding that they do not operate in Ontario, i.e., none is based in Ontario simply because the law does not permit it.

There is one, I know, on the Thousand Islands Bridge in New York state but that is totally outside Canadian jurisdiciton. At least you are allowed, as an American, to bring in a certain amount of duty-free spirits and tobacco, and that is duty-free from the Canadian point of view. That is really an American operation. I think the one you are referring to—is this the one in Sarnia or Windsor?

Mr. Ruston: Windsor.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is the one that is actually operated from the States, is it not?

Mr. Ruston: Actually what it is, Mr. Chairman, it is exported from Canada as an exported article which does not pay taxes in Ontario and then it is in bond in the United States and does not pay duty in the United States, so it is actually without a country, you might say. But it then comes back into Ontario through Americans bringing it in, and Canadians coming back. I am not worried so much maybe about Canadians being away having a right to bring back articles. I am wondering how much is being abused by American tourists—this is my thing. I think that is the key point we should be interested in.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2101, the hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. Stokes: I would just like to get back to something that the minister mentioned in reply to some of the remarks I made.

This is called The Department of Tourism and Information. What kind of information do you disseminate? Surely you tell people about the tourist industry, but why do you say tourism and information? Is there some kind of information that you disseminate, other than information regarding the operation of the tourist industry?

The reason I ask this, Mr. Chairman, is because two of the best publications that have come out of this government or some department of government in the last while were put out by other departments of government. I refer specifically to one that was put out by The Department of Mines about three weeks ago, called "A Geological Survey of the North Shore of Lake Superior." That was put out by the chief geologist of The Department of Mines and Dr. Pye, which is an excellent thing which has gone out to all of the high schools in my riding and the libraries. The response from that is terrific. I am just wondering why you call yourself The Department of Tourism and Information when, as far as I am concerned, some of the best publications that have gone forward have been under the auspices of other government departments.

The minister also said that he was concerned mostly with advertising and promotion. I will buy that because when I was going through the department's annual report, somebody said, "What are you looking at?" And I said, "Well, I am looking at the annual report of The Department of Tourism and

Information." He looked at it and said, "It is too bad the government was not one big advertising agency because that seems to be the only thing they do well."

You are advertising what we have to sell in the province of Ontario with regard to tourism—I will not dispute that at all. I think that you are doing an adequate job—if all you are doing is acting as an advertising agency.

But I see your department as something much more than an advertising agency. I think that well over 20 per cent of your budget is in advertising; a good portion of it is in salaries. But what function do you perform other than, as I say, this glorified advertising agency? When you look at—I know that you are going to call me out of order—but, more than 33 per cent of the total general expenditure for this department goes to the science and technology centre here in Toronto.

I am just saying—how do you see your department? You call it a department of information? You call it a department of advertising? A department of promotion? And yet, you do a good deal of regulation in the province of Ontario.

When anybody asks the minister what he thinks about Niagara escarpment—you know, he shrugs his shoulders and says, "Oh, you know, I think it is a fine place." What do you think of Algonquin Park? "Oh, boy, that is a wonderful place—I took my family there six or seven years ago and I would just love to get back there you know, time permitting." You would think he was a Frenchman with that Gallic shrug. "You know, I think it is wonderful, I think it is beautiful." He never has an opinion on something that he should really be concerned about as the minister of this department.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): That is right. You have him taped.

Mr. Stokes: If I was to say to him, and I have not asked him yet, but I am going to right now, "What do you think of Quetico?" "Oh, beautiful, I agree wholeheartedly." But, let us look at it 10 years from now and see whether he will still agree with me that, "Quetico is a beautiful place." If you took away the parks in the province of Ontario—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Have some quarries.

Mr. Stokes: —what would we have left? And yet, the Minister of Tourism and Information is the fellow who should really be lowering the boom on some of his colleagues after saying, as he tells us, that the tourist industry in the province of Ontario is the third most lucrative. And yet, when you ask him if he has got an opinion as to what various departments should be doing, *vis-à-vis* his interest in the tourist industry: "Well, whenever it is government policy. Well, I will make up my mind at that time whether I agree or disagree, and if I disagree violently, well, maybe I will leave the government," or something like this. It is not sufficient for the minister to stand up and make a statement like that.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Sounds like the member for Port Arthur.

Mr. Stokes: Well, I am just wondering who sounds like the member for Port Arthur.

Mr. Jessiman: I just said that you sound like the member for Port Arthur.

Mr. Lewis: You sound like the member for Fort William. That is strange.

Mr. Jessiman: Thank you.

Mr. Stokes: No, I would like to ask the minister specifically what he sees as being his responsibility as the Minister of Tourism and Information? Does he not consider that he has a much greater responsibility than just acting as a glorified advertising agent?

Mr. J. Renwick: Good question.

Mr. Lewis: Defend yourself.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I thought I had really answered that final question a few moments ago when I said the responsibility of the department is advertising and promotion and the regulation of the accommodation that we license. I do not really believe that the hon. member for Thunder Bay feels that the members of the government, members of the cabinet, have their debates about government policy in the House. The debates take place in the cabinet chambers, as all cabinet systems of government operate, and when the members of the cabinet speak their views on various subjects at that time, a consensus is reached and that is the policy.

Mr. Martel: Obviously you thought—

Hon. Mr. Auld: You would love to know, would you not?

Mr. Martel: Would I ever!

Hon. Mr. Auld: You will probably never have an opportunity; that is the unfortunate thing.

Mr. Martel: Not until 1971.

Hon. Mr. Auld: However, the—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Yakabuski: Never, heaven forbid, for the people of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps what led up to the question by the hon. member about the name of the department was that it originally was called, as he will perhaps recall, Travel and Publicity. At the time it was changed from Travel and Publicity to Tourism, we put in Information as being perhaps an up-to-date word and a more accurate description of the tourist information activities of the department. We are not an information department for the government. We do have broadcast news, as you will note in these estimates, which is a government service, and it happens to be in my estimate, which is a service available to all parties, as you all know. So I am afraid that I really cannot say anything more than that. The hon. member often asks the questions about parks, about fishing and so on. I have answered them honestly, but he does not honestly expect me—if I do by chance disagree with one of my colleagues—to argue about it here. I certainly would be rather upset if one of my colleagues in the cabinet got up and said he did not like our advertising programme; I would like him to tell me in cabinet.

Mr. B. Newman: They tell us that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Because that is the way the system works. Only one guy on a football team calls the plays if you expect to be successful. I will say that on a hockey team, it does not work that way. But, we have not done too well on our hockey game either. I am speaking to the couple of hon. members opposite: I understand we have a practice on Thursday.

Mr. Martel: This Thursday?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Maybe we can agree on who will be in goal.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Nipissing.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister a question with regard to the establishment of a national park in northern Ontario. Has his department taken part in a discussion with the federal government in regard to this, and does his department have a policy as to whether a national park should be established or not? Apparently, in the past, the provincial government has been against the establishment of a national park of any great size in the province; there seems to be some change in the last year or so, and I should think that perhaps the leadership—some of the leadership at least in regards to this—should come from the Minister of Tourism because there is no other single thing that will have a greater impact on tourism in northern Ontario than the establishment of such a park.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I can only say that the Minister of Lands and Forests of the province is in charge of our provincial park programme and is also chairman of the Ontario Parks Integration Board, which co-ordinates all the provincial park activities and municipal ones, and perhaps the member can place that question to the minister during his estimates.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Well, you are a member of the parks integration board as well, and perhaps you should have some opinion as a member of that board if you do not have as the Minister of Tourism. You have to have an opinion on something in regards to tourism.

Mr. Chairman: That particular topic is not before the committee at the present time. The parks integration board is not in these estimates.

Mr. R. S. Smith: His activities as the Minister of Tourism may come under vote No. 1, I think.

Mr. Chairman: Not as to any aspect of the parks integration board.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, if I may ask the minister, what plans does he have now to counteract the adverse criticism that has been spread wide and far and will adversely affect the sports fishing industry? I specifically refer to the mercury pollution we are confronted with in the Lake St. Clair-Lake Erie region and the adverse effect that this may have on attracting tourists into southwestern Ontario?

Mr. Stokes: He will be whispering that to his cabinet colleagues, I suppose.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can answer that. We have no plans at the moment because we are not really sure of the extent of the problem, although we will continue to. Certainly from

the discussions that I have heard thus far it is still not really very clear just how severe the problem is and how it will be dealt with and when. But we will continue our promotion of fishing in the other—what?—248,000 lakes in the province and we will continue our general promotion for outdoors in hunting and fishing and swimming.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Hamilton East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister would give me a bit of information. I have not had time, I must apologize, to check the statistics of his department in relation to tourist flows from the United States to Canada. I understand that the report that is on the desk in front of me was only tabled a short time ago. I have not received a copy yet. But what would be the distribution of the American tourist flow through Ontario from the various border points?

Mr. Chairman: Would this not come under the tourist industry development service?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It might come under the research branch, but perhaps I can deal with it now, Mr. Chairman. If I understand the hon. member correctly, he is talking about where the majority of the U.S. tourists who enter Ontario go in Ontario?

To my knowledge, there are no definitive figures on this. We have some estimates based mainly on U.S. dollar exchanges in banks which are not definitive either, because some people exchange their money before they come. We have some highway traffic counts which are not necessarily definitive either, because of the seasons when they are taken. I am afraid I cannot answer his question. I am wondering if I am right in my answer. I think I am. If we do have any definitive information, I will give it to you when we get to that vote.

Mr. Gisborn: The reason I raised the question, and you are right—

Hon. Mr. Auld: We know that they come in and we know—

Mr Gisborn: I think if highway traffic counts are taken—I have been stopped on the Queen E. and asked if I have been up north on a holiday and what hotels did I stay in; such information as how long and that sort of thing. I think the department should have some information on traffic flow in regard to the tourist industry.

But what brings to mind my concern, and I think the minister should be concerned with it, is that I would think the majority of our tourist flow from the United States would come over the Niagara-Fort Erie border. That is an assumption; I do not know whether it is correct or not.

Hon. Mr. Auld: From the report the largest entries are at Fort Erie.

Mr. Gisborn: It is one of the heaviest populated areas, but the question that rises in my mind—if the minister does not talk to the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme), realizing the fact that the Queen E. Highway from Hamilton, at least to Toronto, has been under construction and reconstruction since 1939, and there does not seem to be any hope that it is going to be completed in the next ten years the way they are going, then we are losing a great number of tourists every year.

Certainly, if they take that route one year they are never going to come back for another ten years. I would ask the minister to raise this with the Minister of Highways to see if he can get some information as to when that highway is going to be completed.

Now there have been propositions put forward by the government, I believe four years ago, that they have on the books another highway branching off from the 403 and the Queen E. at the Stoney Creek area, cutting across north to miss the Toronto traffic. Our friend from Hamilton Mountain (Mr. J. R. Smith) put the proposition to the government again a week or two ago in his speech. But if we continually have this mish-mash of highway construction going on, we are going to lose a lot of tourists in the province within the next few years.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I again give the hon. member a little information. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics have figures on the number of visitors to a certain vacation area. This does not indicate whether they are motorists or not. By and large, I think now something like 80, pretty close to 90, per cent of our visitors come by automobile so you can probably work it out from these figures. I will send the hon. member a copy of this along.

Certainly, I am anxious to see the QEW completed as rapidly as possible, but I understand that there are certain problems, one of which, of course, is always finance. But one of which is that the more of it that is under construction at any one time, the more difficult it is to keep traffic moving. In other words, you do five miles at a time instead of 20. You

create less local confusion and fewer local hold-ups as well as transient hold-ups on the highway. Detours are shorter than this route.

Mr. Gisborn: The minister seems pretty vague in research assistance on the flow of tourists in northern Ontario. How do you add up your increase or decrease on a yearly basis? Just on the American dollars that are spent?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The hon. member is talking about the flow and to my knowledge there are no figures that we have which tell you what route an American took to get from, say, the bridge at Sarnia or Windsor or Fort Erie to, say for argument's sake, Lake Joseph in Muskoka. We have figures based on how many people are there and their origin. We know how many people came in at what points for 24 hours or more than 24 hours or less. But we do not have and, to my knowledge, Highways do not have broken down the way the hon. member was discussing it, the figures of what American came out of what point for vacation purposes and took a specific route.

Mr. Gisborn: How do you get them then?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not know because I do not know that anybody has them. I assume that you can—

Mr. Gisborn: How do you get any figures—

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I explained before, you get them from the border; you asked me if those are commercial or non-commercial. You get them from a sampling taken at the border point and the figures from customs and immigration, which I assume DBS get. We got them from DBS, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Kingston and the Islands.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest to the minister that probably one of the solutions to the congestion of traffic on the Queen Elizabeth that is discouraging American people from coming into Canada, would be to divert that traffic through Kingston and build the Kingston-Cape Vincent bridge. In that way we would keep the American visitors happy and we would keep the Canadians who travel that highway happy, because there would not be quite as many tourists. And we would save a lot of money, because we would not have to build an expensive highway between here, Hamilton, Niagara Falls and Fort Erie.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Now let us get serious.

Mr. M. Hamilton (Renfrew North): That is serious.

Mr. Apps: Well, to the leader of the NDP, if he does not think that is a serious thing, he has another think coming. I hold that out as a suggestion to the minister, that probably he might be able to help us promote this particular bridge.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister is not interested in the Kingston area.

Mr. Apps: I have one other question. The Ontario Motor League put out a very comprehensive booklet which is available to their members, which lays out tours through the province and in other areas. In this booklet, they list the various motels along the route as "good," "very good" and "excellent." They list good restaurants and they list outstanding things that you should see.

I am wondering if this department has ever given any thought to doing a similar thing for people coming into the province, and listing the various areas they should see in Ontario? I noticed in the Ontario Motor League booklet they do not list the Ontario Science Centre as one of the things to see in Ontario.

Another question I would ask is whether the minister has any liaison with them to make sure they do list in their booklets some of the prominent places that we think they should see in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, Mr. Chairman, to answer the last question first, we do have a liaison. I suspect, as a member of the motor league myself, that the booklet to which the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands refers is still in print. There is probably a new edition coming up, although we will look into it specifically to see.

As far as rating of accommodation and food facilities is concerned, we have looked into this matter in the department.

Mr. Stokes: Just bad and worse.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, I do not know. I think the hon. member would agree with me that there are a number of extremely good places to stay and to eat in Ontario—even in Thunder Bay.

Mr. Paterson: The members' dining lounge?

Hon. Mr. Auld: My own feeling is that we do not have the staff at the present time to accomplish this adequately. There are other things which are of a higher priority as far as we are concerned. And organizations like the OML or the AAA, Canadian Restaurant Association, which is involved in the restaurant field, can probably do as good a job as we could do and far more economically.

It may be that some day it will be possible for the department to actively consider this kind of thing, but at the present time, as I say, we just do not have the staff or the funds to do it. It is my own feeling that it is not as high a priority as the things to which we are applying our efforts at the moment.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2101. The hon. member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister, what criteria must an establishment have before The Department of Tourism and Information will advertise that particular site?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I assume the hon. member is speaking about a tourist attraction, as opposed to accommodation?

Mr. Martel: Right!

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, it would have to have major general interest. It would have to be something which was, generally speaking, unusual or unique for the area where it is located. I think I know what is on the hon. member's mind.

One of the problems we have every year is that there just is not room in our advertising material for all the things which we might like to include, whether it be in television commercials, in photographs, in either the major lure book or in the regional lure books, in rock hound publications, cruising guides, hunting and fishing—any of these pieces of literature. And I suppose that one of the fairly regularly recurring complaints—not from the same places, but every year—are generally from regional organizations or area organizations who feel we are not giving sufficient coverages in our material to their attractions.

In many cases, I think these complaints are justified. It is just that there is not enough room, unless we were going to produce material that would be so bulky or so costly that it would not be possible to do it. But somebody will be left out for a year.

But if the hon. member has, as I suspect he has, a specific instance, I am always glad to turn this over to our people and we will see if we can get some coverage for it.

Mr. Martel: Well, Mr. Chairman, I want to talk about an unusual and unique development which this department has turned down.

Mr. Chairman: At this point, I might point out—

Mr. Martel: Well, it is—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! I must point out to the committee that they are straying from what has been referred to as the "head office vote." These matters, if the members will read the headings under the word "tourism," will properly come under the next vote. And I think there is no point in straying from the votes as we have them. The hon. members will have full opportunity to discuss these in proper order in these votes and I believe we should keep them in proper order.

Is there anything further under vote 2101?

Mr. Martel: Might I ask the chairman a question then? If we are talking about the policy of the department, is it not right that we should discuss that policy under the first heading?

Mr. Chairman: Policy in connection with anything that appears under vote 2102 may be discussed under vote 2102.

Mr. Martel: Well, part of the policy of this department is advertising, is it not?

Mr. Chairman: Promotion service on page 161. Tourist industry development services on the same page.

Vote 2101? The hon. member for Perth.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, then. I am not talking about a development. I am talking about an area being turned down on a request for something. I would think this would come under the general policy of the department.

Mr. Chairman: If it is promotion, I believe it should come under promotion of any specific area or any specific function. Surely it is promotion.

Vote 2101? The hon. member for Perth.

Mr. Edighoffer: Mr. Chairman, I see it says here this programme is for supplying control services. So after looking over the budget and doing a little figuring, I notice that the

total budget increased $374,000 this year, but the increase in the overall salaries was $449,500. For the total department there is an overall expenditure of $12,884,000, of which the salaries are $6,446,500. As the minister stated a short time ago his department promotes tourism, is this amount for these surveys, or what is involved in this amount of $6,446,500?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not sure that I follow the hon. member. This figure which he has given me which I must say I have not added up, this is the total of all the salaries within my department?

Mr. Edighoffer: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, those would be the salaries of the people in The Department of Tourism and Information in the various branches. It would be the salaries of the people in the St. Lawrence parks commission, including the summer staff, students and so on. It would be the salaries of the staff at Sainte Marie among the Hurons, and the Ontario Science Centre. That is all the people in the department, in various aspects of it.

Mr. B. Newman: What is the mean or average salary of the people in the minister's department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid I could not say—you could work it out by adding the complement and dividing it into the—

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2101 carried?

The member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. Stokes: Since this vote I think deals with administration, I am wondering if the minister is aware that representatives of his department attend all the recreation and land-use planning meetings that are held in northern Ontario? I do not know that they are held in southern Ontario.

But where well in excess of 90 per cent of the land in the province of Ontario is held by the crown, the government still has some leeway in determining what is the best use to be made of the land. At these meetings, your department is always represented by somebody at the regional level.

At two of the meetings that I attended in the past year, representatives from your department attempted to get the voting members of the committee to make a recommendation to your colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests, to regulate the size of the parcel of land, the minimum size, that a person should acquire in order to operate a tourist facility. I believe it has something to do with the sewage facilities; something to do with drainage, something to do with water.

I am wondering why it is necessary for members of your department to work in that way, to appeal to us, as voting members of a recreational and land use planning committee, so that we can make a recommendation to The Department of Lands and Forests. Would it not be much wiser for them to say "we think it is absolutely essential that any facility of this size should be a certain size and you prevail upon your colleagues to bring in a regulation or an amendment to the existing legislation in order to accomplish that?" I am wondering if the minister can enlighten me as to why it is necessary for his departmental staff to operate in this way.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I think this probably comes under the development branch but I can answer the hon. member, I think, quite briefly. As he is aware, under the regulations of The Tourist Establishment Act, there are certain requirements as to space, size of structures for accommodation. There are also certain requirements depending on the type of camp it is; whether it is an outpost camp, or something; as to area for sanitary purposes, septic tank depths; the camping area; the size of camp sites and this sort of thing.

I know that our development officers attend at these meetings and I can only assume that what they are doing is indicating to the lands and forests people and to the others what would be required under our regulations for somebody who wanted to get a licence for a certain kind of camp before the person went to establish it and then found that he could not establish what he wanted within our regulations on the land that he had been granted.

Vote 2101 agreed to.

On vote 2102.

Mr. Chairman: Promotion service, at the top of page 161. The hon. member for Essex South.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Chairman, is James Lovick Limited still the principal agent of your department? And, Mr. Chairman, is the minister's department taking any initiative to try and counteract the adverse publicity the province had last year in regard to the holding tanks on yachts that might visit our waters? I believe it caused quite a problem in the Great Lakes area and inland. Is he taking measures to bring our American friends up to date?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have been in touch with the OWRC about this and they have circulated very widely both letters and information bringing the prospective U.S. boat visitor up to date on what the requirements are for this year. I believe they have circulated these to the yachting magazines and boating magazines and to power squadrons and to yacht clubs, and this sort of thing. We are not doing anything specific in our own advertising because this is a relatively small part of the market and it can best be reached, I think, by the way OWRC are going about it.

Mr. Paterson: Do you distribute any of the OWRC folders at any of your shows? Or on Lake St. Clair?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have distributed them at those shows some distance away and which OWRC have not been at, but I believe that OWRC have been at some of the shows, both here and close by, to give first-hand information themselves. We would have this information.

Mr. Paterson: Last year, on these estimates, I put out the proposal that there should be some open bidding for proposals of specific areas of promotion. Has the minister entertained this idea at all, or does he simply go through an advertising agency and say, "This is what we want done; do it"?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, it has been considered from time to time, and it is very much similar, as I think I have said, to hiring an architect, or perhaps a lawyer. You just do not call tenders, because there are so many factors involved and, in fact, there is a scale. The hon. member knows that in the advertising media you pay for production services, but you do not pay the agency for space. The agency gets a set refund from the magazine or the newspaper. You are only concerned about results, and quite frankly, we review every year the results that we are getting, and I can tell the hon. member that as far as I and my staff are concerned, we are really quite satisfied.

I might also tell him that we have been asked by the Canadian Advertising Association to make a presentation to them based on the kind of programme we have. And we have been asked to do the same thing in Minnesota and Pennsylvania, where people have asked us to come and show them how we are working our programme and how we work our advertising. We have also received awards for our television commercials and other promotional activities, so that by and large we are satisfied, and I think the results indicate it is a reasonably effective programme.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, may I ask if the minister has approached any of the gasoline companies in the province of Ontario with the idea of promoting day tours, especially in centres that border the province of Ontario. I can mention Port Huron, Detroit, Buffalo, Niagara Falls and, as we go along, the St. Lawrence Seaway, which is as long as the province of Ontario and adjoins one of our neighbours to the north or south of us. There are large numbers of people who would flock to our province just on a one-day tour or on a weekend tour to see what we have to offer and then, later on, stay in the province for a fairly lengthy period of time.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Very briefly, Mr. Chairman, some years ago we approached the oil companies, having looked into the great success of the Heritage Tours that had been organized by the Petroleum Institute in the United States. But, unfortunately, our Combines Act in the country made it so that the oil companies were not very anxious to work together for this kind of thing, for fear that they might be in contravention of The Combines Act. We are discussing, since we have added some people to the staff, short tours that perhaps will tie in with oil companies' promotion or automobile club promotion, for a day or two days in a week. But this is not something with the oil industry in total; it will be with individual groups.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, if I may mention to the minister that the oil companies in the state of Michigan do a lot of this in both the Detroit *News* and *Free Press*, and as a reader of the Detroit *Free Press*, I know they outline beautiful tours going into the province of Ontario. The one-day tours will take them around as far as London, up through Stratford and back, and to Port Huron and Sarnia and back to Detroit. I think it is the kind of thing your department possibly could look into and perhaps implement some of these, at least as a pilot project in some given area. I also suggest to the minister that he likewise have his tour counsellors in the city of Windsor visit schools in Detroit and encourage students from these various institutions of learning to come and visit Canada and see that we are very fine people here in the province of Ontario.

I noticed on the way to Toronto this week there happened to be a group of Girl Guides

—I think they are called Rangers in the States—that took the train to Niagara Falls and were returning that same day. I think that same type of tour to Toronto, to the science centre, to the Royal Ontario Museum, or to some other centre in the province of Ontario is a worthwhile thing to promote.

If we can get them at this young age while they are still attending school, I think we will have them visiting our province all the time in the future. Not only on a summer visit, or a school year visit, but also in the wintertime, when tourism has its slack season, especially in accommodating or attracting people from south of the border.

I would suggest to the minister that he use the tourist reception centres in the cities bordering the United States to a real advantage by encouraging them to go into Detroit and neighbouring cities' schools, encouraging students to come and visit the province of Ontario.

At the same time, what I would also like to suggest to the minister is that he use the Detroit and border cities' press for a little more tourist promotion. The stage production "Hair" in Toronto has attracted thousands of people from the state of Michigan. I am not trying to encourage them to come here for that purpose, there are by far better things in the province of Ontario to see.

Mr. Lewis: Oh I do not know. They would like to bring their children to see the "Woodstock" film, but the minister will not allow it.

Mr. B. Newman: My colleague from Essex South makes mention that there is a trainload every Saturday out of Windsor coming to Toronto to see this stage presentation. Think of other things that we could present to the people, our neighbours—by far better things, in my estimation, than visiting Toronto to see this type of presentation.

I would also like to ask the minister if he has considered, or still considers, if there is any advantage in having a slogan on our licence plates? So many of the provinces or states have slogans. I cannot see why you do not convince your—

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): How about "Province of Opportunity?"

Mr. B. Newman: —colleague—kick him in the shins, if you have to, Mr. Minister—to come along and put a slogan on the Ontario licence plates. It is a thing which I think I have talked about now for every year that I have been in this House.

I hope I do not have to talk on this topic much longer. I think it is a thing of which we are being neglectful in not taking full advantage of an opportunity to promote the province by a licence plate.

I would strongly urge the minister that he get after his colleague and not brush this aside, but seriously consider the use of a slogan on our plates. We did it for one of the years, the centennial year. There is no reason why we could not continue such a policy.

Another suggestion I would like to make to the minister is that he follow the idea used by Royal Ontario Museum people this year in using the trailer van and visiting various parts of the province of Ontario encouraging youngsters to visit the Royal Ontario Museum, as well as to show certain types of exhibits. I think the department could do a similar type of promotion project, not only in the province, but also in adjacent states in the United States. It is used by all kinds of commercial promoters, why should not the province of Ontario do something similar?

I can recall years ago I made suggestions that we have a motion picture in conjunction with this van. The van could stop in one of our larger U.S. centres, or even a smaller centre, and show a motion picture depicting some of the outstanding features of the province of Ontario in hope of attracting U.S. tourists. My first hope is that we would get our own people to see more of the province and then, after we have them, encourage our neighbours to the south.

The last suggestion I would like to make to the minister is this. In years gone by we have always taken editors from the various newspapers in the United States on a tour, showing them outstanding features of some given area, or areas, of the province. I would suggest that he, instead of going after the newspapers, try as a trial project taking editors of student publications to some select area of the province for a week's tour. Let them go back into their own schools and sell Ontario the way it should be sold to our younger generation.

Mr. Chairman: Anything else under promotion service?

The member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister wanted to talk about tent camps at this stage or otherwise?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean the licensing of tent camps? I would think, Mr. Chairman,

that that would be under tourist industry development.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Okay, fine; how about more information on this study that the department commissioned on the economic effects of American commercial operators on northwestern Ontario? Would you like to discuss that here or under research?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Under research!

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, fine; I will go on with a few remarks.

Mr. Chairman, just recently, as a matter of fact over the Easter break, I had occasion to attend the Milwaukee sports show on my way back to my riding and I went around to various exhibits and to various people who were doing some promoting down there from all parts of northern Ontario, but specifically and mostly northern Ontario tourist operators, the fly-in operators catering to primarily American tourists. As the minister is well aware, they have a great many problems. They go down to the United States and they spend a great deal of money promoting tourism in northwestern and northern Ontario, primarily fishing and hunting. I was amazed, Mr. Chairman, at the reception that I received when I went around to talk to these people. Without an exception their reaction was: "It is certainly nice to see somebody from the government who is interested in our business and what we are trying to do for the province of Ontario."

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I was amazed to learn, Mr. Chairman, that I was the first member of the Legislature they had seen in quite a while. What was really exceptional, Mr. Chairman, was that that included the Minister of Tourism and Information.

Now mind you, a great many of them did not remember his name—they referred to him by other euphemisms, let me put it that way—but they were uniformly upset, Mr. Chairman, by the fact that the Minister has not, apparently, in the last few years made any attempt to go down to these sports shows and promote Ontario tourism.

Most of these sports shows have Canadian representation in them. In one show, I believe I was told that the greatest number of exhibits were from the province of Ontario. Most of these sports shows have what they call a Canadian day during which citizens from across Canada and Canadian tourism are promoted. On those days sometimes there is a deputy minister, often there is the minister of tourism, from the various provinces who are given the spotlight and make little speeches inviting people to come to Ontario or their province.

I would like to know from the minister how many trips he has made this year to any of the sports shows in the United States, and for that matter in Canada, and what number of his officials, other than the ordinary Department of Tourism and Information girls or guides—or whatever you call them, counsellors—have gone to the sports shows.

How many, for instance, has the minister attended this year, and where?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, Mr. Chairman, I cannot give him a fast answer, I would have to look it up, because I know I have been to a great many. As a matter of fact, if we get finished our estimates tomorrow I will be in Minneapolis, hopefully on Friday, for the show which is presently on there.

But I would just like to remind the hon. member that there are 13 shows in which the department is represented, going as far south as Kansas City. There just are not enough hours in the day, when the House is sitting, as he would realize, to be away at all of these things, much as I would like to. I think I have attended, at least once, every show in which the department has been involved, and I would agree with the hon. member we get a fair amount of mileage out of this.

The minister arrives, and nobody really knows what a minister is from Canada. You get TV interviews and radio interviews and a good deal of opportunity to talk about the province and about our tourist industry.

We are always represented. As I say, at the 13 shows we have our own exhibits, so we are obviously represented there. At the ones where we do not have our departmental exhibits but where there are a substantial number of Ontario exhibitors, we generally have somebody from the department in attendance, some of the field staff or some of the head office staff.

As I say, I am afraid I cannot give him a rundown. I am just looking at a list: in 1968-1969 we were in Detroit, Cleveland, Toronto and Minneapolis, in ski shows; Cincinnati, Kansas City, Chicago, St. Louis, Cleveland, Milwaukee, Dallas, Minneapolis and Des-Moines in sport and travel shows.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Was that you personally?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, that is where the department went. I find that I have to be here occasionally.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I did not notice that, but I will take your word for it. May I ask the minister what he does when he goes to these shows? Apparently even when you go down you are not seen by the tourist operators.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Careful what you say now.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is number one; and number two, perhaps then the minister can explain his rather expensive or extensive traveling allowance? If you are not going to sport shows, where are you going and what are you spending the money on?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, the hon. member will realize that there are sport shows and there are also a great many other meetings: regional tourist councils, chambers of commerce, area tourist councils and camp owners' associations, and so on. I think that I do travel this province a great deal. It is a large province and in this department I think it is important that the minister is around, sees various parts of the province and gets to know the people there and the problems, concerns and suggestions that they have.

Just going back to these shows, I have a note that the senior people from the department attended; let me see: the executive director, one; the director of publicity, two; the advertising director, three; the information director, four.

I am surprised! As a matter of fact, it is interesting that the hon. member tells me this. I spent a little time with some of the northern Ontario tourist outfitters a couple of weeks ago and they were pleased, they said to me, about the department representation and about the fact that senior people of the department, including the minister, spent a good deal of time in their own areas and sat down and talked to them and took part with them in some of the shows.

Mr. T. P. Reid: We are obviously not talking to the same people; but let me say that I think the department does an excellent job in the booths they have at these shows and in the people that they send down there. I think they are well informed and knowledgeable and they represent us very well.

But I want to convey to the minister a feeling that I am sure is seeping through to him, maybe very slowly. That is that the tourist operators in this province believe that you have absolutely no power and that your department is really not doing very much for them.

Now the minister is in receipt of a letter from Mr. Bob Giles, who is the secretary-treasurer of NOTO, or secretary of NOTO, and also the BOTA organization, that you probably received today. It is rather a lengthy letter, some three pages long, in which he outlines the complaints of the tourist industry.

And these are the complaints, as he pointed out in his letter, with which they have been coming down to Toronto for over 20 years and nothing has been done. The minister himself seems to have very little power and very little influence on the rest of his colleagues who directly influence the tourist industry in Ontario; particularly the Provincial Secretary who has allowed our liquor laws in this province to become even more antiquated. At At one point we were a province that had a rather enlightened view to—

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Is that your policy; to make Ontario wet?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Pardon me?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Is that your policy? To do away with local option?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Yes, that is our policy; to do away with local option!

Mr. T. P. Reid: At this stage in the development of this province for us to operate under these kind of 19th century prohibitions is ridiculous; and it is one of the things that is harming the tourist industry in Ontario very greatly.

I am sure the minister is aware of it, but he has made no public announcement. We have yet to hear him stand on his feet, or see any activity on his part to try and get these laws changed to give the tourist operators a break and put them on a competitive basis with their American counterparts. That is one thing.

Mr. Sopha: He can stand on his feet most days.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is one thing.

Mr. Singer: What they do is sneak around the back door and give licences to private enterprises in dry areas.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Which American state would you like to compare us with?

Mr. Sopha: People who ski should not drink.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Which state are you talking about?

Mr. T. P. Reid: I want to reiterate, Mr. Chairman, and I will then pass the floor to someone else, I want to reiterate that the tourist operators are looking to the minister to become more actively involved in the tourist business, especially in regard to those other departments which directly affect its operation. I hope that the minister, instead of sitting back on his laurels every time somebody says something about it, sitting back and pointing with pride, any time The Department of Tourism and Information is mentioned, pointing with pride at the centennial science centre and saying: "That is my monument; that is what I have done"—a $30 million blooper is what it really is—instead of just sitting there doing nothing we want you to actively involve yourself in the tourist industry and impress upon your colleagues what has to be done to ensure a viable tourist industry in the province of Ontario.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): I met this morning with Mr. Bob Giles, the officer to whom my hon. friend referred. This morning he was accompanied by Mr. John Sibbald and by Mr. Dale Neily, and I think the House should know that they had nothing but praise for the Minister of Tourism and Information.

Mr. T. P. Reid: As my friend from Sudbury says: "I am now provoked and I must go on."

Now I have here, among the copious quantities of letters, a letter from the organization, a three-page letter that I am sure—perhaps the member for Thunder Bay received one, or some other members of the committee. The member for Sudbury East has one, and believe me it is anything but appreciative of the Minister of Tourism and Information; and I must say, Mr. Chairman, it surprises me—

Mr. Sopha: Let us hear it!

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well I cannot find it!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It is on some green paper.

Mr. Bullbrook: It says "Dear John"!

Mr. T. P. Reid: I find it very surprising, Mr. Chairman, that the member for London South, who is a politician par excellence, would think that somebody is going to come to Toronto asking for something and say the Minister of Tourism and Information is a terrible minister—

Mr. E. A. Winkler (Grey South): Who is the carrier boy from the NDP?

Mr. T. P. Reid: It is hardly the way to get anything out of this government.

Mr. Martel: Hear that, John?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Because if there is one thing that they do not like it is criticism.

Let me just quote, for the benefit of my friend from London South, some of the more choice paragraphs. I am quoting now:

> At the moment there are always some 30 or more members on the committee, but we have yet to see that many at any public hearing. By the admission of the committee members they do not meet before or after the public hearing, which would indicate that some of them do not know what is going on within the committee and therefore do not have the remotest idea of the problems of the industry—which by the way is Ontario's third largest and the most neglected one insofar as the Ontario government is concerned.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I see that the minister from London South is somewhat preoccupied with the member behind him and so I will repeat that portion for his benefit, if I can catch his eye, Mr. Chairman.

> Tourism, which by way is Ontario's third largest industry and the most neglected one insofar as the Ontario government is concerned—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Who said that? Who wrote that?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Bob Giles, who apparently this morning—

Mr. Singer: Is that the same Bob Giles the Minister of Revenue was talking about? The same one?

Mr. T. P. Reid: I quote again for the benefit, Mr. Chairman, of the minister from London South, because I am sure the minister has a copy of this letter. Paragraph one, page

two—and I am not being overly selective, just whatever comes to my eye.

> It would appear that the Ontario government has taken our industry for a great patsy—

No pun intended, Mr. Chairman!

> —from which to derive new taxation, and in just the past year the following legislation has been passed. While some of it may have been warranted, it will have its effect on the industry and we could very well be pricing ourselves right out of the tourist business.

Well whose responsibility is all this? It would seem to me to be the Minister of Tourism and Information.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Did the hon. member read the first paragraph on that page?

Mr. T. P. Reid: We can certainly do that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: We will take that as read.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member is having a hard time.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I want to give the Minister of Lands and Forests a little pat on the back here, so I will read it.

> Hon. Rene Brunelle, Minister of Lands and Forests and the Hon. James Auld, Minister of Tourism and Information, are doing a reasonably—

Oh that is not—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: To continue:

> —doing a good job with their departments; but some of our more serious problems go beyond their departments, so that we should have all of the ministers involved attending the public hearings, with an active committee which will spend more than just two hours a day for three days listening to our presentation.

He goes on, Mr. Chairman, to list eight matters that have affected the tourist industry very greatly in the past year. He goes on—it is a three-page letter, in which he outlines the problems that are affecting the tourist industry in Ontario—and surely the minister who is responsible for tourism has the responsibility to see that this vital industry, the third largest in Ontario, is well represented in the cabinet, and surely he must exercise some influence on the decisions of his fellow cabinet members.

I say for the edification of the Minister of Agriculture and Food, that there is another paragraph on page three which I agree with.

> Our antiquated liquor laws still leave a lot to be desired, and we are wondering how much longer the Ontario government is going to discriminate against tourist resorts in so-called dry areas. The law calls for a 60 per cent majority vote before changes can be made in dry areas. If the same law applied to political elections, there are a lot of MPPs in the present Legislature who would not be there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We would be down to about 10 members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And I would be one of them.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, I would not be!

I say once again, Mr. Chairman, not only because I was provoked by the minister from London South and I would be happy to provide him with a copy of this letter, that the Minister of Tourism and Information must concern himself more deeply in the affairs of his department and in the tourist industry in Ontario than he has done in the past few years.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further under promotion? The hon. member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to go back to a discussion that the minister and I started under another heading. He indicated at that time that if promotional assistance were going to be provided, the site would have to be unusual and unique.

When one considers a bird sanctuary in the Sudbury area, that is unique, because this government has allowed the whole area to be devastated until there is no grass or anything. So, when you have a bird sanctuary in that desolate area, that is unique, and I have contacted various departments of this government to provide assistance to that bird sanctuary.

You know it is interesting that they will provide all kinds of assistance—$30,000 to Manley Miner last year; $3,000 a year in the Minister of Lands and Forests' budget. But to provide promotional assistance, even, to the bird sanctuary in the Dowling area—it is not unique, it just does not qualify. I just wonder what it takes to get any assistance to

provide something in the area of northern Ontario which would have educational value, which would certainly be a tourist attraction.

I just want to digress for a moment. That letter that the minister sent me praising all of the wonderful tourist attractions in the Sudbury area, I would hope that the minister would spell them out for me. I have been there for 30 years and I am still looking for them. Besides the Big Nickel and the underground tour, you know, of that false mine, besides that, really what—

Hon. Mr. Auld: The university.

Mr. Martel: Oh, the university. That is certainly a tourist attraction is it not—a university? What about a bird sanctuary where young students can go and watch the development from the egg right to the adulthood? That is not unique in an area that is desolate? Someone over here has just mentioned our $30 million site that all kinds of people in the "golden horseshoe" can make use of, and we ask for a little assistance to fully develop a bird sanctuary with a classroom that is already there—donated, of course, not out of the beneficence of this government, but by a private club—and we cannot even get advertising assistance.

Mr. Minister, can you tell me what this government thinks about when it comes to northern Ontario? When you can provide assistance to the museum, you can provide assistance anywhere at all, and, in an area which this government has allowed to be devastated by sulphur fumes, you will not even provide a few dollars of assistance to try to bring something back which the people in that area can enjoy and possibly encourage other people to come and see. Just what is the government policy anyway?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I can only repeat to the hon. member what I said before. There are no funds in my department that could be expended for grants for the construction or the expansion of this bird sanctuary. We are always prepared, as I mentioned before, to assist in promotional activities and to use photographs of something which is important which will attract people to that area.

Mr. Martel: But they turned it down. I wrote your department and they turned it down. They said no—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I will just tell the hon. member—I will take another look at that and see just what transpired.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further under promotion? The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister if he is prepared to submit to the members from the Windsor area the report of the study conducted by his department concerning the tourist reception centres in the given area, and ask him also why he is not considering opening both centres on a year round basis.

Apparently the minister is interested in promoting winter recreational activities in the province, yet he is a little reticent when it comes to keeping the centre open, the tourist reception centre on Huron Line close to the Ambassador Bridge.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I can only say what I told the hon. member, I guess last year, that it is primarily a matter of lack of funds that we cannot keep both the centres at Windsor open the year round. This year I think we are open until October and we open again May 15.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister is really sincere in his comments that he is interested in promoting tourism if, when more than one third of the tourists who enter the province of Ontario come through the Detroit-Windsor area, he does not come along and keep both centres open. If you are sincere in your desire to promote, you would come along and have these centres open. There probably is no other centre that would have as many individuals drop in for information than the two in the city of Windsor.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further under promotions? The hon. member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Chairman, does the minister have any figures on the number of people who do drop into the centres in Windsor? Do you keep any records of this?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes. I think in my introductory remarks I mentioned an item of $1.3 million in total, and in the report we always show the number of inquiries at each centre. If the hon. member is speaking about a specific one, I think I can give him the information. In the report, we have the figures for the years from 1961 to 1969. Is there any specific one that the hon. member wants to know about?

Mr. Ruston: The last two years would be all I would be interested in.

Mr. B. Newman: Do we have a copy of the report?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You will have it tomorrow, hopefully.

Mr. B. Newman: Why do we not have it now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It was only completed yesterday. It has not yet been tabled.

Mr. B. Newman: You have one. Your deputy has one. We have one there. There must be enough around to provide—

Hon. Mr. Auld: All members will have one shortly, as soon as it is tabled.

Mr. B. Newman: Typical of the departments across there. After the estimate is over, then we get the report.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Typical.

Hon. Mr. Auld: In Windsor in 1969, and I am speaking of calendar 1969, the total is 103,200 and the bridge was 77,850. That is the number of people that went into either one of the centres.

Mr. B. Newman: And the bridge on the Huron Line was under construction all of the time—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think the hon. member will recall last year when we were talking about this, I said we were waiting until the construction was completed. We took a look to see which one of the two, if we can keep only one open, would be the better one to keep open.

Mr. B. Newman: Which one? Both can be open.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I told the hon. member, I would be delighted to, but there are not sufficient funds to do that.

Mr. B. Newman: If you are interested in promoting tourism by that port of entry, you would have both open.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. Stokes: I would like to ask the minister a follow-up to the question that the member for Sudbury East asked. On vote 2102, it says:

> The programme consists of activities concerned with maximizing the profitable long range growth of tourism in Ontario by promoting awareness of visitor attractions of the province.

I think that it is fair to say that the minister has been using a photograph of a particularly attractive phenomenon in my riding. It is called Ouimet Canyon. A good many times it appears on leaflets but there is no mention made of the location, where it is or anything about it, nor how to get to it. As a matter of fact, the Minister of Highways has a little wee fingerboard, about that long and about that high, and if you did not stop at it, you would not know what it was pointing to.

I think that the Progressive Conservative Riding Association of Port Arthur has written the minister on numerous occasions asking him when he is going to advertise it in such a way that it will attract the number of people that such a phenomenon deserves.

There are many instances of things like this. I raised it in the estimates—I think it was last year—where there were Indian paintings, the best specimens of Indian pictographs, on the north shore of Lake Superior, near the town of Schreiber. The minister wanted all the information; I made it available to him, and he was going to look into it. To the best of my knowledge, somebody went up and made an assessment of it, agreed that it was worthwhile preserving and worthwhile acquiring the site and publicizing—but, to my knowledge, nothing has happened.

What do you do? How do you establish priorities with regard to making these attractions known to the public and how do you prevail upon your cabinet colleagues to provide the necessary access to it and to put up signs to make the travelling public aware of what is there? I would like some indication from the minister as to what he is doing in this regard.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I can say something about Ouimet Canyon because, as I have mentioned, I am involved in a number of committees with various ministers, and all of us have been interested in Ouimet Canyon and the promotion of it. There have been two problems: One is the access at the intersection with Highway 17, which is not good and somewhat dangerous. This is going to be improved; it has now been agreed by Highways that this will be done. Lands and Forests are going to improve facilities within the canyon.

I think the hon. member would agree that it would be wise to put up some fences in some of those parts around there so kids do

not fall down, or people do not shove the benches and tables down into the canyon, which I have seen there, along with, it seems to me, a car or two.

Mr. Sopha: Will you change that to "children?"

Hon. Mr. Auld: Pardon?

Mr. Sopha: Will you change that to "so that the children will not fall down."

Hon. Mr. Auld: So the children will not fall down.

Mr. Sopha: Instead of kids.

Hon. Mr. Auld: All right. Well, there may even be goats around there too.

The area is being developed, and once it is developed, it will make greater sense to promote it because people will be able to find it, get there safely and enjoy themselves.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further under promotion? Shall the programme carry? The hon. member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. Ruston: The Sarnia reception centre had 167,000 visitors in 1969, but I think the proximity to the reception centre, being just past the entrance, makes it so easy for people to go into. I am wondering if the Windsor centre, with the way the traffic is rerouted, the traffic pattern may have some bearing on its location. And what about the condition of the one next to the bridge in Windsor? It seems to me to be deteriorating very quickly, as far as the general appearance of it is concerned. I do not know who the architect was and so forth, but I think they made an awful mess of it. I do not think it is going to stand up very long and look attractive the way we should have tourist places looking. Does the minister feel that this building is holding its attractiveness that it was hoped to in the last year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, Mr. Chairman, we do not. As a matter of fact, we are working with Public Works at the moment to get the place tidied up and improved.

Mr. Chairman: Shall this programme carry? The hon. member for Perth.

Mr. Edighoffer: Mr. Chairman, I noticed in the opening remarks that it was noted we have a member from this department in the United Kingdom now. I wonder if the minister could outline what his programme is to promote tourism there?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Primarily, Mr. Chairman, it is to work with travel agents and carriers to get the machinery put together both there and here—and primarily here—so that we can see package tours operating. I do not want to take too much time, but the hon. member will realize that in Europe most travel has been done through travel agents and on tours, whereas the reverse has been the case in North America, where most of us travel by automobile and we do not make a lot of arrangements. The mechanics, we feel, that we have to deal with first are to work over there and here to point out to the people in the accommodation, transportation and food ends of the tourist business what is expected of them to put packages together for wholesalers and then retailers so that the retailers in Europe will have something to sell that will be interesting.

We also want to find out those things here that we have which we should emphasize there: the things that will be of greatest interest to prospective visitors from Europe and England. Does that answer the hon. member's question?

Mr. Edighoffer: Is this a continuation of the programme you started last year in package tour promotion?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is, except that we now have somebody on the ground, full time.

Mr. Chairman: Does this programme carry?

Promotion services agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the committee rise and report a certain resolution and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report a certain resolution and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will proceed with the second reading of Bill 2 and, following that, continue along with the estimates of this department. There will be an evening session tomorrow night.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.05 o'clock, p.m.

No. 26

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, April 2, 1970

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Thursday, April 2, 1970

Ontario pavilion at Expo, Japan, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. Nixon 1017

Pending layoffs at National Steel Car, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Gisborn 1018

Compensation to fishermen in Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie area, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Deans, Mr. Singer, Mr. Bullbrook, Mr. Spence, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. T. Reid 1019

Dow Chemical Company and mercury pollution in Lake St. Clair, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Stokes, Mr. T. P. Reid, Mr. R. S. Smith, Mr. Lewis 1022

International conference re Great Lakes pollution, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 1024

The $100 tax relief for old age pensioners receiving income supplement, questions to Mr. Yaremko and Mr. Robarts, Mr. Pitman, Mr. Nixon, Mr. T. P. Reid, Mr. Breithaupt, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Worton 1024

Legislation to amend OWRC Act re septic tanks, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Pitman 1025

Inquest re motor vehicle fatalities in Manitowaning area, questions to Mr. Gomme, Mr. Sargent 1026

Study re express freight facilities of Porquis Junction, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Ferrier 1027

Tweed municipal council and secondary school requisitions, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid, Mr. Pitman 1027

Allowing welfare recipients to work and keep their income, question to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Gisborn 1027

Low-cost and low-rental housing projects in Ottawa, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. MacKenzie 1028

Grants-in-lieu, Waterloo Lutheran University and University of Waterloo, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Good, Mr. Pitman 1028

Long-service superannuated teacher pensioners, question to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid 1029

Reduction in speed limit of Highway 20, question to Mr. Haskett, Mr. Deans 1029

Ontario fishing licence regulations, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Sargent 1030

Tabling reports, Mr. Haskett and Mr. Welch 1030

Report, standing orders and procedures committee, Mr. R. G. Hodgson 1031

Fifth report, standing private bills committee, Mr. Winkler 1031

Landlord and Tenant Act, bill to amend, Mr. Deans, first reading 1032

On motion that House adjourn to discuss pollution of Lakes St. Clair and Erie, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Burr, Mr. Ruston, Mr. Deans, Mr. Allan, Mr. Bullbrook, Mr. Peacock, Mr. Paterson, Mr. Bolton, Mr. Root, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. Lawlor, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Bukator, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Spence, Mr. Breithaupt, Mr. Gisborn, Mr. Sopha, Mr. Pitman 1033

Recess, 6 o'clock 1064

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: This afternoon, our guests in the east gallery are students from Dr. Williams Secondary School in Aurora, and in the west gallery, from Oakville-Trafalgar High School in Oakville.

Statements by the ministry.

Oral questions.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): There is nobody here. Ring the bell again.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I know that some of the members normally arrive within a few minutes of prayers having been completed and, until those gentlemen come, I have no questions to be put at this time.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Some of us need them more than others.

Mr. Nixon: That is right. You think God is on your side.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: No, that is why I get here in time for prayers!

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Or do we have no right to know?

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, while we are waiting I would like to put a question to the hon. Minister of Trade and Development—to give us his impressions of Ontario's pavilion at Expo. I know he spent some time over there and while we are waiting for the real business to begin, perhaps he can give us a—

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): This is coming off the question period, I hope you know.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Mr. Speaker, in a few million words I can tell you about Ontario's pavilion at Expo. Let me first say, Mr. Speaker, that we are selling about $1,000 worth of souvenir Ontario books a day. That is, a book printed in Japan—the books are printed in Japanese, one in Japanese and English, and a small medallion showing the Ontario pavilion commemorating our participation at Expo 70.

The crowds are starting to improve, as I understand it. Most of the pavilions have had difficulty getting attendance. They are not getting attendance – not getting as many people as they anticipated. Insofar as our pavilion is concerned, one of the things that impresses us comes when the film is shown. The Japanese do not demonstrate very much in public, but they do get up and clap when the picture finishes. I think they are doing this also at the Canadian pavilion, where they are watching live entertainment that the Canadian authorities are bringing over.

I am convinced that when the warmer season comes about, the crowds will improve, we will have more people there, and our 900-seat theatre will have 900 people in it every half hour. We are delighted to have the opportunity to have so many Japanese visitors in there. I think many of them today are from the agricultural areas of Japan and they are coming in great numbers.

As I said the other day, what they are doing at the present time is collecting pavilions. They walk in, take a look at the building, get their passport stamped and walk right out. But I am sure that many of them will be coming back in. They will be able to spend more time in not only our pavilion, but in all the pavilions.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on at great lengths to talk about Ontario's participation, but perhaps I should get into the real meat of the business and answer a question that the hon. member for Hamilton East (Mr. Gisborn) asked the other day.

Mr. Nixon: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Randall: May I answer the question, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: Under the circumstances, I think we should allow the minister to answer a question asked on a previous day. He was invited by the House to take the floor.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I am only going to talk till about 5.15, then I will be finished, is that all right?

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Hamilton East—

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. As I understand our customs here, the questions to be asked first are to come from the Leader of the Opposition.

The hon. gentleman has answered my question. I have another question to put to another minister, and, with your permission, sir, I would like to do that.

Mr. Speaker: The Speaker has ruled that answers must be given in the question period. The hon. leader's question was a very peculiar question under the circumstances—an oral question. This has something to do with it.

The minister has a question to answer from another day and I would feel, subject to the feeling of the House, that the minister should complete that answer now. Then we would revert to the Leader of the Opposition, who certainly will have plenty of time within the hour to get his questions in.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, answering a question from the hon. member for Hamilton East the other day. He said:

> In view of the announcement about a week ago from Mr. Tom Reilly, the general manager of National Steel Car, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dominion Foundries and Steel, that, within four weeks, they would be laying off 600 employees, has the minister made any approach to the company as to possible assistance in continuing employment for that plant?

My answer, Mr. Speaker, is that my department has had several discussions with the authorities at National Steel Car and this operation, as explained to us, is similar to a contracting business. Large orders are obtained for 100 or 500 cars at a time and labour is hired on this basis and with full knowledge that there may be a layoff when the order is completed. An understanding to this effect exists between the company and United Steelworkers Union and notice of layoff is part of the contract.

This has been well known in Hamilton for about the last 50 years and company-employee relations, I might add, are excellent.

Diversification has been tried by similar plants—without success—to eliminate the employment cycles, but the equipment is suitable only for large-quantity production of heavy equipment, and is not applicable to light or small-quantity production. Mr. Tom Reilly, president of the company, says that they have no significant orders on hand. When orders are obtained, engineering and procurement requires about five months before hiring can begin.

He is optimistic that they will be in full production again by September or October of this year. Our Department of Labour is in close touch with the problem of re-employment of the labour force and some retraining may be necessary, but it is too early to make any statements on this subject.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, that I have had an opportunity to talk to a number of these people on the manufacturing of railway cars and freight cars and have suggested some ways that they could put their equipment to better use, such as building freight cars and renting them out, as Hertz does automobiles. They are looking at that and we were able to work with the TTC in getting a similar order for Canada Car and Foundry up in Fort William, where they are having a problem also keeping their order book filled. I believe everything is being done to make sure that if we can get an order for that plant in Hamilton, it will be done.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister explain, after his answer that there have been discussions with the plant, why his answer two days ago was that he was not aware of the situation; and does this not indicate that there should be a longer term of projection as to the operations of the industries in the province?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, when I said I was unaware, I had just returned from being out of the country for a couple of weeks. I was not aware that they had a layoff of 600 but I understand my people had talked to them long before this layoff. Insofar as using those facilities, I pointed out they can only be used for heavy production, such as the car business. It is not easy to convert that equipment to manufacturing something of another nature, unless they can find some other heavy equipment.

I am confident that between the management, ourselves and the federal authorities we can assist them in getting more orders. At least we can assist them, we hope, in finding jobs for these people who know when they are hired, they are on a temporary basis until the contract is finished.

Some plants cannot operate that way. I think we have the same situation in the electrical industry where some of the major

electric equipment is manufactured on a contract basis with Toronto Hydro or Quebec Hydro. Unless the equipment manufacturer will let the plant have the followup order book, the plant just has to close down. We are hoping we can get probably more consistent production in some of our heavy industries. This is one of the problems we are wrestling with now.

Mr. Gisborn: A further supplementary question. Would the minister's officials pursue the idea that the Dominion Foundries and Steel, the second largest steel plant in Canada, might be able to absorb some of these employees?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I think all sources in Hamilton would be looked at by the Manpower sources there.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition now has the floor. Perhaps the procedure we have instituted will have allowed enough ministers to arrive to answer the questions.

Mr. Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Minister of Energy and Resources Management would make a statement to the House with regard to the results of the meetings in Ottawa that were convened this morning at 9 o'clock. If he has such a statement, perhaps, sir, we might revert to ministerial statements for the purpose of hearing what the minister has to say.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, because of the weather, that meeting has not taken place. The aircraft that was laid on could not be used and I understand that the meeting is scheduled for tomorrow morning. But the meeting in Washington is now taking place.

Mr. Nixon: Is there nothing to report from that particular meeting, as far as the possibility of the international conference at the state and provincial level is concerned, that the minister indicated yesterday he was going to press for?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would rather wait, Mr. Speaker, until I have the results of that meeting in Washington.

Mr. Nixon: Right. Then, Mr. Speaker, I do have a question for the minister, even though the meeting at Ottawa is not taking place. Can he advise the House what arrangements will be made to compensate the fishermen in Lake St. Clair and the Lake Erie area for the loss of their access to the fishing industry, until the matter of mercury pollution is resolved?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I am hoping, of course, that the loss to fishermen will be fully compensated, but I indicated in my statement yesterday that this is the main reason for the meeting in Ottawa—to decide the procedure as to compensation and how it is to be looked after. Really, after that meeting is held, I am sure either my colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), or myself will report to the House on that meeting and decisions regarding compensation.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. I would ask the minister if he would agree with the rather confused reports that indicate that Ontario is the only jurisdiction that has the power to ban fishing and therefore would be the jurisdiction responsible for compensation if it were entered into.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not think that is entirely correct, but as the hon. member has indicated there is confusion. This exists between, shall we say, lawyers who are considered experts on the matter of jurisdiction and the constitution. There is experience, for example, in Newfoundland where the federal government banned fishing; the whole matter of compensation was looked after and arranged by the federal government with the industry that was responsible for the pollution.

I would assume that in a situation where the federal government has, in fact, banned the sale and export of these fish, this is, as one of the fishermen has said, a ban on fishing if the whole process is a matter of exporting fish at this time of year, so certainly the federal government would be involved along with us in any matter of compensation.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary. Can the minister assure the House that, whatever the outcome of the meetings to be held in Ottawa tomorrow, the fishermen in Ontario concerned with what, in effect, will be a ban on their product, will be compensated, even if the provincial government has to take on this responsibility singlehanded?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, this is a policy statement that I, as a minister, could not answer unequivocally at this time. But certainly, it is my hope, as I indicated just a few seconds ago, that the fishermen will be fully compensated for their losses.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough West has a supplementary?

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister, is it a matter of policy that this House should not know what proposals the government is putting to Ottawa when it meets with them? Surely this House has a right to know what the government's position is—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked his question.

Mr. Lewis: Fine, all right.

Mr. Speaker: He is now making a statement.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, as I say, this matter of fisheries involves The Department of Lands and Forests, but I would suggest that it is the policy of those representing the Ontario government to arrange for full compensation for any losses to fishermen. How that is to be carried out, what procedure and method is to be used, will be decided at the Ottawa meeting.

The meeting was called at the invitation of, and by arrangement with the federal minister, who imposed the ban. I am sure that we would be listening, at least at the first part of the meeting, because he has experience in matters of this kind.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Wentworth has the floor for a supplementary.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question of the minister. Could the minister indicate how he justifies the position that permits sale of the fish within Ontario that are possibly contaminated, while the federal government has banned their sale outside the country?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As I indicated yesterday, Mr. Speaker, there is some difference of opinion as to the urgency of this ban. The ban, as I said in answer to a previous question, was because of a criterion set down by the American authorities. The remark made to me by the federal minister was that the U.S. people become sensitive when the contamination exceeds 0.5 parts per million. This involves fish for export to the U.S. and this was the main reason for the ban. This is another thing that will be decided this week—whether or not Ontario should, in fact, impose a ban on fishing, period, in Lake St. Clair.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary. In the event that it is proved impossible to arrange for compensation on an agreed-upon basis, and it is necessary to resort to litigation, is the province prepared to finance, on behalf of the fishermen, whatever costs of litigation might take place?

Mr. Lewis: They would exceed the costs of compensation, so why not pay them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This would have to be looked into, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sarnia has a supplementary?

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): A supplementary to the minister, sir, in connection with the report in the *Telegram*. Would the minister advise whether he is correctly quoted in saying that a civil action might be a secondary alternative available to the fishermen, and if such a report is correct, would he advise the House of the evidence that he has available through his department showing a causal connection between the activities of Dow Chemical and the effect on the fish and the percentage of causal relationship in this connection?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I had indicated in an interview yesterday, which was reported in the *Telegram* today, that one of the remedies would be civil action against the company, or companies, that have caused the pollution. As far as Dow Chemical is concerned, there is no question that there is evidence of mercurial loss from that plant. We have known about that since last year and, as I indicated, I do not think the company would deny that this loss did, in fact, take place.

As far as the percentage of that loss as to the overall cause of the pollution in Lake St. Clair, of course, I do not have information on that at this time, but all I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that this is the only known Ontario source, as far as an industry or plant is concerned, on Lake St. Clair, and that is the Dow Chemical plant.

Mr. Bullbrook: A supplementary again. Would the minister advise as to what proportion of efflux there is from the Dow Chemical plant and the plant of Wyandotte Chemicals Ltd.?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. member knows that I could not answer that question.

Mr. Bullbrook: Why does the minister publicly state that a civil action might be a

possibility when he has no evidence to give to this House of a cause and effect relationship between Dow Chemical and the fishing trouble?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, all I said, and I will repeat it, was that a remedy available to the fishermen, in my opinion, would be a civil action against the polluter, or polluters.

Mr. Bullbrook: The minister is presupposing that Dow Chemical is the—

Mr. Speaker: Order! This is not to develop into a debate.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I did not at any time single out only Dow Chemical. I have mentioned on many occasions that there are probably not only other industries but other sources that contributed to mercury pollution in Lake St. Clair.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kent has a supplementary.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): I would like to ask a supplementary of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Is consideration given to any other industries that depend on fishing for their income, such as the tourist industry, hotel operators, and suppliers of goods to sports fishermen? Is there any consideration given to compensating those who depend on the fish industry?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, this certainly would have to be part of the consideration of the overall question of compensation. But as the hon. member knows, because the Ontario government has not imposed a ban, these people at this stage are not affected.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Windsor-Walkerville a supplementary question?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Energy and Resources Management if at this time he has approached the governor of the state of Michigan or the Michigan Water Resources Commission as to whether Wyandotte Chemical actually is polluting the Detroit River and Lake Erie with mercury contamination?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. members knows, I have written to the governor of Michigan. The meeting was held today, in Washington, which will deal with the problem of mercury losses on the U.S. side as well as everywhere around the Great Lakes. We keep talking about Wyandotte, but I can think of at least five other chemical plants on the Detroit River that may well be contributing to this, so why do we keep singling out one industry in the U.S.? It is because, of course, of the nature of the industry, but there are other similar industries. This is something that would be discussed at this meeting.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a point of order. The minister did not answer the question. I asked if he had contacted either the governor of the state of Michigan or the Michigan Water Resources Commission in an attempt to find out whether or not Wyandotte Chemical was polluting the water.

Mr. Speaker: I keep on reminding the members that when they ask a question, the minister may answer the question in the manner in which he deems best.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, at least answer the question.

Mr. Speaker: And he has answered the question in his way. If he wishes to add to it now, he may. Otherwise the member for Scarborough East has the floor for a supplementary.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I would like to clarify that. I thought I had made it clear to the hon. member, but I would say this, that in my letter to the governor, I pointed out areas of concern on our side and suggested areas that maybe he should be concerned with on his side. I mentioned specific areas and the type of industry, but I did not name the industry. Certainly, now, with that information and with all the knowledge available, he, together with his water resources commission, can take the action that is necessary.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East, a supplementary?

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware of any studies that show that the average Canadian living in Ontario has a superior capacity to absorb mercury contamination in fish than the average American?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The answer is no.

Mr. T. Reid: Well, how can the minister then accept the fact of a ban on the sale of these fish with 0.5 parts per million in the U.S. and not ban the sale of the same fish in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would suggest, first of all, Mr. Speaker, that there are a number of U.S.

fishermen using the Great Lakes, and I would assume that fish from these catches are being sold and eaten in the United States. This is a question of export of Canadian fish and I have explained the reasons why the federal minister imposed the ban.

Mr. Speaker: I would think that this has been explored sufficiently. The Leader of the Opposition, carry on.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a new question of the minister on a similar subject. If, as he has stated, he was aware that mercury pollution in the sediments of Lake St. Clair near the effluent of the Dow Chemical Company amounted to 100 parts per million of mercury, why did he wait until the day after the company had reduced its mercury effluent to zero, to give them 15 days to reduce it to zero? Secondly, was the minister prepared to charge the Dow Chemical Company with pollution of the Great Lakes system when he had the information that the mercury was a part of the contaminant in the effluent?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is the member going ahead with his motion today?

Mr. Nixon: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, why all these questions?

Mr. Nixon: There are no questions allowed in the motion.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, to answer the hon. member's question. There is quite a bit of difference between finding mercury in the mud at the bottom of a lake, and the mercury content of food or industrial effluent. We first realized last spring, as a result of routine surveying of Lake St. Clair along with other waters in that area and in the Great Lakes, that there was a high content of mercury in the mud. At that time we then attempted to find the sources of that mercury. We also analysed the water and in that way were not able to establish any great degree of contamination as far as the water was concerned.

Then we did pinpoint the sources, and subsequent to that, as a result of information that was acquired by this government from various sources, we then decided to analyse the fish and this analysis just started late last summer and early fall. Our first results of the analysis of these fish was in January of this year, so we certainly have acted, I think, as quickly as possible. The whole idea, the whole question of mercury in fish and the methods of analysis and everything was not perfected to any degree; we did not have the expertise here.

Mr. Nixon: Except in Japan and Sweden.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, well we knew what happened in Sweden, but then—

Mr. Lewis: You knew months ago.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —we had to send these findings to California, which had the expertise, and as I say we only got the results of this analysis this year. So I think that we have acted as quickly as possible.

Mr. Nixon: Is the minister going to charge them? That was the other question.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As far as the Dow plant is concerned, as I say, Mr. Speaker, we investigated this source. I believe, it was started in August, 1969. Again, to establish that it was a source, we had to actually take inventory in that plant, and we found out as a result of taking inventory that there were mercury losses; the plant was suffering mercury losses.

Mr. Nixon: At 30,000 pounds a year?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am not sure of the amount, but because of this, by way of further investigation we were able to pinpoint the reasons for the losses. During this period of last fall and early this winter we were able to reduce those losses through various methods and processes, acquiring machinery, so that now, I am told, it is practically nil.

So why would we charge them now? They are under a ministerial order. If there is any further contamination by way of mercury from that plant, under that ministerial order—in other words, if they are in breach of that ministerial order—of course there are penalties contained in that order.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Thunder Bay has a supplementary.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): I would like to ask the minister if he considers the collective offence as a result of mercury pollution is less offensive than Domtar which was fined $1,000?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think it is hard, Mr. Speaker, to make a comparison or draw an analogy. I realize that it involves two plants. They are different plants, as far as Domtar was concerned. There is no question of the

type of pollution. We knew we were able to measure quite accurately the extent of the pollution by analysing in a rather routine and normal way the effluent from that plant. And because of the continuance of that pollution and the complete lack of co-operation by that plant and the company, we laid the charge and obtained a conviction.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): A supplementary?

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, to the minister. Once the sources of mercury pollution were pinpointed, what instructions went out from OWRC or through the minister, to the plants that were pinpointed as the sources of mercury pollution? What instructions were they given?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They were told to eliminate their losses of mercury compound into these waters. Some plants did just that. The ones that we placed under ministerial order were still having problems and there were still mercury losses from these plants. That is why they were put under ministerial orders. But certainly when we found out what the problems were, they were instructed to take certain steps to eliminate them.

Mr. T. P. Reid: By way of a further supplementary. Can the minister indicate to the House what other plants have been adding to this mercury problem for one thing? What other plants were involved?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I think a list of those plants was in one of the daily papers just a day or so ago.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, might I ask, by one further supplementary, were these plants themselves aware that they had been polluting the lake with mercury up to this point? Were they aware of this before OWRC informed them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer for all these plants. I would assume they knew they were using mercury. Whether or not they knew that—

Mr. Nixon: Dow was buying 30,000 pounds per year.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Whether or not they knew that there were losses into the receiving waters, I would not want to say.

Mr. Lewis: Why do you not make an example of them?

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Nipissing a supplementary?

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary. The minister indicated that those plants he placed under order are still polluting by their mercury effluent. He has placed an order on the Johns-Manville plant in North Bay. Am I to understand from his previous answer that they are allowing mercury effluent into Lake Nipissing? And secondly, has he done any checks on the fish in that lake as were done in Lake Erie?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is correct. We did place an order on Johns-Manville in North Bay. However, I would like to make it plain that the fact that we placed the order does not mean that these plants have not been making every effort to reduce any mercury losses. As I indicated time and time again, we were aware of these sources of mercury pollution last fall.

Immediately these plants were investigated and were inspected by representatives of OWRC, they were told what corrective measures had to be taken. Really, every plant has co-operated to some degree in taking those corrective measures that we have instructed them to take. However, the plants that we placed under ministerial order last week still were having problems; there were still mercury losses into the receiving water.

That is why we put a deadline on all companies so that after that date, there is the question of being in breach of the ministerial order. There is a fine under the ministerial order and the possibility of an injunction against these plants, possibly to close them down, if we thing there is that degree of seriousness.

Mr. Lewis: What is the fine?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Mr. Speaker, the Minister did not answer my question.

Mr. Speaker: I think that this is becoming a debate but the member is certainly entitled to ask the minister if he wishes to answer the second part of his question.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes; the second part of my question in regard to whether the minister has done checks on the fish in Lake Nipissing?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am advised that in all areas where we have located the source, analyses have been or are being made of the fish in the area. Now I cannot say for certain if we have any results from Lake Nipissing but I can let the hon. member know.

Mr. Speaker: I think that is sufficient supplementaries for this. We will pass on to the next question.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Premier. Is he now, after rejecting the suggestion from the opposition being put forward for the last two years, prepared to accept the suggestion from the Minister of Energy and Resources Management that he convene an international conference on the state and provincial level to discuss the pollution matters pertaining to the Great Lakes basin?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as the minister indicated, it appears now that there might be some virtue in this. I am going into all the ramifications of it. I acknowledged the suggestion made by the hon. Leader of the Opposition some months ago, and it may be that at present he has a valid point. This matter is being looked into very carefully, and I hope to be able to make a further report to the House in due course.

Mr. Lewis: It is not really as whimsical as the Premier suggests.

Mr. Nixon: I have a further question of the Prime Minister. Has he a statement to be made on the transference of the jurisdiction of the Indian development branch?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, I have, and I will make that statement tomorrow morning at the proper time in the procedures.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), but perhaps in his absence I might direct it to the Minister of Social and Family Services. Can he give any estimate for the number of people who are in receipt of old age pensions and the income supplement and who will be eligible for the $100 tax relief as announced in the budget on Tuesday?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, this programme is going to be administered through The Department of Municipal Affairs. We have the figures for the number of people who are receiving the supplement to old age security, but, as to the exact number of people who live in their own homes or rent separate dwellings, I do not have the figures at the moment.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I might be able to assist in this question. I was concerned about the newspaper reports yesterday and some of the comment that has been made about this programme, so I have instituted an investigation for my own clarification and that of the members of the House. How this will be administered is presently being examined. It will require regulation, in any event.

The budget statement is a statement of what we intend to do; the means by which it will be done and the regulations under which it will be done are presently being worked out. I can only assure the members of the House that this $10 million is in the budget to be spent for relief to this group of people, and we will find a way to do it.

In the normal course of events, The Department of Municipal Affairs is sorting out the means whereby we will identify them. If the members read the budget statement, they will see that it is put in the context of tax reform, but as the regulations are developed, they will be read before the House. In the meantime, I can assure the House that this money is there for a purpose and that purpose will be achieved.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has a supplementary?

Mr. Pitman: I would like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Does he have any idea as to how this will affect the payments which are being made by the wards and municipalities across this province which, in effect, have preceded this legislation that the province initiated?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is another question that will be worked out with the municipalities. I am afraid I have no specific knowledge of that, but as I say, in the budget we present the broad programme.

Mr. Pitman: But the budget also gave the amount of money. The Premier must have some idea of the number.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I think the numbers were stated by the Treasurer in his draft, and it may be that in the implementation of the programme and in our endeavour to do what we started out to do, we may have to make some changes. This poses no problem. As far as I am concerned, we have an objective and we propose to achieve it; we will find a way to do it and that way will be found in due course, as we develop the programme.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition has a supplementary?

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question of the Premier on this matter. Since

he is considering, or perhaps reconsidering, the application of the $10 million, will he add to the reconsideration the possibility that it might be administered in such a way that, under the Canada Assistance Plan, a further $10 million in matching grants will be available so that in fact $20 million will be spent?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I would be quite prepared to examine that, but I must point out to the member that in the budget speech itself, the Treasurer was relating this to certain broad efforts being made by the government to achieve tax reform in the province. Certainly, if there is some way of doing this whereby we can have the participation of the federal government, we will look at that.

Mr. T. P. Reid: A supplementary to the Premier. Will his survey include a study of those poor people or old people receiving the supplement who are living in single rooms?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Certainly, Mr. Speaker. I think that is the whole point. If some of them are going to be excluded from what we hope to do for them simply because they happen to be living in a single room, we will have to adjust the qualifications so that they are not excluded.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, why was that not thought of before?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kitchener.

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): I have a supplementary of the Premier. Is the Premier suggesting to the House that the Treasurer has based his budgetary comments on a general premise and does not have the facts on which to base them?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I am not suggesting that at all.

Mr. Bullbrook: It is the truth, mind you, but he is not suggesting that.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am simply saying that the budget statement—the way it was presented in the budget—is very much like some matters that are presented to this House and to the public through the format of the Speech from the Throne: We set out what we propose to do. Now we are developing the regulations under which it will be done. These matters are extremely complex if you are going to reach the people—you want to reach and not have it overflow where you do not. We have been through this in our attempts to bring relief to homeowners through a basic shelter relief grant—

Mr. Sargent: The government did not do its homework properly.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —and these things prove to be very complicated in implementation. That does not mean that we will not achieve our objectives, because we will.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Scarborough West a supplementary?

Mr. Lewis: Given the complexity the Premier has just suggested and the anlaysis which must have preceded it, how is the figure of $10 million arrived at?

An hon. member: What was left over?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I have no intention—

Mr. Speaker: I would think that this is really not supplementary to the original question.

Mr. Lewis: Well, the amount was out of the air.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, this was the point I wanted to raise too. Five years age the government paid $21 million, now it has handed out $10 million. What is the reason?

Mr. Speaker: Well, I do not think that is supplementary to the original question.

Mr. Worton: Why not?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member may ask it as a question later if he wishes.

The hon. member for Peterborough, I believe, is the lead-off man for the NDP today.

Mr. Pitman: Does the Minister of Energy and Resources Management intend to introduce legislation to amend The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act that will negate a recent decision in the courts in Peterborough, which virtually protects any individual who has a septic tank system that was approved by the medical officer of health from any kind of prosecution by the Ontario Water Resources Commission? That is the implication of the decision.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, that is not what the Act says and certainly there is no

need to amend the Act. The OWRC Act—the particular section, I believe, is 27—is quite broad.

Mr. Pitman: It is quite broad and meaningless.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Quite broad. And if the facts are established in court, then a conviction can be obtained. I do not think it is necessary, particularly in relation to the case the hon. member refers to, to amend the Act.

Mr. Pitman: By way of supplementary, I wonder if the minister is aware that there is a deep division within his own department as to the implications of this court case and, indeed, whether any future litigation on the part of his department can be successful?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I am not aware of that. I just hope there are no spies in my department.

Mr. Pitman: We do not need them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: However, I would like to be aware of the reason they feel that prosecutions cannot be successful in the future under the provisions of this Act. It may be that, in all these cases where there are reasonable and probable grounds and charges are laid, the local crown attorney should carry these cases.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, if I might ask a supplementary in this particular case. Can the minister assure us that in any future time when a private citizen brings evidence of pollution, (a) the crown attorney will take the case and the minister will see that he does, and (b) all evidence will be presented in that particular case, which is in the hands of the minister?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, I think I can probably give that assurance, Mr. Speaker, on the assumption and basis, of course, that the evidence is sufficient to present a case in court and to lay a charge. This, of course, could be the decision of the local crown attorney. If he says there is sufficient evidence as a result of consultation with officials of OWRC, for example, there is no reason why the crown attorney should not carry that case. I think it should be done in this way.

Mr. Pitman: A final supplementary. Perhaps the minister might indicate, to clear up a great deal of confusion, why all the available evidence that is in the hands of the Ontario Water Resources Commission is not placed openly in a court in a case such as this, when there are reports available months before?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, all the evidence available to OWRC involved a large lake. The evidence required in court was the effluent or the samples taken in front of the school that was charged in this case. This is a matter of evidence required in a court of law. Certainly everything that was necessary for the prosecution of that case was available to the complainant.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Peterborough completed his questions? The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: A question of the Minister of Highways. In view of the fact that of the 1,690 fatalities in Ontario, the two worst accidents happened in the same area, and nine people were killed in Manitowaning last week, and in view of the fact that the coroner would like to have the Minister of Highways or some of his staff available for the inquest, would the minister make himself or some of his staff available for the inquest into this? Seeing where 10 people lost their lives two years ago—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked his question.

Mr. Sargent: —and nine people lost their lives—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has asked his question. Now he will resume his seat and the minister will answer him.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, the first I saw of this was a note that was handed to me about an article in one of the Toronto papers. I did not even have time to see the one where the member for Grey-Bruce demanded that I be there. So we will take that into consideration, if and when the time comes.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: I would suggest that when 19 people lose their lives—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member does not suggest, he asks the question.

Mr. Sargent: All right. In a supplementary way then, coming down Highway 10, they have a sign that says "bump" and it is a washout. The bridge has been washed out, and they call it a bump.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Cochrane South.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, which he may direct to the member for Parry Sound. Does the Ontario Northland Railway intend to initiate a study with a view to closing down the express freight facilities of Porquis Junction?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, I did not hear the first part of that question, but I assume that the hon. member wants to know if the ONR intends to close down express freight facilities—where, I am sorry?

Mr. Ferrier: Porquis Junction.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Porquis Junction. I am not aware of that, but I will get that information.

Mr. Speaker: The minister may, if he wishes, redirect the question to any member of the House.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, the chairman of the ONR, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. A. Johnston (Parry Sound): Mr. Speaker, the answer is "no".

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Education. What action does the minister intend to take in view of the decision of the council of the village of Tweed to refuse to pay any and all secondary school requisitions until such time as the local high school is reinstated?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, the legislation is fairly clear-cut on this point. This will be a matter for the local board of the county of Hastings, which I am sure they can resolve under the legislation that is available to them.

Mr. T. Reid: As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Under that legislation, can the Hastings County Board of Education take the council of the village of Tweed to court to get the money?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, it has always been my custom not to indulge in giving, shall we say, casual legal opinions. I do not intend to interpret the legislation, but it is there and I think readily understood by all.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Peterborough a supplementary?

Mr. Pitman: A supplementary. I would like to ask the Minister of Education whatever happened to the concept that came up during the discussion of Bill 44, that when difficulties of this nature arose a task force could be made available to the particular school boards which would help resolve conflicts of this nature?

Hon. Mr. Davis: There have been discussions, quite obviously, on this matter. We are quite prepared as a department to make other personnel available—in fact this has been suggested—to discuss this problem. I think, in the final anlysis, it comes down to the right or the authority or the responsibility of the board to make certain decisions. Certainly, as far as we are concerned as a department, we would have personnel available if they are called upon.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary. What would the minister's position be if a board of education in Ontario was carrying out a policy which was obviously wasteful and inappropriate in terms of the directions of education in the province of Ontario? Would the minister feel that at any time he could step in under the present legislation?

Mr. Speaker: Of course that question is theoretical. If the minister wishes to answer, he has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, in that it was a theoretical question, I will give a theoretical answer. Given the right set of circumstances it might be possible.

Mr. T. P. Reid: What is so different about that?

Hon. Mr. Davis: No change, really, I guess. I would say the minister probably would.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Hamilton East a supplementary? Has the member for Ottawa Centre a supplementary? The member for Hamilton East has the floor.

Mr. Gisborn: My question is of the Minister of Social and Family Affairs. Has the minister considered and, if not, will he consider, the incentive programme called the "New Social Development Programme" instituted by the New Brunswick government to allow, as an incentive, welfare recipients to work and keep their income as well as their welfare benefits?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, it has been under consideration and an announcement will be made in due course.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Ottawa Centre.

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Economics and Development in relation to the Ontario Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker: I presume the member means Trade and Development? Economics falls under the Treasurer.

Mr. MacKenzie: Is it the policy of Ontario Housing Corporation to support development in one location, of low rental housing units that is now planned for the west end of the city of Ottawa, which numbers 420 units?

Secondly, what does the Ontario Housing Corporation consider as the optimum number of low-rent units in one location, having regard to the social repercussions?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I do not quite get the question, Mr. Speaker, but I think what the hon. member is referring to is rather a large low-cost housing project in Ottawa. Is this the one where they sell the houses on one side of the street on a condominium basis and on the other side they rent them on a rent-geared-to-income basis—is that what he is referring to?

Mr. MacKenzie: This is the one in the west end of the city of Ottawa which is made up of large high-rise apartments and row housing. It numbers 420 units of low rental. There are serious complaints about the effect a unit of that size—420 units—is going to have on the immediate areas around.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Before we build any public housing in any municipality we first of all must have the concurrence of the municipality itself. We make the survey of need at their request and they pass a resolution asking for that kind of housing after looking at the services—the schools that are available, the churches, and so on.

I would assume the city of Ottawa has approved that location for that 200 and some odd units, knowing full well that when the families moved in, the facilities around there would be adequate to take care of the number of families that would be occupying those premises.

On very few occasions do we find that more people move in than were anticipated, because they take a fairly good survey before they give us permission to go ahead and build in that particular area.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Speaker, that is the point. There are complaints and they are apparently not going to approve it. They feel that the size of the unit—420 units—is too large. My basic question is what does Ontario Housing Corporation feel is the right size; and what is the optimum size for low rental housing having regard to surrounding neighbourhoods?

Hon. Mr. Randall: I do not think there is any criterion of the optimum size. We want to spread the public housing around in as many areas as possible. It is not always possible—the municipality decides what area it would like to have that kind of housing in—but we ourselves are in favour of having the least number of units in an area if it is economically possible. Again this has to be approved by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, who are our partners. I would think if that project has been examined and the people in the area find the density is too high and it has not been proceeded with, I am sure that both Central Mortgage and Housing and ourselves would take a second look at it and see if we can satisfy the people in the area.

Mr. Speaker: Any supplementary questions? Then the member for Waterloo North has the floor.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Education. Will the city of Waterloo receive the $25 grant in lieu of taxes for the students enrolled at Waterloo Lutheran University as well as those enrolled at the University of Waterloo?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, the exact details of the programme announced in the budget with respect to support to the municipalities for those institutions for post-secondary learning, such as the universities, are not finalized yet. As to whether or not Waterloo Lutheran will be included under the terms of the general policy, I shall be in a position to inform the hon. member, I hope, Mr. Speaker, within the next week.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Peterborough a supplementary?

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if the minister has considered any other criteria than enrollment, in determining the grant to be given to the municipalities in view of the fact, as the minister realizes, that there may be very little relationship between the value of the assessment and the number of bodies that are found inside the walls?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I would like to think there should be some relationship between the value of assessment and the number of scholars within the walls or confines of the institution.

Mr. Pitman: You remember the university and CAAT argument.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I can only say that—

Mr. Pitman: The minister's argument falls apart.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Davis: Consideration was given to many ways and means of doing this, and this was determined by the government as being the most logical and equitable approach to it.

Mr. Pitman: I am sure the minister does not believe that.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Scarborough East a supplementary? Then the member for Thunder Bay has the floor.

Mr. Stokes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Lands and Forests. How successful was the ad that was placed by his department a few days ago for a toponymist and what are his duties and what kind of a staff will he have?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is the member looking for something for his brother-in-law?

Mr. Lewis: Well does the minister know his department, or does he not?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests); Frankly, Mr. Speaker, I do not know what the hon. member is talking about. I am in the dark, Mr. Speaker, as to what the question is. I would be pleased to look into it, Mr. Speaker.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: The minister is paying $11,000 for one of those. He should know what it is.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: I have a question of the Minister of Education. Do half the long-service superannuated teacher pensioners now receive less than $3,000 a year, as stated by Norman McLeod, the president of the superannuated teachers of Ontario? If so, what is the minister intending to do to put these people on a decent pension plan?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I do not object to repeating the observations I made some few days ago when a question was asked, I believe, by the member for Peterborough relevant to the total picture of superannuated teachers.

Mr. T. Reid: How about the 50 per cent who receive less than $3,000 per year?

Hon. Mr. Davis: I indicated at that time, Mr. Speaker, that the study was still going on with respect to this problem by a committee composed of people within The Department of Education, the superannuation commission, Treasury, and as it relates to this particular problem, representation from the Ontario Teachers Federation.

With respect to Mr. McLeod's assessment as to the exact percentage and number of teachers, Mr. Speaker, I cannot comment. I can only say that I have found, generally speaking, that Mr. McLeod's statistical information has been really quite accurate.

Mr. T. Reid: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. So there are one half of the retired teachers in this province receiving less than $3,000 pension?

Mr. Speaker: Is that a question?

Mr. T. Reid: Is that correct?

Mr. Speaker: Is that a question?

Hon. Mr. Davis: I have already answered that.

Mr. T. Reid: So half of the old age teachers—

Hon. Mr. Davis: We are in the process—

Mr. T. Reid: Okay.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Transport. Has the minister received communication from the town of Stoney Creek requesting a reduction in the speed limit of Highway 20?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any such matter—on Highway 20. I shall look into it.

Mr. Deans: While he is looking into it—by way of supplementary question—could I ask the minister if he would expedite it as rapidly as possible in view of the hazard in the area?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, we will take appropriate action, I can assure the member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests, a three-part question.

Will the minister advise if the department will allow free fishing licences for all senior citizens; and, secondly, advise why a farmer has to have a licence to fish in his own stream on his own property? And why are women not charged for a licence to fish while men are?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the first two questions, both matters are under review.

In reply to the third one—why women are allowed to fish without an angling licence—it is because we felt that this was an easier method than having a family licence and to alleviate the hardship of having a large family licence. Up until now we have heard nothing but complimentary remarks from women on this subject.

Mr. Sargent: In a supplementary way—the minister is going to allow free fishing licences for senior citizens?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, it is under review.

Mr. Sargent: A supplementary question to this then. Does the $3—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to say that the oral question period has now expired.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: On a point of privilege. The Minister of Highways stated in the press that I demanded that he attend the inquiry. I have searched this news report and I find the word used was "requested."

I would like to have an answer, Mr. Speaker, whether or not he or his staff will be available for this inquest?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member has raised his point of privilege. The minister is within hearing and I am sure the matter will be dealt with.

Petitions.

Mr. Sargent: What is the answer?

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I table two reports prepared by my department. The first is the annual report of The Department of Transport and the second is a statement on traffic collisions in Ontario in 1969.

As in previous years, I am fortunate to be able to table the annual report of the department in advance of presentation of my estimates. However, in years past I have been conscious that the annual report only described the operations of the department up to March 31 of the previous year. It was, in fact, always a year out of date when it became available.

In order to provide more up-to-date information, the current edition of this department's report covers the two calendar years ending December 31, 1969. In some instances the statistical tables at the end of the report do not cover the entire two-year period, due to the time required to process data. However, in all instances, where statistics are not up to December 31, 1969, it is clearly indicated.

The second document I table is the statistical report on traffic collisions in Ontario in 1969, compiled by my department. I would like to refer briefly to significant statistics in this report.

In absolute terms the number of collisions, injuries and fatalities continued to increase. Total motor vehicle collisions in 1969 were 9.2 per cent higher than in 1968. Personal injuries rose by 5.1 per cent, fatal collisions by 4.7 per cent and the number of deaths by 6.1 per cent, to 1,683. These statistics should be viewed within the perspective of traffic population growth.

During 1969 motor vehicle registrations rose by 2.9 per cent, while the estimated miles travelled by road were increased by 7.1 per cent. In fact, the death rate per 100 million vehicle miles travelled remained the same as in 1968, at 5.9. This compares very favourably with an overall rate for all of Canada of 7.6 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles travelled and an overall rate of 8.6 for the other nine provinces, excluding Ontario.

This year's report contains new statistics relating death and injury rate to population growth. It is believed that these statistics are more accurate and meaningful in projecting fatalities and injury trends resulting from traffic collisions. For example, in 1969 the rate of fatalities for 100,000 population was 22.6 compared with 21.7 in 1968. This is a relatively small increase. 1968 was a conspicuously good year for fatalities and 1969

was the second lowest year in the last four years for the rate of fatalities on a population basis.

However, there was an escalation in personal injuries suffered from traffic collisions. The rate of injuries per 100,000 population in 1969 was 100.5, compared with 97.9 in 1968. It approached double the injury rate of 1961.

Generally I think it is fair to say that 1969 appears to represent a return to the long-term upward trend of the last nine years in traffic collisions and their consequences. Obviously we must continue in our efforts to intensify safety on our roads and make the motoring public more conscious of its personal responsibilities.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to table the following reports:

The annual report of the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation 1968.

The annual report of the Ontario Mental Health Foundations, 1968/1969.

The annual report of the Ontario Housing Corporation and the Ontario Student Housing Corporation for the period ending December 31, 1968.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a further report of the standing orders and procedures committee and move that it be printed in today's *Votes and Proceedings*.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton) moves the adoption of the report and it is the pleasure of the House that the motion carry. Mr. Hodgson also moves that the report be printed in today's *Votes and Proceedings* as this motion received the approval of the House.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, just a point; perhaps it may be a point of order. You ask us for our approval of the motion that the report be adopted?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Just the report.

Mr. Nixon: Not its contents?

Mr. Speaker: The motion as I have it now is from Mr. Hodgson of Victoria-Haliburton who presents a further report of the standing orders and procedures committee and moves that it be printed in today's *Votes and Proceedings* so that the report, if it is adopted, is the report that this be presented and printed.

Mr. MacDonald: On a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: So I am putting the motion as it is received and that is that the report of the standing orders and procedures committee be printed in today's *Votes and Proceedings*. That is the motion that I had.

Mr. Nixon: Carried.

Mr. MacDonald: It should be "accepted," not adopted.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, it was seconded by Mr. Winkler (Grey South).

The hon. Prime Minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In regard to this motion, I suppose this deals with the rules. I think if we are to accept it as a package, then we would do that by a separate motion of the House. This motion simply puts the recommendations of the committee before the House. The House itself will have to accept them or reject them as the House sees fit, but I presume that there will be no problem in that regard.

Mr. MacDonald: On the point of order which I raised yesterday in the Prime Minister's absence, I asked whether we could not have an early calling of the interim report which now stands on the order paper. The House leader indicated that he felt it would be better to wait until we had both reports.

Could I repeat my question now? Would it be feasible for the government to consider an early implementation of these recommendations or debate on these recommendations so that we can get them into operation?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I think, Mr. Speaker, now they are here, as far the government is concerned, we want them billed in. I have not had a chance to read this report but I assume it follows along the way we went before Christmas which I think we all found satisfactory. At the earliest possible moment I hope to be able to bring forward a motion which would receive unanimous consent of the House and then we would be operating under a new set of rules.

Mr. Nixon: Both reports are printed now.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Grey South.

Mr. Winkler, from the standing private bills committee presented the committee's fifth report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr1, An Act respecting Detroit Hotel Limited.

Bill Pr6, An Act respecting the Haldimand-Norfolk County Roman Catholic Separate School Board.

Bill Pr10, An Act respecting the township of Ameliasburgh.

Bill Pr12, An Act to incorporate Camp Shahwundais.

Bill Pr13, An Act respecting the city of Owen Sound.

Bill Pr26, An Act respecting the city of Ottawa.

Bill Pr27, An Act respecting Morina Electronics Manufacturing Company Limited.

Bill Pr28, An Act respecting Fermack Bowling Limited.

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments:

Bill Pr18, An Act respecting the city of Toronto.

Your committee would recommend that the following bill, having been withdrawn, be not reported and that the fees be remitted:

Bill Pr16, An Act respecting the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario.

Your committee recommends that the time for presenting reports by the committee be extended to Thursday, the 16th day of April, 1970.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT

Mr. Deans moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Landlord and Tenant Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this particular amendment is to provide for a standard lease form in the province of Ontario and to give additional powers to the tenant advisory bureau in order that it might deal directly with the problems of rental and the cost of rental.

Mr. Speaker: Before the orders of the day and before we embark on other proceedings I think it might be well to draw to the attention of the House a matter which arose this morning and will form, I presume, the subject of a debate this afternoon and which I will deal with formally, shortly. It has to do with motions for adjournment of the House to debate matters of urgent public importance.

Before I deal with the motion presented to me this morning, I would like to call to the members' attention the rulings in our precedents at page 39 of Lewis, which is the hard covered book, or the red smaller book, which deal with this matter, I think, in the way that we must follow, and I quote:

> As has been previously explained, a member who desires to place before the House a matter which he regards as "a definite matter of urgent public importance" may move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing it. Such a motion must be made after the daily routine of business has been disposed of and before the orders of the day are read and a notice in writing of the matter the member proposes to discuss must be supplied to the Speaker.
>
> If the Speaker decides that the matter is of sufficient importance to justify the move, the member then moves the adjournment of the House and on this motion can discuss, for a period of 10 minutes only, the subject he is interested in. Any other members who so desire may also take part in the debate for the same time limit of 10 minutes on each speech.
>
> A motion for adjournment under this rule must be restricted to a single, specific matter of recent occurrence and, having been discussed, cannot again be brought up during the same session.

Now, that is the ruling and precedent in our rules with respect to these matters.

This morning, the Leader of the Opposition gave me notice as required by the standing order referred to in the memorandum I have just read. The notice is of the following motion:

> That the House adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the gross mercury pollution of Lakes St. Clair and Erie resulting in temporary, and perhaps permanent, injury to the fishing industry and the livelihood of those involved in it.

I have carefully considered this matter in the light of the authorities and precedents and am firmly of the opinion that the subject matter meets the requirements for such motions, in that it is a specific matter that has very recently come to the attention of the public, that it is certainly a matter of urgency, and that it is, undoubtedly, a matter of great public importance, not only locally, but to the

whole province. It is important, not only in that it affects the fishing industry generally but, even more important, that the main thrust of the motion is the matter of pollution of our Great Lakes waterways system, which certainly affects all the residents of the province.

For these reasons I have accepted the motion, and call upon the Leader of the Opposition to move it and speak to it for not longer than 10 minutes, as provided by standing order 38(a), following which any member wishing to enter the debate may do so, with the same time limitations.

POLLUTION OF LAKES ST. CLAIR AND ERIE

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. Ruston, of Essex-Kent, that the House adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely the gross mercury pollution of Lakes St. Clair and Erie, resulting in temporary, and perhaps permanent, injury to the fishing industry and the livelihood of those involved in it.

Mr. Speaker: I shall read the motion and then the hon. leader will speak to it.

Mr. Nixon moves, seconded by Mr. Ruston, that the House adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the gross mercury pollution of Lakes St. Clair and Erie, resulting in temporary, and perhaps permanent, injury to the fishing industry and the livelihoods of those involved in it.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, the wording of the motion emphasizes that the facts associated with the mercury pollution in the two lakes concerned have led to the impounding of the fish catch of the 1,000 people associated with the fishing industry in that area. But, perhaps of much more far-reaching importance, it indicates the emergency relating to the ecological factors in our environment over which we should have much more control than we do, and in my view, indicates a serious dereliction in the responsibility of the minister and, I would add, those who advised him in this matter.

You are aware, sir, that because of facts that came to light over the last year, it is now generally apparent that mercury does enter the ecological system and particularly the food chain of the fish in the Great Lakes system. Even though there are many confusing reports in this connection, it has led to a federal decision that fish caught from these sources shall not be exported for sale.

The minister responsible in this province is somewhat less concerned, and perhaps he will give an indication of why he is less concerned later in this debate, because he has not seen fit to ban either the fishing, nor the sale of the fish, caught in this province. He may or may not be right and we will listen to his words very attentively when he comes to this particular aspect of the problem that faces us today.

But on the surface we are facing the ruination of the $10 million industry and of of 3,000 people directly associated with it in this province. According to Dr. R. G. Logie, the assistant deputy Minister of Fisheries at the federal level, I quote: "Do not expect anything from the lake this season."

The thing that bothers me very deeply is that the mercury pollution is associated with sediment in the bottom of these lakes, and according to the minister at the provincial level responsible, it can be removed only through dredging or by chemically treating the whole lake. In my view, both of these matters are compltely impossible to attain and, if upon careful investigation the facts reveal that mercury has permanently entered the ecological system in Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie, it appears that the fishing industry has been lost permanently because in anything the minister has said there is no way to clean it up.

But perhaps of more general importance is the confusion that lies in the minds of everyone, including the minister and his top advisers, as to who has the primary responsibility to control these matters. In my view, the responsibility lies primarily with the provincial government, and the minister has been derelict in his duties in not acting with dispatch and in a definite way to see that the pollution was abated when it first came to his attention, and that the results of the pollution come under more direct jurisdiction than they have in the last few days.

There seems to be a double jurisdiction which is more than doubly confusing. The OWRC, for which we will be asked to vote more than $50 million later in this session, has had the primary responsibility for carrying out the tests as to whether or not mercury is found in the sediment in the lake and in the fish that swim in the lake and, more directly, where the pollution comes from. By a laborious process of elimination, which the minister briefly described this afternoon,

it was found that at least one Canadian company was responsible for part of this pollution. This was determined by carefully examining the amount of mercury used by the company and how much would obviously be passing out in the effluent into Lake St. Clair.

But it seems incredible that the testing of the fish flesh concerned was carried out by a graduate student at the University of Western Ontario, and only after shipping the flesh to California for neutron bombardment, if my information is correct. It was determined that in fact the mercury pollution in the flesh had exceeded by a substantial amount the limits set by the World Health Organization, which calls for only 0.05 parts per million, and the government of Canada, which allows 0.5 parts per million.

To add further to the confusion, the minister responsible in Ontario has said that he and his advisers believe that perhaps one part per million would be acceptable, as long as no one were to eat the fish three times a day for more than three weeks. So there seems to be an area here where there has to be a definite line drawn, that the confusion has to be dispelled, and surely it has to be dispelled in favour of very low pollution level indeed being permitted. We cannot allow a grey area to exist, whereby a minister, particularly in the province of Ontario, is prepared to say, "Well, I guess it is all right for us, even though other jurisdictions would not permit it."

The federal request to Ontario for a ban on the sale of fish from these two lakes has also led the minister to say that he was not prepared to support such a ban. Perhaps he is correct in this; there is not enough information available and this is also his responsibility. Why is the information not available? Why is the OWRC not charged with keeping ahead of the problem to the extent that the minister can rise in this House and indicate that it is under some control?

The minister himself has said that he, at least the OWRC, was apprised of the level of mercury pollution in Lake St. Clair early in 1969. According to one of his officials, Mr. Clark, the assistant director of OWRC charged with industrial waste control, and I quote from him as reported in today's newspapers:

> We do not inform the minister of every little pollution problem we see.

I can see, under certain circumstances, that approach would certainly be a reasonable one. But when mercury is found to be in the sediment of one of the Great Lakes at a level of 100 parts per million—and even those of us who are not dealing with this on a day-to-day basis have been aware of the disastrous results of similar pollution in Japan and Sweden—it is difficult to understand why an official in the minister's department would consider this a little pollution problem.

Whatever the reason, the minister was not informed; and he was not given the background that he needed, I suppose, to take the strong executive initiative that must be his chief responsibility. The minister, when he began his career, was prepared, I feel sure, to move considerably in advance of his colleagues in the cabinet and even his professional advisers, who over the years have fallen into perhaps a more relaxed attitude toward the control of pollution in this province. They, as well as many others, I suppose, feel that ministerial orders are the best solution to a problem that has plagued us for many years. But the emergence on a crisis basis of this particular case of pollution indicates that the political arm has to be considerably strengthened.

The minister, while he is wise in relying on the advice available from the OWRC—very competent people they are; many of them are here this afternoon to hear what is said in this connection—has got to be more prepared than he has indicated at this time to move in advance of their recommendations and move in the public interest, not only so that we can abate the pollution, but that we can move to recompense those who are directly afflicted and affected by pollution, as in this case.

I had hoped that the minister would be prepared to say without equivocation that he would recommend to the government of Canada and inform the fishermen and those involved in the fishing industry that, whatever the decision made by the meeting to be held tomorrow morning, the government of Ontario would recognize its primary responsibility not only to control and abate the pollution, but to recompense those directly affected and continue this recompense.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I must point out to the hon. Leader of the Opposition that the time allotted for each speaker is 10 minutes, and his allotment has expired.

Mr. Nixon: I appreciate that, Mr. Speaker, and in drawing my remarks to a close, would say that we in this province—in fact, on this continent—are on the verge of an ecological disaster. This particular case of mercury poisoning simply shows that with the best attempts of our professional people and with

all the funds we are able to provide, they are still caught by surprise in circumstances of this type. I simply urge on the minister that he move in initiative ahead of his professional advisers and take the strong actions that are needed, not only to raise the funds, but to make the decisions which will, in fact, bring pollution—mercury and otherwise—under direct control in this province.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside.

An hon. member: Sock it to em, Fred!

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, the theme of my speech in the throne debate almost a month ago was the Ontario government's lack of a sense of urgency as far as pollution was concerned. Perhaps I should have used a stronger theme at the time: the negligence of the Ontario government in allowing pollution to increase almost unchecked during the past quarter century—at least during the past 10 years.

I have in my files a photostat of the New York *Times* of Sunday, August 6, 1961, which refers to mercury compounds. The dateline is London, England, August 4:

> A parliamentary investigation committee has accused the Ministry of Agriculture of negligence in not obtaining sufficient information about the lethal side effects of agricultural chemicals on various forms of wildlife.

It goes on; I would like to read all of it, but the paragraph that is most pertinent states:

> The chemicals that have come under most criticism are those that are sprayed on newly sown grain in conjunction with compounds of mercury as protection of the seed grain against attack in the ground by insects and fungus infections.
>
> Birds frequently unearth the dressed grain and eat it. They have been seen to die in convulsions. Mammals, including foxes, badgers and domestic cats and dogs that eat the poisoned birds, die too.

In 1961, I was, of course, a private citizen—a very private citizen—and I cannot recall what my thoughts were on reading this. But, being rather naïve in such matters most of my life, I probably said something like this: "Well, it's a good thing that this has come to public notice. Our government at Ottawa and Queen's Park will take careful note and will take immediate action." How naïve I was!

I didn't realize at that time that some governments, especially Tory governments, find it very difficult to move until they have been shoved. Six years ago the leader of this party complained about the dumping of mercury waste into the St. Clair River. I have not had the opportunity to read the *Hansards* of that time, but I have a copy of a letter written by a Tory member who wrote to Dow Chemical Company of Canada Limited, wondering whether the company felt it wanted him to speak on the matter during the budget debate in the Legislature. One paragraph of this letter speaks for itself:

> I have to decide for myself whether I want to make a speech at all; whether, if I do, I want to bring this matter up again, and whether I might embarrass you or The Department of Health any further by whatever publicity it might get, or, by whatever further remarks might be made by Donald MacDonald or his ilk.

There, Mr. Speaker, was the attitude of a 1964 Tory member when a big company was accused of discharging mercury into the St. Clair river.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Who was that?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): A lackey for Dow Chemical. That is what it adds up to.

Mr. Burr: No indignation over the polluting of our waters, no sense of outrage at all—except against the member for York South, who was doing his duty by bringing this matter to public attention.

This calls to mind a comment by John Lindblad in the "Now" column in the Windsor *Star* yesterday, in which he said:

> As is now known, the Ontario government was aware last year that Lake St. Clair had become contaminated via mercury dumped into the water by Dow Chemical. Why was nothing done then? Out of questions like that, at least cynics might ponder the chemistry between big business and politicians.

That is a very intriguing phrase—"the chemistry between big business and politicians." Such apparently was the Tory attitude back in 1964.

Yet in Ottawa in 1966 we find similar lethargy. That was the year in which an international congress on pollution was held in Sweden.

According to an article by Sidney Katz in the Toronto *Daily Star*, November 17, 1969, a director of the Canadian Wildlife Services

was present at that congress in 1966, and later told Katz,

> Immediately I became interested because I was aware that large quantities of this fungicide were being imported into Canada from Sweden under the trade name Panogen.

Katz quotes Dr. D. Chapman, the directorate's food expert, as saying:

> Although the existing regulations do not specify an acceptable level of mercury residue in foodstuffs, the directorate frowns on food with a mercury residue from any alien source.

Note the expression—"frowns on food with a mercury residue from any alien source."

The World Health Organization also frowns on any amount over 0.05 parts per million, as does Sweden and Denmark.

In England, Mr. Speaker, the maximum is 0.1; the Benelux countries frown much harder, they say 0.03. In Germany the sale of food containing any mercury residue is forbidden.

In Canada we follow the World Health Organization standard of 0.05, except for fish, for which a so-called administrative level has been set. This level is 0.5. For some reason the mercury level in fish can be 10 times that in any other food. This is not a medical level. It is not a scientific level. It is an administrative level established only a few months ago, in November to be exact, the day after the Katz article appeared in the Toronto *Daily Star*. Which means, Mr. Speaker, that this is a political level.

This enables the authorities, who have been remiss over the years in allowing pollution to go on unabated, to say that a fish containing 1.36 parts per million of mercury has less than three times the permissible level. This certainly sounds better than almost 30 times, or to be more nearly exact, over 27 times the tolerable or safe level, as is the actual truth.

There are three negligent and guilty parties —of course, the polluting companies; then there is the federal government, which has not notified the provincial governments about this danger, although it knew about it in 1966; and then there is the provincial government through its lethargy and indifference.

Those who are guiltless are the fishermen, whose business may be closed down indefinitely. My urgent plea, Mr. Speaker, is that every effort should be made to keep these fishermen in some kind of work and to compensate them fully for their misfortune.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Speaker, I feel that it is a shame that we have to adjourn the House to come to matters like this. It should not be necessary, I do not think, if governments were looking after their job properly. It does affect an area that covers about 45 miles of my riding and the majority of the area affected is in that part of the riding, on the lakefront.

The majority of the people who will be laid off work because of this, or lose their income, are in the area, so it is a terrible blow to our area. I feel that we, as a people in Canada, have been very complacent about pollution in the past number of years. It appears that our population was growing, our industries were growing, all of this adding to pollution, and yet we did not seem to have anyone really capable of awakening us to what we were doing to our lakes and rivers.

In the past 10 years everyone seemed to think everyone had to have more education, so no one seemed to worry about the cost of it. Yet when some of us were placed with responsibilities to attempt to clean up the streams and the dumping of sewage into the lakes, the big cry was where do we get the money and who pays?

The great responsibility was placed in the hands of the Ontario Water Resources Commission to attempt to avoid pollution. I often think after having meetings on many occasions with them on upcoming projects that if only they, as qualified engineers, had been given 100 per cent backing by the government that appointed them, they could have then likely avoided a problem that we face today. However, governments seem to lack initiative and are quite often reluctant to act until public opinion forces them to move into action. This government being a tired government, of course, it shows more than ever.

An hon. member: They need a little Geritol there.

Mr. Ruston: I believe that the responsibility for health must be in the hands of people capable of deciding what is safe. Here, of course, we run into real problems where so many so-called experts start telling us what is safe and what is not safe. It ends up that the average layman is slightly confused. I have a clipping from the Windsor *Star* of March 16, 1970, and it reports on studies made on fertilizer pollution from agricultural land by Dr. John Ellsworth and Dr. E. F.

Bolton of the Woodslee substation of the Harrow Research Station.

> A nine-year study of the monitoring of water emanating from tile land in the four counties does not support the offhand conclusion that the presence of plant nutrients in Lake Erie stems from tiled acreage.

This is a report from people who are actually involved themselves, actual farmers, too. In my opinion, they are ones who must be considered as having reliable information. The responsibility of health and pollution has, in the past, been fragmented by too many in charge of different sections.

For instance, The Department of Agriculture and Food has some jurisdiction and yet The Department of Health controls some of the materials used in agriculture. The OWRC covers the waterways pollution. This is a matter of grave concern to many people, especially those depending on a living from the fishing industry. And there are many when you consider all the services involved with it.

I wonder if in the past we were really doing the right thing in allowing industry to locate along our main waterways. No doubt it assisted them financially to have access to the lakes, but if they will not take the responsibility to see that they do not pollute our waterways then we must, as citizens and legislators, either make them locate away from our lakes or charge them for their indifference to the health of our people and our water life.

I would like to quote here from an editorial in the Ridgetown *Dominion* on pollution, and I think this has won an award from the OWRC. I do not think it has been quoted in this House. It is in the area of the hon. member for Kent (Mr. Spence) and with his permission I will read it today.

> Last week we visited Kennesserie Camp, the United Church Camp area on Lake Erie, near Clearville, and stood thoroughly ashamed to represent the older generation before the young campers as they told us how water pollution was affecting them.
>
> It is one thing to read about the problem of water pollution at Windsor or in Hamilton Bay or somewhere else, it is another to relate it to 80 little girls who want to learn to swim and can not go in the water because it has been made dangerous by the contamination, contamination caused by us, the older generation.
>
> Last year campers were forbidden to use Lake Erie for swimming because tests proved it was contaminated. Officials, as quickly as possible, had a swimming pool constructed. That, mark you, in full view of the broad surface of Lake Erie. Bad enough as that was, the situation this year is worse because tests prove that the water in the pool required more treatment than safety levels permit so there we stood last week, 80 little girls grinning to prove that they were good sports and we, with our heads lowered and shamed, looking at the lake on our right, the pool on our left and no place to swim.
>
> This problem of water pollution is a local as well as a national disgrace. We have taken one of the most beauitful areas in God's world and fouled it up by the ruthless, wanton and most deliberate destruction of our own national resources. We have made a slogan, "Ours not to use, but to destroy". We are all guilty. Industries in search of big returns on their investments have poured wastes into the rivers to avoid expense. Individuals, carelessly or deliberately, throw bottles, tires, old cars, junk and sewage into our waterways. This destruction of our natural resources is theft just as surely as if we stole the money reserve from the Bank of Canada. Thieves who steal money are followed, captured and punished, but thieves who steal the heritage and natural resources from our children are not stopped.
>
> Personal liberty stops when it encroaches on the rights of others. It does not give the right to clutter and despoil or destroy the natural resources which belong to all of us.
>
> If a programme of education regarding the danger of pollution is not enough, then a "get-tough" policy will have to be adopted with fines stiff enough to prove a real deterrent. A few must not be allowed to destroy the heritage of our youth.
>
> As we looked at those 80 youngsters, we thought of other children who are lucky enough to have been sent north to camps where there is still fresh air and clean water. All children do not come from families that can afford to leave a lake at their very doorstep to travel 300 miles north in search of clean water. How long will those northern lakes remain pure as lakes and streams become polluted? More and more people are going north and taking their filthy habits along with them. Pollution is caused by people. It must be cured by people. The sooner we put pressure on the authorities to make the destruction of public resources an offence that

will be punished, the sooner this theft will be stopped.

Meanwhile, what can we do as indiivi-duals? We can start by throwing our own gum wrappers and beer bottles into the trash cans instead of into the lakes and rivers. We can encourage others to do the same thing. We can support every plan developed by industry or government to clean up this pollution, even if it causes some personal inconvenience or expense. We have a vast fortune to gain if we win; we have everything to lose if we fail. We had better get started; it is later than we think.

Mr. Speaker: I do not want to interrupt the hon. member. Has he finished his remarks?

Mr. Ruston: I just have one more sentence, Mr. Speaker.

Let us do everything today and not wait any longer. Our economy and country cannot stand to be thrown away by careless methods any longer. We cannot allow the wholesale poisoning of fish in our lakes due to the indiscriminate use of poisons in our waterways.

Mr. Speaker: Before the next speaker proceeds, I would like to point out to the House that the motion was to adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, the gross mercury pollution of Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie. I want to point out to the previous speaker that he was straying from the topic set forth in this motion; I did not realize he was just about finished. I would ask the hon. members if they will please stick to the topic mentioned in this particular motion.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): It is nice to have a government member stick to the topic.

Mr. Ruston: I had sent a note up to ask if it was all right, otherwise I would have changed. But I never got an answer back from the other speaker—I guess he left—so I went on with that one.

Mr. Speaker: I hope the hon. member realizes I did not stop him until he was almost finished. The hon. member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak to this motion for emergency debate, I must confess a feeling of absolute frustration. It seems a shame that we should have to have an emergency debate in this House in order to get this government to take action that ought to have been taken at least one year ago and perhaps even longer.

Mr. Lewis: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deans: It is also unfortunate that the government has opted out of the debate. It is extremely difficult for members of the opposition to ascertain the position taken by this government on any matter that it will not debate openly in this House. It seems obvious that their own members are unable to put forward—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! The hon. member is not debating the motion that is before the House.

Mr. Lewis: He certainly is.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: Who do you debate with in this House?

Mr. Deans: Let me ask the Speaker: How does one debate with the government on an issue which it will not debate?

Mr. Speaker: I must point out to the hon. member that every member of this House will have the opportunity to enter the debate. He must not assume what is going to happen or will not happen. He has the—

Mr. Lewis: Oh, come on.

Mr. Sopha: Nothing has happened.

Mr. Speaker: He has the floor for 10 minutes.

Mr. Deans: I want to take a brief moment to look at the effect of this particular pollution, which is only one of a great series of polluting efforts. Pollution has been allowed by this government for the last 10 or 15 years —years in which they ought to have been combatting and taking action to meet the problems; years in which they sat smugly back and allowed industry to do whatever it willed. It is unfortunate that industry in this province has no sense of responsibility. There is no indication from industry in this province that it is prepared, on its own initiative, to undertake any anti-pollution efforts. It is even more unfortunate that this government will not take the necessary action and has not taken the necessary action to combat what it was fully aware of over the last two years.

The minister himself must agree that it is some time since it became known to the Ontario Water Resources Commission that the

pollution of these two lakes was being carried on on a fairly systematic basis, that it was being done by companies who were motivated entirely by profit and had no social conscience. And this government, even though the evidence was placed before it through the Ontario Water Resources Commission, refused consistently—and it still refuses consistently—to make available to members of this House, any indication of what kind of programme it is actually undertaking.

I am working, and I have been working for some time, as you well know—it is nice to have you join in—to get information from this particular department in order that I might be able to—

Mr. Speaker: Point of order. Order. The hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin on a point of order.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): I resent the suggestion that nothing has been done. I spoke for an hour in this House a few weeks ago on a nearly $2 billion programme, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): That is not a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. member please state his point of order?

Mr. Root: My point of order is that the member is not being factual when he says nothing was done. Many industries treat their wastes through municipal system and many others have their own systems.

Mr. Deans: That is what the member said —nothing was done.

Mr. MacDonald: Get into the debate and tell us.

Mr. Deans: Relatively speaking nothing is being done. The Ontario Water Resources Commission indicated quite clearly that they themselves were not satisfied there was any scientific connection between the mercury pollution in the lake and the effect that it was having on the fish. And they said quite clearly that they did not feel it was their responsibility to inform the minister of every pollution problem that they faced in the province of Ontario. Unfortunately, the fact that they exercise such poor jurisdiction over the things that they have jurisdiction over, enforces upon the people of this province hazards to their health that ought to be the responsibility of government and are not.

Mr. Lewis: Remember the previous minister.

Mr. Deans: Ah, well, how can anyone forget the previous minister?

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): You cannot forget Frontenac.

Mr. Deans: I want to take a moment to say to the government that this is another clear indication in the long series of indications in the pollution field of the need to clearly spell out who is responsible for what.

It is a very unfortunate situation when the government at Ottawa feels that the health of people of other countries is in danger and it takes action to eliminate the danger, while the province of Ontario does not feel the same sense of responsibility to the people over whom it governs.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): How about the fishermen?

Mr. Deans: I think this is a very strange situation. It is a clear situation to me of the government's and the minister's inability to recognize—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The responsibility for the fishermen.

Mr. Deans: —that the responsibility of government is to the health of the people whom it governs. If there is any doubt—and I suspect at this point there is a doubt—that the mercury pollution contained in the fish in these lakes is hazardous to health, then the obligation at this time is to stop the sale of the fish. I do not care at this particular point who is responsible or whose jurisdiction it is. When you take a look at the responsibility, the minister indicated he may go along—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: May go along?

Mr. Deans: —with the recommendations of the International Joint Commission. He will do what he can. His own words were that he would "intend to follow the recommendations as much as possible." He is not prepared to implement them entirely; he is not prepared to move forward and take whatever action is recommended. He will do what he can in the usual Tory fashion. He will show it up a little bit; he will issue a few press releases that might pacify or placate some of the people who are involved. It is a very unfortunate situation to be in at this particular time and case.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is greater than possible.

Mr. Deans: But it clearly indicates something that was said in this House some time ago—that the minister is playing a game, the minister is playing a game through the press media. He is using the press to try to sell a totally inadequate programme and then trying to impose it on the people of Ontario.

Mr. Lewis: Hear, hear.

Mr. Deans: What happens here, of course, is that while the federal government recognizes the need to protect citizens outside the country, the provincial government completely ignores the people within the country.

The provincial government completely ignores the fact that persons catching fish on an angling basis are faced with the possibility of eating polluted fish. Until such time as this is clearly defined—until such time as the minister is able to stand in this House—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are doing that now?

Mr. Lewis: Probably.

Mr. Deans: —and tell us there is no cause for fear, that the fish in the area have been proved to be nonhazardous to human health, he has no business permitting the sale to continue. He has no business permitting the people of this province to catch and eat fish from polluted waters, if indeed, there is even the remotest possibility—

Mr. Lewis: There must be.

Mr. Deans: —that their health is going to be endangered.

Mr. Lewis: He is doing a study.

Mr. Deans: So, of course, as my colleague says, they are doing a study. This is a typical government approach to everything that happens. Every time you look in this House and there is a matter of urgent business, the government is studying it, studying it and then studying the study. And then after they have done that they set up a little committee and they study the studies of the study. And this is exactly what happens at OWRC.

The minister has failed to grasp the reins of the department that he took over. He has failed to impose upon them the fact that he himself is responsible to the people of Ontario for what goes on in the pollution field.

The matter of compensation to the fishermen who are going to lose their income is one that bothers us greatly. We feel there is a great need to ensure that those people suffer no loss of income, as we felt in the case of the Dunlop workers.

Mr. Lewis: Hear, hear.

Mr. Deans: And I want to make that clear that I draw the analogy because there is one to be drawn.

Mr. Lewis: Hear, hear.

Mr. Deans: What we are saying here in this particular motion is that we want to protect the livelihood of the people involved. Yet in this House not two weeks ago we lost in the same attempt—to protect the livelihood of others. This government neglected ever to take up one finger to protect them.

That is exactly what will happen here, because today, it was reported that the minister indicated that they could always take civil action, I suggest that that is probably what the minister will force those people to do. I suggest that it is going to be very difficult for them. The whole point—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is the member's twisted mind.

Mr. Deans: It has nothing to do with a twisted mind. It is a matter of looking at the record—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is the member's twisted mind.

Mr. Deans: —and the record shows quite conclusively that there is absolutely no action ever taken by this government to protect people.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is another erroneous statement.

Mr. Lewis: The minister's interjections show that he thinks the fishermen are somehow responsible.

Mr. Deans: But we want to know.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is another twisted statement.

Mr. Lewis: Well, that is just what the minister said *sotto voce* three or four minutes ago.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Deans: What we want to know from the government is what action is now being taken to recover from the people who are responsible for the pollution that is definitely taking place, that is destroying the livelihood of the people on Lake Erie and Lake St.

Clair, and that has inflicted a health hazard on the remainder of the people of this province, the money necessary to clean up?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's time has now expired.

Mr. Deans: One last statement. I want to ask the minister: what does he intend to do? And I would like it detailed, if possible, to ensure that it will not cost the taxpayers of this province to clear up the mess that has been brought about by industrial neglect.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Lewis: Well, it smoked him out.

Mr. Allan: —having perhaps as much interest in the fishing industry, through my person-to-person contact with the fishermen whom I represent, or perhaps more than any other member of the House, I have been very interested in the discussion that has taken place.

I should like to say, first of all, that I would want to dissociate myself from the remarks of the hon. members opposite, particularly in making statements not based on fact or study. I have not heard yet from anyone that there is any pollution—mercury pollution—that is affecting the fish in the eastern end of Lake Erie.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Allan: Not one such statement have I heard.

Mr. Ruston: What about Lake St. Clair?

Mr. Allan: I think of these fishermen—

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): That is what you want to do.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Allan: —who depend upon the sale of their fish for a living and I think of the statements that have been made here today which, you would think, were an entire effort to ruin any market that these fishermen have enjoyed through the years.

Mr. Nixon: Who is to blame?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Allan: For the sake of endeavouring to place some blame upon a department of government—the Ontario Water Resources Commission—the most extravagant and irresponsible statements that one could ever imagine have been made here in this House this afternoon.

Mr. MacDonald: You will hear more, and documented too.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Allan: I am one of the friends of Lake Erie. I hve lived along Lake Erie all my life and regardless—

Mr. Nixon: Then the member should be ashamed of what has happened to the lake.

Mr. Allan: That is all very well. There are more people who use Lake Erie for recreation and swimming and that sort of thing than use perhaps all the other lakes in the province together.

Mr. MacDonald: Until the sign goes up: "No swimming allowed."

Mr. Allan: Certainly. What lake is the lake that produces the fish and that gives us the reputation for the fresh water fish that we have? In Port Dover we have the largest fresh water fishing port in the world and they get their fish from Lake Erie.

I want to compliment the minister who is responsible for handling this situation, on being sensible and wise—on making studies before he makes statements—of endeavouring to do what is right, based upon some sort of substantial studies. And this, I hope, he will continue to do.

I want to commend the Ontario Water Resources Commission for the efforts that they have made up until this time. You would think, to hear some of the statements here today, that nothing had been done. A great deal has been done and a great deal of information is at hand and can be used.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): And 3,000 people are out of work.

Mr. Allan: Well, who is responsible for these people being out of work? Who is responsible?

Mr. MacDonald: The government.

Mr. Allan: Who is? Not the minister here and not the Ontario Water Resources Commission. In cases of emergency, if you like—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Allan: What do you want to hear? Do you want to hear irresponsible statements, or do you want to listen to those people who

keep their cool, use good common sense, think of the interests of all the people who are involved? I think of the interests of the fishermen in my area, and I think it is most unfair to have had the words said in this House that have been said about the fish in an area of the lake where, as far as I know, there is no mercury pollution.

I would like you to remember that and I hope that you will continue to do your studies—do your work—but I hope, in the meantime, we have not ruined the entire market for these fishermen in the east end of Lake Erie.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sarnia.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with some of the remarks made by the hon. member for Haldiman-Norfolk, for whom I have great respect. It is difficult—I want to point out to him, through you, Mr. Speaker—when we are faced constantly with government in crisis, not to respond in hysteria. But some of the comments that have been made thus far, I suggest, do border on hysteria, when you have somebody say that all industries have no social conscience. I cannot subscribe to the philosophy. It is like saying that all persons have no social conscience.

The fact of the matter is that I want to direct my remarks to whoever is responsible in this connection. I am very concerned with who is responsible. I think the people of Ontario are entitled to know who is responsible.

I had not intended to join in this debate until I read the newspaper today.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): No company has social conscience in this province. I never read about one in my life; never found conscience in any one of them.

Mr. Bullbrook: I bring to the attention—no, I will not be misdirected at the present time. Some time we might have a debate on the question of industrial social conscience because there is significant industrial social conscience in this province and we see it day in and day out. But they are clouding the issue and I am not going to permit the issue to be clouded while I have the floor.

The responsibility in connection with this disaster, with this difficulty, lies with the government; it does not lie entirely with Dow Chemical of Canada Limited. Let me say this to the members and let me make the statement without equivocation. I hold no brief for Dow Chemical of Canada Limited; I am no lackey of Dow Chemical of Canada Limited; I would never conceive of writing a letter such as was written by my predecessor to Dow Chemical of Canada Limited.

But the fact of the matter is that when a minister of the Crown gets up and says, in effect, that one of the alternatives to compensation is to sue Dow Chemical of Canada Limited, he is a lawyer; he knows the consequence of an action in negligence, and he knows the proof required and the onus on these fishermen, and to slough off an onus of that nature on those fishermen when the question of compensation is without doubt a responsibility of the government of the province of Ontario, is absolutely reprehensible and unconscionable. It is, without doubt.

Let us not worry about the fishermen taking action against Dow Chemical of Canada Limited. More power to them—if they have the evidence and Dow Chemical is the culprit, I say more power to them. Let us look at section 31 of The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act, which vests in that commission the responsibility in connection with sewage undertakings throughout the province of Ontario. It is not necessary that I waste the time of this House in reading it.

The fact of the matter is—and I invite contradiction from the minister responsible—that undertakings such as the process in which Dow Chemical of Canada Limited was involved, and which might have led to this tragedy, are subject to the approval of the Ontario Water Resources Commission. I invite your consideration, Mr. Speaker, of the 1968 report of the Ontario Water Resources Commission which, at page 37, substantiates the very implementation and responsibility of section 31:

> Notable in this area were applications received from Dow Chemical of Canada Limited, Allied Chemical and Shell.

Now the fact of the matter is—and it goes without saying—I think it is since 1954, undertakings both public and private of this nature have to be approved by the Ontario Water Resources Commission, and the time has come to stop the buck passing. He is the greatest buck passer since the horse of the same name and we must cannot permit this.

The fact of the matter is that this is a government responsibility. I want to again make this amply clear, and that is, if there is a legal responsibility on the part of Dow Chemical of Canada Limited, then let us see them accept that legal burden and I invite

that they should accept that legal burden. But the minister knows full well the ramifications of a suit, a class suit by fishermen against Dow Chemical of Canada Limited, and he knows the difficulty those fishermen would face in proving a casual connection between the—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The member's whole argument is based on a misquotation in the paper.

Mr. Bullbrook: —fish condition—

Mr. MacDonald: Do you think that Dow Chemical, with its social conscience, will accept the responsibility?

Mr. Bullbrook: —the fish condition and their processes.

Let us not have any misunderstanding. The responsibility is the responsibility of the Ontario Water Resources Commission. Nowhere will you find in that report of The Ontario Water Resources Commission, or the report of 1966 of The Ontario Water Resources Commission—one comment about the efflux of mercury from the Dow Chemical of Canada plant at Sarnia and why did we not hear about it. Nowhere will you find in the 1968 report under the lab section—chemistry 1 and 2—one comment about mercury. The fact of the matter is that our predecessors in office, Mr. Speaker, vested within The Ontario Water Resources Commission a responsibility in connection with water quality control and content in this province. It did not vest that responsibility in Dow Chemical of Canada Limited; it vested it in the province of Ontario—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is a ridiculous statement.

Mr. Bullbrook: —in the Ontario Water Resources Commission, and the fact of the matter is—

Mr. MacDonald: You are right, for once.

Mr. Bullbrook: The fact of the matter is that—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —still a misquote.

Mr. Bullbrook: —this minister, who is supposed to be a man of legal training and talent, wants to slough off his responsibility. When he came into office, he rode into office as a white knight in shining armour, and the fact of the matter is that the armour has quickly been dulled by mercury.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor West.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, if the minister wished to catch your eye I would be very glad to allow him to intervene at this time. I know that members on this side would like to hear from him; we would like to hear from the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) were he here. We would like to hear from the former Minister of Energy and Resources Management. We would like to hear from the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts). We would like to hear from the vice-chairman of the Ontario Water Resources Commission. But I am sure we will hear from the present minister before the debate concludes.

One of the ironies within this tragedy of the large financial losses and the possible shutdown of the industry on Lake Erie, Mr. Speaker, is that the Omstead Fisheries Limited last December met with the Ontario Water Resources Commission, in Wheatley, I believe, under the chairmanship of the hon. member who is the vice-chairman of the Ontario Water Resources Commission, to discuss their plans for the control and abatement of their own processing effluent into the lands around them on the shores of Lake Erie.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Voluntarily.

Mr. Peacock: And they did so voluntarily, as the member for Essex South interjects.

I wonder if at that time, Mr. Speaker, the officers and management of Omstead had any inkling that, this week, sir, they would face financial loss and disaster as a result of the mercury contamination of Lake Erie from a source that is believed to be in the Detroit River near Wyandotte. I wonder if they had any inkling then that similar losses would be faced by the fishermen on Lake St. Clair as a result of the discharge of mercury into Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River?

I wonder if they would have been quite so willing and had as much enthusiasm for the measures that they discussed with the officials of OWRC last December, had they known of this present event?

At that time they discussed with the commission a phased pollution control operation, the first phase consisting of a mechanically operated lagoon, which would add oxygen to the effluent in adequate quantities. Two additional lagoons were also announced, planned for after the first one went into operation and both, possibly, to have aeration equipment of their own. So the fish processing industry on Lake Erie was prepared to undertake, in a phased way, the measures

that the OWRC indicated were necessary for it to contain its own effluent.

Now, today, as a result of the failure to curb and eliminate the mercury effluent higher up the stream, that firm is going to be shut down. That is quite ironical within the present situation, Mr. Speaker. I wonder what the cost to Omstead of installing that pollution abatement equipment would have been were they to continue in operation? I wonder what proportion the cost of that pollution abatement equipment was going to represent of their total cost of operation over the years in which the measures were going to be taken? I wonder in what proportion their costs compared to the proportion of the costs of Dow Chemical, for instance—the costs they have spent this last fall working with OWRC, or planned to spend in the future, for the elimination of losses of mercury into the waterway. I wonder if Omstead would not be entitled to compensation for any of the work that is already undertaken as well as the total loss of the business and the goodwill that has been built up and may suffer as a result of the shutdown of the fishing industry on the lake. If I were in their position, I would certainly add that cost—the cost of bringing about their own pollution abatement procedures—into the total losses that they are about to incur because of someone else's failure, brought about by the lack of enforcement of The Ontario Water Resources Commission or the lack of an extensive jurisdiction over someone else's failure to control their pollution and effluent.

Mr. Speaker, we have just had a very impassioned exchange about the social responsibility of industry. The member for Sarnia has pinned the blame solely on the government. I think well he might, because while much is expected of industry, even more is expected from the government in the form of leadership to industry in cleaning up. And what is the quality of leadership and example that we have had from the minister and his department? Let me quote to you from an article that he has inserted, or had written for him, in the February-March, 1970, edition of *The Certified General Accountant.* He speaks, on the second page of his article, to the businessmen and chartered accountants reading the magazine. I quote:

> Having emphasized the seriousness of our plight—a plight caused basically by our unthinking use of modern technology—may I discuss for a moment my concept of the role businessmen should play in this campaign.

The campaign against pollution.

> First of all, while it is true that much of our present day pollution is industrial pollution either spewing from smoke stacks or being dumped into lakes and rivers, I hope none of you will resort to sackcloth and ashes to show your remorse.

Mr. MacDonald: Social responsibility.

Mr. Peacock: Quoting:

> Our business community may be overcome by a feeling of guilt but really it should not be. After all, businessmen were merely doing the job they were expected to do. They were ensuring a full pay packet for their employees, dividends for their shareholders and the financial muscle every community needs to meet its many social and service obligations. In the past there was more concern about employment and expansion than pollution.

And then later, in the next paragraph: But the campaign against pollution is "all part of the new morality of an affluent society." Well, Mr. Speaker, the minister—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do not read that out of context. I do not use the word "but" there.

Mr. Peacock: I was not reading any portion out of context. I read the last sentence. The last sentence belongs in one paragraph removed from the main portion of my quotation: The campaign against pollution is "all part of the new morality of an affluent society."

Mr. Speaker, the minister says that businessmen need feel no guilt, they do not need to put on the sackcloth and ashes over what has happened to our environment. He is quoted in the Windsor *Star* of Wednesday, April 1, that, in describing the operations of chlorine and caustic plants in Ontario, the companies with mercury cells did not give proper consideration to whether cell inventory losses of mercury could be avoided and instead accepted them without comment as a cost of production.

Well, that is just, in fact, what they did do. They have never felt any guilt, neither are they likely to feel any guilt, as the minister says, because these are matters of cost of production. The loss of mercury by Dow Chemical into the Lake St. Clair and St. Clair River is part of the cost of production.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not think we are going to get any improvement. We are not going to get any recognition of the plight of the Omstead fisheries or any of the other fishermen in the area if the minister persists

in taking this attitude. Businessmen's concern, up until now, has been quite genuine but with other things, nothing to do with pollution and no blame is to be attached to them. What kind of force is he going to bring to bear? What kind of pressure is he going to bring to bear if he maintains this white-tie-and-tails attitude toward the people who are polluting our waters? He has said to these companies "Do not feel guilty about it." Somebody else down the line, like Omstead, down river from Lake St. Clair and Wyandotte, on the Detroit River, may be harmed, but do not feel badly about it.

Mr. Speaker, we support the call for full government assistance, full government compensation to those who are facing the losses. I hope we will hear from the minister as to what information he is going to provide those fishermen as to the extent of their losses, how he is going to assist them should they decide to go into court.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, I think we ought to hear from the minister as to what he is prepared to do on his own initiative in terms of compensation without waiting for Ottawa. He indicated to us this afternoon that he could not say what policy his government had toward compensation because the meeting could not be held this morning and will be held tomorrow. Does that indicate, Mr. Speaker, that the minister is going to wait until he can drag out of Ottawa every penny he possibly can on a shared cost basis to compensate the fishermen? Because that will not do. He is not to be engaged in bargaining with Ottawa for all the money he can get to cover the cost of compensation. He should come straight forward to the point and say exactly what amount, once the assessment of the loss has been reached, Ontario itself is prepared to pay to the fishermen and those processing plants involved.

It reminds us, Mr. Speaker, of the way in which the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) last year played with the shared cost income maintenance programme. He indicated that he would not spend a nickel beyond what Ottawa was sharing and I hope that this is not going to be the situation here with the fishermen and processing plants in Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Speaker, in rising to support this motion of my leader, I would just like to report to the House—representing the major ports in the area that are involved in this on the Lake Erie shore—that the people of my riding feel that what has happened to them in the past few days is almost inconceivable. They look on this as a very disastrous situation. The fact that the Ontario Water Resources Commission knew that there was an indication of mercury pollution in Lake St. Clair almost two years ago, and I well concede that they may not have known the effects of the fact that there was mercury in the sludge in Lake St. Clair—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Last May.

Mr. Paterson: Last May. All right, I will agree with the minister—but some months ago. But the minister did place a timetable on Dow Chemical of Sarnia to eventually desist from emitting this particular pollutant. We do not know what directive came from the International Joint Commission to other companies in this area, or the directives from the Ontario Water Resources Commisson. We do not know what directives went to American companies that may be emitting mercury pollution, but the amazing part, Mr. Speaker, is how quickly Dow has responded to the call of the minister here in the past few days, and I understand that the alterations in their processing or their equipment is very moderate in cost compared to that of the Erco people in Newfoundland. I think it is amazing that they could move so quickly whereas the OWRC had given them a much longer timetable in which to abide by their regulations.

The point I would like to make, Mr. Speaker, is that the International Joint Commission has been in operation for over 50 years and I think that the fact that this matter could come about proves that this is a toothless agency. Further, the Ontario Water Resources Commission has, I believe, a $1 million lab up in Downsview. This proves it does not have the equipment and that it is not fully effective. Further, The Department of Lands and Forests has a $500,000 fish laboratory at Wheatley, right at the scene of the action, but apparently it is not equipped to do the detailed studies that are necessary in this regard. I think this should be taken into consideration.

The federal member for the Detroit River area, Mr. Whelan—who is also the assistant to the federal Minister of Fisheries—and I have spoken several times requesting that an international body be set up in the Detroit River area. This would involve Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River and the western portion of Lake Erie. We have asked for the OWRC to initiate a crash programme in that area, because we were aware that this is where the source of pollution in Ontario is

most prevalent. But apparently the government in its wisdom has not seen fit to take any action in this regard.

And I think to pinpoint this I might mention Crystal Bay. A number of questions have been put to the minister in regard to Crystal Bay. Most people are fighting to preserve this small area of apparently clear water in the Detroit River area. I do not know whether I am at liberty or not to release the knowledge I have of what really has gone on there, but on the question I asked, the minister has replied to me that one test for sure was made on July 17. The other day he indicated three tests were made in the lower Detroit River, but we have had an agency working continuously over the last six months and we have the proof that that particular body of water is more polluted than the actual Detroit River itself. There are micro-organisms in Crystal Bay.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Better stop swimming and fishing in it then.

Mr. Paterson: That is right. That is what I am trying to say to you people, that you are not doing your job in that area, and you have to get busy.

I am sure that we can provide the department with the facts and I will get permission from my federal member to forward them on to the minister.

Mr. Speaker, you will recall I had a resolution on the order paper a few weeks ago regarding oil tankers and the possibility of catastrophic disaster. Little did I know at that time that we had a catastrophic disaster on our hands in the Lake St. Clair-western Lake Erie area. As my leader has pointed out, estimates are that there may be up to 1,000 more people unemployed in my particular area. There are many thousands out of work in the Windsor regional office of The Department of National Employment, according to the department's records.

And this may happen, but I might point out here that I do not believe Lake Erie, certainly not the whole of Lake Erie, has been proved to be contaminated. I believe they are testing in the western basin off the shores of Essex county, and I hope that the proof, when it comes back from Winnipeg—and it has not as of this afternoon—will prove that there is no contamination of fish in this area.

But should this happen, that the fish in that area are contaminated and these people put out of work, I feel that the Ontario Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) should first of all request of the federal Manpower people that they reinstate their local office in the municipality of Leamington in the old federal building there—one has moved to Windsor to facilitate any employment benefits that may occur in that area—and further, that they give direction in trying to locate work for these people who may be put out of work in fishing.

Further, the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) should, without any question, designate all the communities, all the fishing ports that are so affected, without any hesitation, for the EIO programme. They should not have to ask at this point. They have already asked and been refused but this is a disaster and he should take the initiative.

Further, compensation should be paid to the fishermen. They are going to suffer a loss of income. They still have their interest payments on their investments. They have mortgage payments to make. They have municipal taxes to meet. They even have Department of Lands and Forests' fees that possibly could be rebated. Certainly there should be some compensation for their riparian rights as this pollutant has come from upstream.

But possibly compensation really should be made to the communities, the small communities affected, the business people, the processors, and everyone who is dependent on the economy of the fishermen in the area.

One press report says: "A billion dollars of commerce is at stake in this particular problem". I hope it will not be that bad.

Mr. Speaker, this adverse publicity—and I understand that in U.S. supermarkets people are returning Ontario fish today—could last for many years and be very detrimental to the commercial fishing industry once the mercury problem is licked. Other reports indicate that it could last up to 20 years. Certainly I agree with the minister that we must get co-operation from all the U.S. states and federal authorities, and do that quickly.

I further agree that the polluters, if it can be proved that they are the guilty ones, and in their proportion, should pay the costs of the problems of the commercial fishermen, and that all industries in this area, which are still discharging chemicals that are injurious to human life and to fish and wildlife, should be ordered to stop very quickly. The department should send a crash crew down into that area and examine the water intakes of these plants—the sewage outflows from all these plants—and really put the pressure on.

Mr. Speaker, I hate to say this, but possibly the assistant professor of geography at the

University of Windsor was right. Approximately two years ago he made the suggestion that Lake St. Clair should be dyked off into a shipping channel and the lake bottom pumped free of water and turned into agriculture. I would hope that this would not be the end result of this carelessness in our province. What kind of a future are we really developing and leaving for our children?

Mr. Speaker, I think we have a very serious problem and I hope this government can tackle it in the few remaining months it is going to be in office.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Mr. Speaker, the enterprise in which we are now engaged strains credulity. I find it hard to believe that what is going on now is precisely going on. The debate itself: that it should be necessary for the Leader of the Opposition to ask for an emergency debate on this subject, is amazing. It should be so apparent that we have a grave situation that the initiative should come from the government itself. When I hear the record, I am amazed at the chronology of it.

The *Globe and Mail*, March 30, 1970:

> It would be instructive to examine the chronology of events from the moment that contamination, attributed principally to the Dow Chemical Company operation at Sarnia, first came to official notice and the seriousness with which it has been regarded during the ensuing period.

I take this period back to 1964. If a letter was written by a member of this House about this present situation, well that is when the inquiry should have begun.

Well, let that pass. There has been much more recent evidence of need. An article in the London *Free Press* by Del Bell, headlined,

> MERCURY POLLUTION FAR MORE SERIOUS IN SOME AREAS THAN DDT

> One plant at Sarnia, reported to be the largest in the province, has about 300,000 pounds in circuit which would go through the constant flow of mercury through huge cells in chloralkali facilities.

And Fimreite, the researcher at the University of Western Ontario says:

> This is a loss of about 10 per cent or 30,000 pounds a year of loss of mercury into the water.

Now when pressure was brought to bear they reduced this from 20,000 to 20 pounds in a very short time. But why was this pressure not applied a long time ago?

Now I am not entering the debate about whether Dow Chemical is responsible or not for initiating this problem—the companies do only what they are required to do by law and we have the power in this House to establish a demand that these changes should be made and should have been made a long time ago. I am not going to trespass long on the time of this House, except to emphasize this: As a newcomer and a comparative layman, I am again reminded of the utter lack of any real sense of urgency.

The member for Haldimand-Norfolk spoke of "let us not lose our cool." The one thing we need to do in this House is precisely that. We need to lose our cool. The coolest place I know is a cemetery. In the cemetery you have a real unanimity where you stop wondering and worrying about what is going on around about you.

And I say again to this House that the people of this province are sick and tired of delays. They demand action. Can this government not read the signs? Will they not take any note of what happened in Japan where 43 people died of mercury poisoning? Fourteen years' examination of this! Does not anybody know about these things or care about these things? Have we not the results? Do we not spend the money in research? When are you going to wake up to realities and never mind all this talk about extravagant and irresponsible remarks on this side of the House. They are well founded. They are documented and I demand that serious attention be paid by that side of the House to this side of the House and to the people of Ontario.

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, I just want to make one or two comments regarding statements that have been made. The hon. member for Windsor West—I wonder if I can have the floor.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Root: The hon. member for Windsor West made reference to a meeting that was a public hearing held by the Ontario Water Resources Commission and it is true that I chaired that hearing. It was widely advertised in the press and interested persons were notified and anyone who had any contribution to make had ample opportunity to make his presentation. Perhaps it is a little unfortunate that the people who had so much to say today were not at that hearing to make their contribution then. But I can see their position—perhaps they did not have factual information and I want to say that I agree with what the—

Mr. Peacock: Did the member tell Omstead about Dow?

Mr. Root: The member for Haldimand-Norfolk said that maybe there have been things said in this House today that may do the fishermen of Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair harm for many years because this is going to hit the press.

Mr. MacDonald: The old dodge. Will the government not be red-faced a month from now when a mercury count is announced.

Mr. Gisborn: Quite right.

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, I want to say that as far as OWRC is concerned, we are continually making studies in all parts of the province. As I said in a previous speech in this House, our work extends from one end of the province to the other. We are doing surveys on many rivers; we are doing surveys on the St. Clair River. In May, 1969, it was found that spot samples of the St. Clair River showed mercury in the sediment and further studies were made to see what was the effect.

It was lying on the bottom of the river; there was not sufficient mercury to affect the quality of the water for drinking purposes. But studies were made and it was not until March, 1970, that we had factual information from reliable data sources, such as our own laboratory, the fisheries research board in Winnipeg, and the California analysis. We, at water resources, do not think that it serves any useful purpose for members to start making wild statements and wild charges unless they are based on fact.

Mr. Nixon: Why did you not reduce the mercury inflow at that time? Why did you let it go for six months?

Mr. Root: The mercury, as far as we knew, was lying in the sediment on the bottom and there are many things lying on the bottom of lakes and rivers—

Mr. MacDonald: How do you suppose it got there?

Mr. Root: Mr. Chairman, our responsibility is to help municipalities get adequate supplies of good potable water and bring pollution under control wherever we find pollution existing. And as soon as we found—

Mr. Nixon: You found it and you did nothing!

Mr. Root: Because it was lying on the bottom of the river did not mean it was polluting the water. Our responsibility is over water.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. O. Villeneuve (Glengarry): All experts over there.

Mr. MacDonald: We wish we had a few experts over there.

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member will listen to what I want to say, the Ontario Water Resources Commission was appointed some 14 years ago and we are picking up a backlog of a lot of pollution that was carried on throughout the years. We are trying to grapple with the expansion—

Mr. MacDonald: Where were you?

Mr. Root: —with the expansion that has not been equalled anywhere within the province—new industries, new processes. All these new processes can create different elements that may cause pollution. But until there is some element that causes pollution, you have to deal with facts, not draw on a fertile imagination which I am afraid some people have done.

Mr. Nixon: You have got the facts—100 parts per million—

Mr. Root: When we had the facts, we moved and we advised our minister. We do not think it is serving any useful purpose to give the minister statements for publication that may not be related to facts. That does not serve any useful purpose, and I say that some of the statements that have been made here today—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, would the member answer a question?

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Oh, sit down. You have been yapping all afternoon, let him finish.

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, I must resume my seat, I see that my time is almost up. In fact, I am supposed to be on a plane for a public hearing on an industrial waste matter in the Sudbury area, and if you see me walk out of the House, do not think that I will not be interested in what is said. I certainly will.

Mr. Sopha: There is a fair amount of pollution in the Sudbury area.

Mr. Root: But we will do everything in our power to make careful analysis where we see

any evidence of pollution. We will hand the best possible advice we can to the minister and to the government.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I rise with a great deal of regret at having to take part in a debate on such an urgent matter. It is a matter that at no time did I ever think any government would ever allow to happen and that is the mercury pollution of Lake St. Clair and Erie. The fact that we have to have an emergency debate, Mr. Speaker, certainly speaks for itself and the lack of action on the part of the government.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. A. D. P. Heeney, chairman of the Canadian section of the International Joint Commission, speaking on January 22, 1969, in meetings held in the city of Windsor, made the following comments; I will only read a short portion:

> The primary responsibility for maintaining appropriate water quality, and consequently, for pollution abatement in international waters, as in national waters, is that of the provinces and the states along the boundaries.

Mr. Nixon: That is pretty specific.

Mr. B. Newman: So for the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers, this responsibility, which is in no way qualified by the existence of the commission, or the provisions of our treaty, rests with Ontario and Michigan. This in itself lays all of the responsibility and the blame for the mercury pollution of the waters under discussion right in the hands of the government.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What happened to Michigan?

Mr. B. Newman: Back in 1961—

Mr. Nixon: That is your problem.

Mr. B. Newman: On September 5, the publication from The Department of Lands and Forests made mention of the serious effects and the harmful effects of pollution on fish and on wildlife. In 1961, the department, in its own publication, made mention of this. In 1961, an editorial from a paper in western Ontario says, "Pollution kills Lake Erie." In 1962, "Wide pollution killing Lake Erie, U.S. study claims." In 1963, the chamber of commerce in my community even passed a resolution—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Why did they not do something about it?

Mr. B. Newman: —a resolution, a recommendation, asking the government for action in the elimination of pollution. Mind you, Mr. Speaker, they may not at that time have known of mercury pollution, but they still had the idea of pollution. The matter of mercury pollution should have been well known to the minister and the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

Mr. Nixon: It is just now that you think you should have a conference with Michigan.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Maybe.

Mr. Nixon: Yes, maybe.

Mr. B. Newman: In my comments in the throne speech, Mr. Speaker, I made mention that there is the need for some type of body or some type of committee of members of this Legislature and their counterparts from the various states adjoining the Great Lakes where we, as members, could get together and discuss some of these problems with the hope of overcoming them much more quickly than the action being taken at this time.

Mr. Speaker, the problem of mercury pollution we have in relation to Dow Chemical—or as supposedly in relation to Dow Chemical; I am not going to pin blame directly on them as I do not know but I must assume from all newspaper reports that they are to blame—is only one of the factors that we may have. We have the industrial might of the U.S. just to the north and west of us. As we go along the western end of the Great Lakes system we have the big city of Detroit with all of its various types of manufacturing industries that I assume are pouring industrial wastes directly into the water streams; that can have a serious effect.

Now one of the companies that really disturbed me was the Wyandotte Chemical Company. And regarding that company, I had asked the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) approximately two years ago about the lease that this company had to dump their effluents on Fighting Island, and apparently the minister could do nothing about it. So a year later, in fact, September 5, I contacted the Minister of Energy and Resources Management and he did look into the problem. But looking into the problem, all he did, Mr. Speaker, was to make mention that they do dump wastes and it is under control; that the agreement dated back to 1934 and because they have been doing this for many years we sort of had no control over them.

If it is on a Canadian island, Mr. Speaker, we will tell them what they are to dump there and the quantities that they are to dump on that Canadian island. As far as I am concerned, it is time that The Department of Lands and Forests revoked the licence of occupation that this company holds for the dumping of industrial waste on Fighting Island.

To enable the Minister of Lands and Forests to pursue it, the licence number is 3879 and it was granted on October 5, 1936. So I would ask the Minister of Lands and Forests, under whose jurisdiction this licence is held, to look into the thing with the hope of revoking it if Wyandotte Chemical are responsible for a lot of this mercury pollution. I understand that their effluent is by far more serious than that which was being discharged by Dow Chemical.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Not on Fighting Island.

Mr. B. Newman: I do not know at all because we did not know this about Dow Chemical in the Sarnia area.

Mr. MacDonald: You should have.

Mr. B. Newman: I am not the expert that could come along and figure this out. I would hope that the OWRC would come along, make the studies and undertake them as quickly as possible and not wait for months to come and report to us that there are material wastes being dumped into the Detroit River, whether they are dumped directly in the Detroit River or at Fighting Island and then into the Detroit River.

Mr. Speaker, the company that I mentioned is only one of the companies. I think that the department here should be looking into the effluent wastes of all of the industries along this waterway. You have the Morton Salt people. I would assume that their effluent causes no pollution problem but I would like that assurance from some department of government so that the people would not be disturbed.

There is Brunner Mond. There are a lot of industrial manufacturing operations and plating operations that do disturb me. I understand that in the city of Windsor alone there are well over 4,000 tons of industrial wastes dumped in the garbage disposal site. Think of the number of tons that are not dumped there that go through the water system in the city of Windsor. I would certainly hope that the Minister of Energy and Resources Management would waste no time in getting after this problem.

I would think, Mr. Speaker, that the time will come when we may have to prohibit or prevent plants with certain types of operations from locating along waterways. They may have to locate inland so that their effluent will go through the municipal treatment plants to see that it is taken care of properly, if the plant does not have the treatment facilities.

I think there is need now, Mr. Speaker, for a sub-office of the Ontario Water Resources Commission at the western end of the Detroit River so that all of the effluent wastes can be checked on regularly and reported to both the minister and to the industries along the area if there is an excess of pollution. I would like to see that office somewhere in the Amherstburg area.

Mr. Speaker, there is so much that one could come along and discuss on this topic that it overwhelms one. I only hope that the minister in his approach to the subject will hurry up and get the problem solved. I do not think that he should be waiting for a letter from the governor of the state of Michigan. I think the telephone is by far a simpler method and he could at any time get in touch with the governor and discuss these problems.

I likewise think that the Ontario Water Resources Commission could be in that same kind of communication with the Michigan Water Resources Commission and get facts and figures from them as to the various industries along the Detroit River that are causing this type of pollution. Thank you.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, in rising to join this debate, may I say that the waters off the coast of Brazil periodically, and increasingly of recent date, turn yellow; and that the waters off the coast of Africa turn green; that the waters off the coast of Florida and California turn red, known as the red tide. The waters off the coast of Ontario will shortly be turning grey. That will suit the Tory image and the hoary quality because that is the colour of mercury and that is the effect that you are creating on the problem.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Would you rather they be red?

Mr. Lawlor: The greyness has something to do with the length of time it takes you to move into any particular area.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: We want the waters to be a good Tory blue.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Faded blue.

Mr. Lawlor: The Tory blue is turning mercury grey.

We know the situation in Japan. That experience has been established. It is bad in Sweden also with respect to the effects of mercury poisoning, the decomposition and the picking up of oxygen in the lakes. We have gone from pillar to post in this province on these pollution matters and every time a crisis arises, the government begins to move.

We have had phosphates in the lakes and the phosphate poisonings that have taken place in the very lake in question here. We have had to deal with tannic acid in these lakes, with fluorides in the lakes and in each instance an investigation takes place. Time is consumed and nothing is done to move into the areas and to bring the law to bear in this area.

I want to speak for a moment or two about the constitutional problem involved. I think it goes without saying that the powers of the provincial government under The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act, section 27, certainly apply and extend to this matter. It becomes the full responsibility of this province to handle all pollution which may have to do with any surface or ground water throughout Ontario. The emergent sources of this pollution are known and are known as being on Ontario soil and, as in the case of ERCO, the power lies in your hands.

Not only that, but between the federal and provincial governments the usual splenetic jealousies arise.

By and large, I wonder on the whole what this government does in any area, from taxation to pollution control, to render co-operation to the federal government instead of perpetually inveighing and using that as your stalking horse—what you on your side of the fence do in co-operative effort, in a really valid and efficacious way in this regard. It seems to me precious little. In area after area, under The Canadian Water Control Act, the water Act that is presently before the federal House, there are numerous provisions which outdistance and are perhaps more beneficial than what your provisions are.

I think, for instance, though, in terms of the fines and penalties that would be levied under that legislation, your legislation is so inept as to act as an inhibition on nobody in this regard, with your $1,000 fines. If that is the best that you can do to bring the parties who are so polluting the environment *in terrorem* in this regard—if that is the best you can do, then I must confess that I would prefer the impingement, if it is that, of the federal government upon this territory. Because in their Act they have $5,000-per-day fines and the fines are leviable upon persons and not upon the entity, namely upon the presidents of corporations who permit this type of poisoning.

In an address made to the federal-provincial conference on February 17 this year, the Premier of the province says, "Gentlemen, please do not take this jurisdiction away from us. Do not place it under the Criminal Code, because the Criminal Code is a matter of federal jurisdiction without question. We are disposed to assist in this regard. We are jealous of our tiny preserves in this matter. We will see that our legislation is efficacious in carrying out antipollution measures in the province." This sort of thing goes on *ad infinitum*.

Nor do you move in with sufficient penalties to make an ounce of difference. If that is the best that you can do, then turn it over to the feds. At least, with the criminal law penalties being provided, there will be some punch in the legislation.

The other thing the Premier says—and I quite agree with him and he said it again the other day, or the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) did in the budget address—is that "I must emphasize that we also expect industry to accept pollution control as an ordinary cost of responsibility of doing business."

Under this particular head, I wish the government would make up its mind precisely what it intends to do. It makes some token gesture to industry to the tune of about $12 million to $14 million in its budget for subsidizing industrial installation and maintenance of anti-pollution equipment. That surely is of no particular effect in an area which requires, in the Premier's own estimate, at least $250 million expenditures forthwith.

If that is the best you can do, forget about it. Either you move into that area, or you bring weight to bear upon industry to clean up. I would suggest that you do the latter. If you have got any particular faith in the former, then I would think you must move in with a greater amount of efficacy than you have presently done in that particular regard.

We all know the cumulative effects of this sort of poisoning, about the eutrophication of the lake, the effects on oxygen content, the passing down the food chains, the ultimate effect upon human lives in this particular regard. We hear dire predictions from scientists and what have you—which we, as human beings cannot really face up to—that it may already be too late. We may have damned

ourselves and our children—within a 30-year period—to extinction. And we still sit and mollycoddle over a catastrophe the scale and consequences we have not even begun to waken up to.

Mr. Speaker: Might I ask if the hon. minister wishes to take part now or at the end of the debate? There are still several speakers from the opposition parties. I leave it to him; he can have the floor as the speaker from that party, if he wishes to participate now.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I do not mind taking part now, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I thought the hon. member had risen to his feet. The member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Bukator).

Mr. Nixon: The minister said he did not mind taking part now.

Mr. Speaker: He does not mind? Oh, I am sorry.

Mr. Sopha: He has been trying to get up for the last four speakers.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister has the 10 minutes allotted to everyone else.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I think that because of the short time allotted, I should deal specifically with the motion, which refers to Lakes St. Clair and Erie, and again review the information I have as to the activities of the Ontario Water Resources Commission with respect to this particular problem.

There have been a lot of statements made, not only in this House but through the press, and some of them are conflicting, certainly confusing. To clarify what has happened during a period of approximately 10 or 12 months, I think will indicate to the House that the OWRC did in fact do everything possible to stop this pollution, and to avoid the situation that we have at the present time.

As I mentioned during the answer to a question today, it was a result of normal surveying, analysing and, shall we say, policing of Ontario waters, particularly in the area of Lakes St. Clair and Erie and Huron and the St. Clair River, that the OWRC did get what was called a spot sample of sediment in the St. Clair River which showed mercury. This was in May, 1969. This was the first time there was any concern or indication that there would be mercury at the bottom of that lake.

I might mention at this time, Mr. Speaker, that there has and still is no indication from any other jurisdiction that any studies or surveys have been done in respect to the U.S. side of the Great Lakes, or any of these waterways. As a result of getting this sediment and realizing, after analysis, what it contained, it was in August, 1969, that the high mercury levels were confirmed in the sediments of the lake and St. Clair River.

This takes time—the analysis took time—and, if the hon. members will recall a question was asked of me, just before we recessed at the end of last June, as to mercury pollution generally, as a result of situations that took place in Sweden and Japan. At that time I asked for a report from the commission and I was told of the findings in the St. Clair River. At that time as well, during this matter of a few days in the period of August, 1969, the source of mercury pollution was located by the commission and of course, this was the plant in Sarnia which has been referred to quite frequently today.

The only way we could really pinpoint the problem and to definitely establish that this plant had a problem, was, as I had indicated, to take an inventory of its mercury losses. The analysis of the water was not sufficient to show any degree of mercury effluent. Only by in-plant investigation—and I must admit and say at that time we got full co-operation from the company—were we able to establish that that plant was in fact the source, because of the loss through their effluent into the St. Clair River and into the lake.

Of course, immediately in August, 1969, efforts were made and plans were laid to eliminate that source of mercury pollution and that has been going on ever since—since August, 1969.

It was a result, really, of information that the OWRC received. It was a result of analysis and experience in other jurisdictions, that we realized that fish may well be contaminated because of the amount of mercury in the bottom sediments of the river and the lake because of the absorption of bottom fish by such fish as pickerel and pike. Therefore, we then did get samples of fish from that area and in co-operation with the Canadian Wildlife Service we received reports in other areas of the province—I believe in the Ottawa River —that some fish were contaminated by mercury.

As a result of obtaining these fish and as a result of the co-operation of scientists and

a student at the University of Western Ontario, these fish were sent to be analysed in California. Unfortunately at that time we just did not have the expertise or really the knowhow in order to analyse the fish in order to ascertain in just what degree of mercury contamination they exist. This, I am hoping, of course, has been overcome at this time, but this was a situation at that time—

Mr. Nixon: It has been overcome?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. It was necessary to send this fish to the west and really it was only in January of this year that we received first indications of the degree or the contamination of mercury in the fish.

At that time, as I indicated in a reply to a question in this House, the mercury present in the fish was not alarmingly high. The level was not high but at this point we were also, of course, worried about the method of testing these fish. It was not really until March that we received the complete analysis of the California fish and also subsequent to that, fish were analysed at the fish industries research laboratory in Winnipeg.

I might also go back, Mr. Speaker, and point out that last fall we did get information from all possible sources of mercury pollution by locating the various plants—the types of plants—which would use this particular chemical. I indicated in my statement last week that we knew of the sources; we were working with the sources. Some of them stopped using mercury and now others have been put under ministerial order. This all takes time and I think that in all fairness, I cannot see anywhere where there was any foot-dragging or unconscionable delay on the part of the OWRC in carrying out its duties in relation to the quality of water in Lake St. Clair and in the St. Clair River.

As the hon. member knows, as a result of the analysis of the fish sent to California, there was a report that some of them contained as high as seven parts per million of mercury contamination. It was because of this, and it was because of discussions with the federal Minister of Fisheries and Forestry, that the ban was imposed last week on Lake St. Clair. Subsequent to that the fish were shipped to the federal lab in Winnipeg and the results of that analysis showed a mercury count of approximately 1.3.

I am not trying to anticipate what was in the mind of the federal minister or with the people who attended the meeting with him in Ottawa after he received the first results but I am wondering really whether or not he would have banned fishing the way he did after he received the second results.

I think because of the short time, I just want to say that we certainly on this side of the House are just as concerned with the ecological factors in our environment as the members opposite. I think that the facts that I have just indicated show that certainly the commission did everything possible with the knowledge it had and within the time it had prevent the contamination of fish and to clear up a very serious problem.

I have indicated more than once in this House that these are international waters and certainly we need the co-operation of industry and governments in the United States because these fish have been tagged 40 miles away, 50 miles away, from where they are taken ashore. So certainly fish that are contaminated in the St. Clair River or the Detroit River could possibly be found in the western end of Lake Erie.

Now I want to refer to some of the remarks made—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to say that the Minister has now exceeded his time.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would just like 30 seconds, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: If the House is agreeable, I am sure the minister may proceed. We have held the other members to—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I just want to deal with the remarks of the member for Sarnia, and the same philosophical submissions also were made, I think, by the member for Windsor West. The hon. member for Sarnia made the unequivocal statement that the responsibility lies with the government.

Mr. Bullbrook: The ultimate responsibility.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. You used the phrase "responsibility lies with the government." Now I think—

Mr. Bullbrook: It does. Are you saying it does not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Could you just wait? As I said in my statement, Mr. Speaker, certainly industry has responsibility in a matter such as this.

Mr. Bullbrook: And I agree.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: A great deal of responsibility.

Mr. Bullbrook: I agree.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Industry is the polluter in this case, not the government. Remember that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Industry is the thief. We are the policemen. Industry does it. You control—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is obvious that Lake St. Clair has been polluted for 20 years. It is obvious.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All right, but who knew about it first? Who knew about it first? Who knows about it in the Ottawa River?

Mr. Bullbrook: Why do you not stop them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Industry knows about it and if they have got any conscience at all, they will start cleaning up.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will do our part. We will do our part but we are sick and tired of trying to be Sherlock Holmes and walking around—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will continue to play the detective but we want to think that we are dealing with responsible people who are just as concerned as we are about the environment of this province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The people who run industry in this province live in this province.

Mr. Bullbrook: Read the Act.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Therefore they should have just the same amount of interest as any government agency.

Mr. Bullbrook: We agree with that but you have the responsibility—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As far as compensation is concerned, Mr. Speaker, as far as I am concerned, compensation will be paid for these losses.

Now I want to clean up some of the remarks that the hon. member for Sudbury mentioned. He makes a great to-do about a misquotation that I said they should issue or institute civil action. My remark was made after a great deal of discussion of what remedies were available. I said that as a last resort—as a drastic remedy—one of the remedies always available as a result of damage suffered, is an action against the polluter or polluters. I was not recommending that that be done at all. That is a very last resort and certainly something I hope will not have to be taken in this case. I am quite sure it will not have to be taken in this case. Compensation has been paid, I understand, in Newfoundland. It was paid in Winnipeg—Lake Winnipeg. It will be paid in Ontario.

But try and realize the problem we have. This is an international waterway. There is all kinds of pollution coming from the United States. And I received a message this afternoon—a preliminary message as a result of the meeting in Washington—they want to know what all the furor is about. Really, they ask; is there mercury in Lake St. Clair!

Mr. Sargent: Ask the fishermen down there, they will tell you.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is the U.S. federal authorities. So you realize the job we have to do. That is really all I have to say.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, I am going to put away my notes. The minister has given me enough ammunition to give you some comments on his stewardship in this particular department. He said that industry are the thieves and they are the policemen. Well, they are damned poor policemen.

Mr. Nixon: Not only that, but they are tired of it. He and the minister before him—

Mr. Gisborn: The other minister was worse.

Mr. Bukator: —the minister before him in this department. This is not a new problem in this House, Mr. Speaker. I recall my first initiation to this House in 1960. I attended meetings from here to Windsor. There was pollution through the whole area. It was difficult to get members of this House to stand on their feet and say, "I represent." I think the gentleman from Haldimand-Norfolk—I might as well face this head-on—he said: "I represent the largest fishing area in the province, or along Lake Erie, and there is nothing wrong there."

"Well, how about ERCO, who have the largest phosphate industry in the Dominion of Canada, who have not only slaughtered your fish along that lake, but the pickerel are lying there with pink spots on them? Did your people come to you and confront you

with that particular matter? Was it phosphates, or could it have been mercury? Could it have been mercury, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Gisborn: Tell the cattle from the pigs.

Mr. Bukator: I believe mercury was there. These great men in the water resources commission—and I have the greatest respect for the people who work under the ministers of this government, you cannot blame them, the government is wrong. So I got a bulletin from them not too long ago, on April 3, 1968, and they said that for four years they have been investigating crucial water-use areas. Four years, and then two years since that time; they have had six years to investigate and find out what is wrong. Finally, as the minister said in January of this year, they find there is mercury there, and his comment—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is not so.

Mr. Bukator: Is that not so?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: How do you think we found it?

Mr. Bukator: Oh, I see. Well, if it takes you six years to find out who is doing this, there would be nothing alive in Lake Erie, or Lake St. Clair, or Lake Huron.

Mr. B. Newman: Maybe we will not be here.

An hon. member: Oh, the hon. minister is going to have it all cleared up by 1970.

Mr. B. Newman: Just like the housing.

Mr. Bukator: To bring this to a head, as my time is very short, I would like to read, Mr. Speaker, into the record, the culprits that the minister claims are putting mercury into our water.

Companies that are placed under ministerial orders: Beaver Wood Fibre, Thorold; Spruce Falls Power and Paper, Kapuskasing; Canadian Johns-Manville, North Bay; Strathcona Paper Company, Strathcona; Domtar, Cornwall; chloralkali plants, Dow Chemical, Sarnia; Dow Chemical, Thunder Bay; Canadian Industries Limited, Hamilton; Canadian Industries Limited, Cornwall; American Can Company, Marathon; Dryden Chemical Company, Dryden.

If these are the culprits I would like to know from the minister—yes from his government—what they are doing about the problem now? They know who they are. You can then prove to me that you are a good policeman by coming in here in a very short period of time and telling this House that you have stopped them. If you got one industry—one industry—to cut it down by 80 per cent—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Every one of those.

Mr. Bukator: Every one of those?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Every one of those, under an order.

Mr. Nixon: Dow cut it down to zero the day before you told them to reduce it.

Mr. Bukator: I say the minister in this department, along with many other department, Mr. Speaker, has been lax. They have been laying on their oars too long. This minister has taken on an enormous job—yes, a big job—and I am wondering whether it may not be too big for him. Time will tell.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry the minister is going to go, because I have a few things to say about him.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: He will be right back.

Mr. MacDonald: This government's record on the issue of antipollution, Mr. Speaker, has been characterized by a cavalier indifference and neglect that has assumed almost criminal proportions. If the hon. member for Haldimand-Norfolk thinks I am speaking in exaggerated terms, I shall now proceed to document it.

The classic example in this House it not that the government sat idly by while industry was polluting. The classic example in this House, for example, 10 or 15 years ago was that when a lowly fisherman took KVP into the courts and got an injunction to have them stop pollution, what did this government do? The Prime Minister introduced a bill to nullify the injunction.

That is the role of this government; that, at least, has been its role down through the years. Let me go on and let me do so within the context of the motion we have before the House, Mr. Speaker, with regard to mercury. I raised the issue of mercurial poison in 1964. For those who wish to read the details in *Hansard*, they can find it in page 895-897 of February 4, 1964. But I raised it, Mr. Speaker, because I have been provided with a document of what had been going on in Sarnia.

In 1950, a survey had been taken of the threat of mercury poisoning, to the workers in the plant and from the effluent which was being poured out into the waters. Ten years went by. Another survey was taken in 1960. In 1962 another survey was taken, and when

this information was given to me from sources that obviously were aware of what was going on in Dow Chemical I put it on the record, I asked the Minister of Health what the reaction was to the report. He did not even know he had got a copy of this report. He had to go back and check and when he checked he found he had the report but he dismissed it because it was not signed.

The report stated that when departmental inspectors had gone down, for example, to check on the mercury levels within the plant, the company had obviously been informed in advance so that the situation was cleaned up. If I may pick on the analogy that the minister has introduced—that industry are the thieves and the government is the policeman; the problem, Mr. Speaker, is that the policemen have been in league with the thieves down through the years. That is the problem.

Mr. Pitman: That is the point.

Mr. MacDonald: The policemen have been in league with the thieves. What do you expect the thieves to do, turn themselves in?

Mr. Villeneuve: That is on the American side.

Mr. MacDonald: Not on the American side. Forget the American side. Let us talk about the Canadian side and what has been happening down in Sarnia. In Sarnia they have been dumping at least 200 pounds of mercury a day into the effluent. Now you could not prove it, but may I ask you, Mr. Speaker, in blunt terms, where in hell did you think the mercury was going?

Mr. R. K. McNeil (Elgin): Watch your language.

Mr. MacDonald: You knew that mercury was being lost. Let me go to the Del Bell article that my friend has quoted into the record from the London *Free Press*, February 10. Go back and read it; it is rather illuminating. This is by Norvald Fimreite, who is a research scientist doing his Ph.D. at Western University; let me quote two paragraphs. He says:

> Ten plants across Canada (80 per cent of them nestled along the St. Lawrence Seaway or connecting rivers and lakes) dump possibly 200,000 pounds of mercury into the environment annually.

That is 200,000 pounds of mercury dumped into the environment annually.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Environment? What do you mean, environment?

Mr. MacDonald: Escaped into the air, sprayed, poured into the water. I will come to the later consequences in a moment. But let us come to one special case—it has been quoted into the record, but let me for the benefit of the minister, put it on the record again, from the London *Free Press*:

> One plant at Sarnia, reported to be the largest in the province [and they are obviously talking about Dow] has about 300,000 pounds in circuit (this refers to the constant flow of mercury through the huge cells and the chloralkali facilities) and Fimreite estimates there is a loss of 10 per cent, or 30,000 pounds, a year.

Now I ask the minister again, where does this government think this lost mercury has been going? I drew it to your attention back in 1964 and what happened back in 1964?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I just want to deal with that one point that the hon. member keeps repeating. He did not deal with mercury pollution in water and effluent in 1964. He was talking about in-plant mercury contamination during the estimates of The Department of Labour.

Mr. MacDonald: All right, the minister is partly correct, but I was dealing with—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I trust you will take an account of the time here. I was dealing with the environmental conditions with regard to workers, but if the minister will go back and read the report that was sent to the Minister of Health, we were also talking about great containers of mercury waste, and raising the question of where it was being dumped.

You are responsible for neglect over a six-year period and I will tell you why you are responsible. The sitting member for the area, Ralph Knox, received a letter from J. Hocking, assistant vice-president of Dow Chemical, who asked for copies of what went on in the House. Ralph Knox wrote back, and I want to quote two or three of the last paragraphs to show you the approach of a Tory member and who he was protecting. Was it the public? Was it the workers? Was it his people? Or was it this government and the industry? Mr. Knox wrote:

> To speak on this, I must prepare a speech of some kind. This is not hard right now because I happen to have a pretty good speech already prepared by someone else that I have permission to use and can adapt to suit my needs. Having that, I can

go off on a tangent—just any tangent at all. Therefore I could, without any trouble, take great pains to scorch Donald MacDonald, especially as the speech refers to industry in our riding anyway.

I have to decide for myself whether I want to make a speech at all; whether if I do, I want to bring this matter up again; and whether I might embarrass you or the Department of Health any further by whatever publicity it might get or by whatever further remarks might be made by Donald MacDonald and his ilk.

Please let me know—

Listen to this, Mr. Speaker; here is a lackey, a Tory lackey of industry, protecting them; a real sycophant.

Please let me know whether your company feels it wants to—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Can I have order, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: Very frankly, the members of the House to the right are now reacting as the members of the House to the left reacted when the minister was speaking, and I think it is only fair that both sides should have that opportunity.

Mr. MacDonald: And with the reaction I trust that I will get the same leniency in time that the minister got, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: That will depend on the House.

Mr. MacDonald: Quoting:

Please let me know whether your company feels it wants to carry this matter any further—

Here is the defender of the local people of Sarnia, asking: Do you want me to say anything more?

Mr. Nixon: It was very good of Ralph to send you a copy of that letter.

Mr. MacDonald: Quoting:

Please let me know whether your company feels it wants to carry this matter any further, taking a chance on what I might say—

That is taking a chance all right!

—or whether in fact the whole matter has been sufficiently dealt with by both the House and the press. May I ask for an answer to this in the very next few days? Well, I repeat, Mr. Speaker, there is our difficulty. A problem was presented to the government; you have documentation; you have the accusation that the industry was warned in advance when inspectors went down to find the levels of mercury and the government did nothing. Well, not nothing, Mr. Speaker. Let me correct that. The government got some warning of mercury in the mud bottoms in the St. Clair River and they sent it away in 1968.

A report came back in May, 1969. The *Globe and Mail* story this morning said that the report indicated 100 parts per million; Mr. Speaker, may I correct it? My information is that the report indicated "hundreds of parts per million" of mercury—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Remember that is in the bottom of the lake, not—

Mr. MacDonald: Okay. Again; this fatuous comment that it was in the bottom of the lake: How does the minister think it got to the bottom of the lake? Did it suddenly, like a bolt from the blue, go through the water and get into the mud? Where do you suppose this loss of 30,000 pounds a year of mercury that you have been tolerating at Dow Chemical flowing into the water for the last 30 years, where do you suppose it went to? Through the water and into the mud, so that last year this government discovered that you have levels of "hundreds of parts per million," and only at that stage of your criminal neglect down through the years did you finally sit down with Dow and dictate that something should be done about it.

And what did we find, Mr. Speaker? We found that when the government acquired the will to do something about it, Dow has been able to clean it up. For now, I accept your word that they have cleaned it up. I will wait until I have some other evidence, but I accept your word for it. In other words, you the policeman, failed to do your duty for 20 years and when you finally—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh?

Mr. MacDonald: Well, you, collectively, this government, the government has been here for 27 years and therefore, Mr. Speaker—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: I am just winding up, Mr. Speaker. I give you my assurance.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has a minute.

Mr. MacDonald: Fine. Do not let this government try to slough off responsibility in any other direction. Sure, industry is responsible for pollution. Sure, they have been polluting down through the years. Certainly on the issue of pollution they have had no social conscience or responsibility. I say that to the hon. member for Sarnia, because the record is there to document it.

But if you are going to be acting as a policeman, you have to catch the thieves and you have to quit living in league with the thieves. You have the ultimate responsibility for pollution. And I repeat: Your neglect down through the years is the kind of thing that the people of the province of Ontario should take note of, because anybody who will neglect the public interest in that fashion should be thrown out of office, as I am confident they will at the next election.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Talking about thieves: Where did the member get the letter?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. members would allow the minister to have the floor.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to participate in this debate. The subject matter is of great importance, not only to those who are directly concerned, but I would say to every citizen of this province.

There was no realization at all in this country, and apparently still none in the United States, until very recently, that fish and game were accumulating mercury in dangerous levels in our environment. Attention was first drawn to this in Japan, where people died from eating fish containing high levels of mercury, and in Sweden, where a great deal of research has been done after mercury was discovered to be an environmental hazard. Conditions in Japan were not duplicated here and Swedish reports became available only recently.

Mercury, as you know, is a deadly poison. Its salts are used because of their very character as poisons to coat seeds, by which means they get on the land, and to destroy the slime-mould contamination in certain industrial products, especially paper. Metallic mercury is also used as an electrode in chloralkali processes. Unless special provision is made to prevent this, the water from washing pulp and paper, and from washing electrodes, can get into natural water courses. The amount of mercury that escapes is not great. However, mercury being what it is, very little is needed to create a hazard.

Because of the Swedish experience, the federal government undertook to support a programme for monitoring mercury in the environment. This was discussed at a university seminar attended by representatives of The Department of Lands and Forests and OWRC. Both reacted at once by testing the various areas. OWRC supplied fish specimens to the federal contractors. These were submitted, as my colleague mentioned, to California on October 17, 1969, and results came back in March of this year. We started collecting test specimens from the University of Toronto and they notified us that they could handle analyses. This was in August, 1969. Early results were inconclusive. You will remember that game birds were found contaminated, out west in Alberta, and certain open seasons on upland game were cancelled.

We gave priority to examining similar birds in Ontario, concentrating on places where we knew treated seed had been used. We found our birds would pass examination. We will continue to check them. You also read that the Saskatchewan River was found contaminated, and that the fish marketing board was buying fish from commercial fishermen in that area, and destroying them. I understand they are being reimbursed by the federal government. I do not know what has happened to the domestic fishery there, conducted largely by Indians for their own use, but I have heard that the input of mercury has been stopped, and plans are afoot for dredging contaminated sediments.

We know now that fish accumulate mercury through the gills directly from the water, and also from animals in the food chain. Tiny animals eat tiny plants. These animals in turn are eaten by larger species. After several such transfers we get to something that is eaten by a tiny fish which, in turn, is the prey of larger species. At this stage our exploitation sets in, but these medium-sized fish are in their turn eaten by the larger predatory species.

At every stage the mercury level increases. It is important to remember that the mercury contamination we are talking about is significant only when it is built up in fish. There is no hazard from such things as drinking water.

I can add that once a subject becomes "live" we learn more every day, for example, about such things as absorption through a fish gill. I can also add that when the whole thing started a year ago the only refined analysis available was away in California.

Some analyses could be done where a chemistry professor was available for contract, as at Toronto, but the number of samples was small. In the course of a year facilities have multiplied in various provincial laboratories, but for fish we still have to send them to the Winnipeg fisheries research laboratory.

The first substantial results from Ontario fish came from the University of Western Ontario, the original contractor with the federal government. These were fish from southern Lake Huron, the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, and the western area of Lake Erie, supplied by OWRC. These were done in California.

Except for Lake St. Clair the fish were all yellow pickerel, with a few perch from Lake Erie. They indicated a general contamination of Lake St. Clair, and some contamination of Lake Erie and Lake Huron.

The federal government seized fish for inspection on, I believe, March 20, 1970, and asked Lands and Forests and the OWRC to attend a meeting in Ottawa on March 24 when these figures were examined and discussed. They also communicated copies of the analysis to us at that time. After this meeting the federal Minister of Fisheries used his authority under The Fish Inspection Act of Canada to shut off the export and sale of fish from Lake St. Clair. This was done, Mr. Speaker, as a precautionary method.

Later in the week further information became available, including some from our own sampling, all from the laboratory at Winnipeg, so that it was automatically available to the federal authorities. Fish were seized for sampling from southern Lake Huron and western Lake Erie. It should be remembered that once the spotlight has been turned on in such a way, regardless of technicalities, the fish cannot be sold in our export market.

I can summarize simply by saying that almost all fishes examined from Lake St. Clair are in some degree contaminated. So also are the small—in fact, very small—samples of pickerel from southern Lake Huron and western Lake Erie. Smelt from Lake Erie were "clean," if I may use that word, and perch were borderline. We still need more information.

Another part of our difficulty in using such terms comes from the fact that there are no set tolerance levels for mercury. The World Health Organization sets a very low level of mercury as contamination, based on the assumption that foods provided may be all that some people have to eat. Levels in most of the fishes examined from three areas are all above the World Health Organization standards.

Sweden has another level, based on complete control of mercury input, which is their goal. The United States has a level of 0.5 parts per million of mercury, which is what we have to accept and Canada has accepted, because most of our commercial fish are exported. This is more mercury than the Swedes allow, but less than a level which I am told is quite safe, if you do not eat too many meals containing mercury. We lay claim to no expertise in such matters. All we know is what we can sell and we cannot sell fish which has more than 0.5 parts per million.

The fishermen on Lake St. Clair still have their nets out, which creates a very undesirable condition; fish in pound nets should be released or utilized. They cannot be monitored by available facilities, nor is frozen storage available for the fish for the required period of monitoring. The fish, as they now sit, are surely mostly contaminated like the ones we have examined. If the lake is cleaned up they will be clean when another season comes. We are doing everything possible to clean up the lake.

Monitoring will still continue as facilities permit, not only in these waters but in other waters as well. Once the water is clean, and this is important, Mr. Speaker, the fish will clear themselves of mercury in 17 to 20 weeks. Obviously everything depends on cleaning up the waters.

Mr. Nixon: Regardless of what is in the bottom?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As far as the bottom is concerned, dredging can be done and this is also being contemplated.

As my colleague mentioned, with reference to compensation, this is of great concern to the fisherman and others affected. There are ample precedents which exist to say that when fishermen are deprived of their livelihood by occurrences like this they have to be compensated. Our officials are going to Ottawa tomorrow morning; they would have gone today, except the weather did not permit.

Finally, I would like to make it clear that there has been the utmost co-operation between the federal government, the OWRC, The Department of Health and ourselves. Also Mr. Speaker, I am very optimistic that the commercial fishermen and others affected will

be compensated and, also, that the sources of pollution will be eliminated and that our waters will become available again for a recreational and economic benefit, as they have in the past.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Speaker, I hoped the day would never come that I would have to take part in a debate of pollution of our lakes in southwestern Ontario and I support my leader's motion. It is a matter of urgent importance to the people of southwestern Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, I live very close to the shores of Lake Erie. I know something about the word pollution. We have had, for the last number of years, signs up, notices up: "Lake polluted, no swimming". And I also am well aware that the species of the fish in Lake Erie has dwindled down till now we have practically only two species, that of smelt and that of perch.

Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that this government has been long on words and short on action. I might say that this mercury pollution in our lakes, in our fish, has fallen as a bomb on the people of southwestern Ontario. This affects their lives and the people are very concerned—not only the fishermen, but those in the tourist industries, those who are the sportsmen who fish, and those who service those industries.

I would also like to say, Mr. Speaker, that last night I had an opportunity to attend a meeting of fisherman, sportsmen, hotel operators, motel operators, and individual citizens who are concerned about pollution and the pollution of our lakes. They were very concerned that those companies who have been pouring mercury into our lakes can now control it, that this bomb has fallen on the people and has frightened them and that the lives of the people are at stake. This government has been well aware of the conditions that exist in Sweden and in Japan, where we read of a number of people who have died by eating fish that have been polluted.

This meeting I attended last night was addressed by Norvald Fimreite, a biologist who has studied pollution in Sweden and in Japan. We had a question-and-answer period, and he told us that, before we could clear up these lakes, this mercury would be mixed with the mud, and the vegetation that grows on the bottom of our lakes would be eaten by the fish and this would continue for 10 or maybe 100 years.

This alarmed the fishermen of Lake Erie. This bomb has fallen on them at a time when they are ready to go to fish. A number of them have bought new boats, new nets, hired men. Last year, out of Lake Erie, they produced 30 million pounds of perch and this year and last year a great harvest of pickerel was taken from Lake St. Clair.

This has frightened the people of southwestern Ontario, Mr. Speaker, and it is a great concern. It seems unusual in listening to the debates of last night that these commercial fishermen, the sport fishermen, those who depend on the tourist industry, do not know what the government has done to curb this pollution in our lakes. It seems unusual to me that the government has not informed this great industry that depends for a livelihood on fishing of what it has done and I think there is a—

Mr. Sargent: It has been promised for 20 years.

Mr. Spence: —lack on the side of the government that no action has been taken to inform them of what it has done, or what it intends to do. And I would say, Mr. Speaker, that I cannot help but say to the hon. members on the government side, that there has been a lack of action taken, now that they can cure pollution, can control mercury, which we were told last night. This mercury can be burned up by high heat without being dumped in the lake. Why could not this have been done before?

Now I am only a layman; I listened to this with great interest last night and I will tell you that this gathering last night was a large crowd. I am going to tell you that they have arranged a meeting in Chatham on April 16, and I am going to tell you that four cabinet ministers are going to be invited, along with the members from southwestern Ontario, to discuss what has taken place up to now to curb pollution in these Great Lakes. I think that it is a good idea to inform the people. It shows a lack of information if this government has been taking action but the people are not informed. Now I would say after listening to the debates last night—and how little these people know—I think, Mr. Speaker, that this government has been lax and I would say that to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, to the Minister of Lands and Forests, to the Minister of Health, and to the Minister of Agriculture. I would say all those ministers have a part in the polluting on these lakes or have control over curbing

pollution. And I would say there should be a third investigation in these four departments to bring out for the public what they have done up to now and clear the matter, or prove a lack of action.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kitchener.

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): Mr. Speaker, my remarks will be quite brief; I am only interested in reviewing with the minister the comments of the member for Sarnia with respect to his discussion of the responsibility of Dow Chemical in all this matter.

Surely, it is clear to those of us who have listened to the comments in this debate that appears to be easily able to be placed on the shoulders of certain industries within this area. Perhaps not in the same way as the former member for Lambton would have placed it in his letter that the leader of the New Democratic Party read, but placed in the form that this government should act. The form being, not in this case as *amicus curia,* as a friend of the court, but rather as *amicus populi,* a friend of the people. Because in this, for instance, you have the opportunity of doing something in giving leadership through the law offices of the Crown to insure that persons who have been harmed are properly represented if they cannot in any other way be represented.

Now, the member for Wellington-Dufferin, in his responsibilities in the Ontario Water Resources Commission, apparently believes that through some form of divine revelation the mercury got to the bottom of the lake. He suggested that the comments made by the members in this House today will do great harm to the fisheries. I suggest that the only harm that will be done to the fisheries will be if any of the product happens to get wrapped up in his speech because the comments which he made and the lack of seeming interest which he had in this problem are, I believe, most unfortunate.

The member for Glengarry, while the member for Middlesex South was speaking, called over the comment, "experts". I do not think any of us on this side of the House presume to be experts. That is not our function. Our function surely is to say to the government that when you have expert advice available to you, you therefore have a responsibility. The government is responsible. Certainly, as the Minister said in a rather exercised fashion, the government did not do the polluting, that is quite true, but it is the function of this minister to be the detective. If he does not wish to play at being a detective, then let him stand aside and let someone else be a detective.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Why does industry have to be the lawbreaker?

Mr. Breithaupt: I do not think that industry should be the lawbreaker.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They must be responsible.

Mr. Breithaupt: Pollution, exactly. Industry should not be the lawbreaker. Government must encourage—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We do it.

Mr. Breithaupt: And where the carrot is not sufficient, then the stick must be applied.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We do not ignore the lawbreakers.

Mr. Breithaupt: If the minister is not prepared to apply the stick, then perhaps he should turn his deerstalker in and no longer be the Sherlock Holmes of the Legislature. Because I think that there are others of us who are prepared to say, as Sherlock Holmes might well say, "Elementary, Dr. Root". "Elementary, Dr. Rollins." "Elementary, Dr. Keldon".

We know where the problems are. We know what the cause is. We are well aware that if an industry has to continue to buy mercury for its manufacturing process, that mercury must be going somewhere. The member for Wellington-Dufferin has found out—if not through this debate, then otherwise—that where it is going is to the bottom of the lake. This is no longer adequate.

Responsible government does not mean that when something happens you are not responsible. Responsible government means that you have taken upon yourselves and have been given by the people of this province—for the last time, I hope—certain functions to perform. And you are failing in those functions if you do not enforce the law to the letter, if you do not improve upon the law by giving an adequate fining procedure and by not allowing a licence to pollute. I think there is hope in this minister, because there are many things we can say about the cabinet: Some of them are unbelievably good; others are unbelievably bad. They have one thing in common, of course: most of them are unbelievable.

But be that as it may, I think this minister has an opportunity that he can still grasp. He may not be able to get all the mercury stain

off his armour, but I still think he can be a very effective "white knight" in this province. He can do a good job; he has the ability and he has the people to support him in his commissions. But he must continue to be ahead of the rest of his cabinet; he must continue to get a grip on this problem. He must assure this House that he views this problem with as grave a responsibility and with as grave a concern as we do on this side of the House.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that all members of the House realize the seriousness and the soberness of the debate this afternoon. Of course, in regard to the seriousness of the substance of the debate, the political thrust must be made, because it is a political thrust on the subject that makes governments move even though all sides recognize the seriousness. But, I think, out of this debate this afternoon and out of the serious question of the problem with the fishermen and the future problem of the pollution ravishment that is going to take place, the question will be settled. And we have to have that answer as soon as we can get it.

We had the hopeful optimism of the Minister of Lands and Forests that the question is under control, that we will shortly see these lake waters and river waters cleared up and the mercury will dispense through a natural system.

We have heard from my friend from Kent, who attended a meeting last night, where he listened to experts on the subject and they have a dire, pessimistic approach to the situation. This is what makes it a concerning subject. We, as members of the House and the public, want answers to these two opposing positions. We just cannot trust to time to get the answers, and I think the government must put all of its resources to work immediately to get the answers to these most serious questions of the pollution of our environment and particularly in this particular case.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to add a word to this debate. I have listened to the whole of it. It has assumed some rather incredible features. I never thought I would remain here to see the day when a minister of the Crown—albeit a newly appointed person commissioned as such by the Lieutenant-Governor—would announce so soon after he had taken office that he is tired. In his metaphorical reference, which I am not going to explore, it did not occur to me that the great character of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle ever exhibited any signs of fatigue. He, like the minister, was commissioned with certain responsibilities before he acted. I always saw him as a very assiduous, a very industrious and a very penetrating figure. Not only in the metaphorical allusion he made, but in the same breath over the hubbub from this side he said that he was tired of being the detective. And he shouted amid the interventions that industry is the thief and that he is the law enforcer, the policeman.

Simply put, his role of detective—or enforcer, if you like—is precisely what he is paid to do. And quite a metamorphosis has occurred in the space of a year or less, since this young man assumed the burden of responsibility when he marched into office and, I suppose, to a press conference, duly called, where he announced that pollution would be wiped out in the province in five years. That was his promise to the people of Ontario, and I hope the editorial writers tomorrow will exercise their pens in assessing his contribution of today, when he tells us that he is tired of the responsibility.

Now, another facet of his responsibility: It seems that, in an age that worships the increase in the GNP, we cannot have affluence without pollution. With industries who are dedicated to the maximization of profit, it is absolutely necessary that the role of government in controlling the spoiling of our waters and atmosphere is thereby enhanced and its responsibilities are increased. That is his role; he lays out the precepts and the requirements of the society acting collectively here, and he tells industry what it must do and he must police it through the arms that the Legislature gives him.

It is a matter of great regret to me that it is becoming increasingly more difficult to have the ear of the first citizen—and the member for Victoria-Haliburton, who occupies his seat now, with no ambition at all, will not substitute to occupy it permanently. But one cannot get the ear of the Prime Minister in regard to what I am now going to say. However, I offer two parentheses: I wondered what the contribution of the Minister of Lands and Forests would be, as I saw his senior staff scurrying about in the alcove over there; they were rushing in, of course. That department certainly is well staffed with senior staff to handle his brief for today. Now, watch the whole process going on. The other parenthesis is that I am delighted that the minister's arm, the OWRC, is here; they

occupy the very front pew, to the Speaker's right.

Now that the first citizen is here, I want to repeat what I have said. I said three or four years ago that the day must soon come in this province when the responsibilities of the OWRC have got to be divided. They cannot be at one and the same time purveyors of water in this province and be the policemen. The two functions are entirely inconsistent.

The simple analogy, recognizing the limitations of an analogy, is the way in which we handle the purveying of liquor. One body sells it, and another body polices its consumption and use and distribution among our people. That analogy fits the OWRC exactly.

This large, dinosaur-like body that has been created and gives the impression that it has the ambition of becoming the biggest seller of water in the world, has got to be divided into two functions: one to sell the water, and the other to impose the standards and exercise the control. We now recognize, of course, the final and ultimate importance of what we are doing in this area. Because the day is in view—and it has been put in so many ways, that I could not possibly exercise the imagination to put it another way—when what one philosopher called the eczema that inhabits this planet, "homo the sap," is going to dirty the seven miles in which biological life can exist that he will make the planet no longer inhabitable. And that, for those to my right and to my left, is simply the operation of the dialectic—nothing more or less than the dialectic. "Every human organization contains within itself the seed of its own decay," says the father philosopher of that group. Affluence has brought us to this state, where we have to pay the price of wanting the colour television set, the second motor car, 35 different kinds of detergents and all the other indicia of a society that already has too much.

All right, then. It is incumbent upon that tired policeman over there to get busy. He has got to get busy and be the policeman, and to see to—

Mr. Nixon: He has got to wake up.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, you are right, my leader. You are right. My leader said he has got to wake up. That is the first thing he has to do, is to wake up.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Wake up?

Mr. Sopha: And he has got to get busy in a waking attitude and tell industry that the control of pollution has to become a price off the top; the cost of doing this you have got to pay back first. And we have to commission somebody in this Legislature—and I hope the Prime Minister will treat these words sympathetically—some arm of this Legislature, call it what you will—it cannot be the Ontario Water Resources Commission—but some arm that will be the minister's policeman. He cannot be down in the St. Clair River. He cannot be up where Inco is dirtying every stretch of water to the southwest of Sudbury. He cannot be everywhere, but he can be there in a vicarious way by some effective arm of this Legislature that will spend its total time on the control of pollution of our waters. It is not like an amoeba dividing itself into two and becoming entirely different, entirely contradictory and entirely dissipating an effective and an efficient approach to perhaps the most vital problem that this age faces.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I wish to say only one or two words on this debate. I am largely drown into the debate by the comments that the minister himself made a few moments ago and by the comments that the member for Sudbury has just made.

I wonder if the minister realizes that a very great change took place in his concept of his own role during the 10 minutes in which he stood in this place and made remarks about what he felt to be his functions. In his opening remarks, he made this statement—I copied it down—"We realized that the plant has a problem."

I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, it is not the plant that has the problem, it is the people of Ontario who have the problem. The minister is not some kind of a psychiatrist wandering around the province trying to tap in to find out who has problems. We are in a desperate state in this province and we need desperately to have a minister who will recognize the second function which he himself screamed across this aisle in those last few hectic moments, that "government is the policeman and the companies are the thieves, and it is the job of the policeman to do the job of policing."

That is not what the OWRC has done in the past number of months. It is what we have seen time and time again. I am not going to repeat remarks that I have made previously, where individual citizens have found themselves in a position of doing the minister's work, of going out and apprehending the thief, bringing the thief into court and, in some cases, not getting very much help when the minister himself can determine what

should be the proper sentence the thief receives. And I add what the member for Sudbury has said: Indeed there does need to be a separate function in that minister's department responsible for doing this kind of work, this very nasty, dirty job. I sat here amazed for over six years. We are still talking about how to determine—

Mr. Speaker: It being 6 of the clock, I do now leave the chair. The member may continue after dinner.

Mr. Pitman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It being 6 o'clock p.m., the House took recess.

No. 27

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, April 2, 1970

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Thursday, April 2, 1970

On motion that the House adjourn to discuss pollution of Lakes St. Clair and Erie, concluded, Mr. Pitman, Mr. T. P. Reid, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Sargent, Mr. Ferrier, Mr. Whitney 1067

Mining Act, bill to amend, Mr. A. F. Lawrence, second reading 1075

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Grossman, agreed to 1093

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1970

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

POLLUTION OF LAKES ST. CLAIR AND ERIE

(concluded)

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, as the supper hour approached we were discussing the minister's (Mr. Kerr's) remarks during his comments that it was the government's responsibility to be the policeman and I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, it will be the responsibility of this opposition to see that he becomes the policeman. The very problem that I see, and I think this is the feeling which is felt by many of us on this side of the House, is that the minister simply does not have the forces to be the policeman in relation to water pollution across this province.

For one thing, I would say the budget is pathetic. The budget for the Ontario Water Resources Commission is simply not enough. I think the Pollution Probe people in Chatham indicated to the minister that his budget should be tripled if he really hopes to make any impact on pollution work dead right. There is a very significant comparison when you look at the forces which are available for the minister who creates pollution, the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme), as compared to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr). When you take a look at the difference between the resources which are available you soon begin to realize that industry has more money to hide pollution than this minister has to ferret it out.

Let us go on to say that when he plays the role of policeman to the point of bringing industries into court, the whole thing then becomes a shambles because the minister himself realizes that he does not have the resources to bring any considerable number of industries or individuals into the courts of this province. He would completely deplete his laws trying to bring forth the evidence. He has not got a legal department which could possibly mount the attack, and thus the whole argument begins to collapse very quickly. Even if we look at the budget of this province which came down just a few days ago, when you really begin to look at what is being put aside in this province and compare it to the monstrosity of the problem, one realizes it is indeed peanuts. It is indeed a very minimal effort, very minimal response and one which really cannot be treated seriously as a full scale assault on pollution in the manner in which the minister spoke up here this afternoon.

We have said we must have an agency which is ready to do the job. It must be regionalized so that they are on the spot to do the job, and we must begin to rationalize the legislation.

I might say in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, as I know my time is limited, that whenever we seem to find a problem that we cannot cope with we throw it into the morass of federal-provincial relations. There is nothing that really defuses an issue; there is nothing that creates as much frustration in this country as those things which have to do with the areas of co-operation, or rather confrontation, between federal and provincial authorities.

We cannot tell the fishermen in Ontario that they can expect some compensation because we have no lead in Ottawa. Well, Mr. Speaker, we know that the whole fishery area is one which is divided between federal and provincial authorities. We know that indeed the orders-in-council which come from the Ottawa level are all redecided upon at the provincial level. We know that the reason why no one has decided that there shall be no more fishing on Lake Erie, rather than try to decide who is going to eat the fish, is because neither government wishes to pay out the compensation to those who are going to have to bear the burden when this industry is closed down.

So I call upon this minister, if he really means business, and say is it not time for Ontario to indicate that these are Ontario citizens who are suffering; that this government has a prior responsibility for seeing that the health of this industry is restored and that this government will throw out the challenge of a minimum of 50 per cent compensation from this government. And if the federal government refuses to pick up the tab, then it is this government which is going to see that

those men in their province do not bear that kind of burden.

You know, we in this country have very few years left. I suppose we have reacted slowly because of our history. The history of this country has been that of subduing the elements, virtually of subduing the environment; and yet even today we are still destroying environment and calling it progress. Indeed, we still suffer from this myth that clean air and clean water are something which abound in this province and in this country.

I would suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, that this minister has a very grave responsibility. If he wants to be the policeman he will receive all kinds of support on this side, but from now on, day after day in this Legislature, we will see that he plays that role.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion put forward by the leader of the Liberal Party this afternoon in regard to the pollution problem in the Lake Erie area and the compensation that we feel should be paid to the fishermen who are most directly affected by this pollution problem.

I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that in some ways I feel rather sorry for the present Minister of Energy and Resources Management. He followed an act that was easy to follow, really, in that the minister who preceded him did absolutely nothing in regard to pollution in the province of Ontario.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): There is very little up in the area you represent, young fellow.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I will be back, Jack, I will be back!

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): That is about the only thing the minister is good at, what he is doing right now. That is the only thing he is good at.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, all I can say in regard to that is that is the minister's only contribution to the pollution debate that has been going on in this province in the last 10 years.

I would also like to add, Mr. Speaker, that I have not been demoted yet in this party, which would indicate that perhaps I am doing something, and the minister's demotion might indicate that he did nothing.

Well I say, Mr. Speaker, that we looked with a great deal of eagerness to the appointment of a new Minister of Energy and Resources Management and we felt that there would finally be a change in this department; that this department would become an active department and not one of reaction, and we looked forward to the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management leading Ontario and leading the country in a new fight against pollution. The minister started off very strongly. He made a great many remarks as to how and what he was going to do to those industries that were polluting our air and water.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): And then he lost his cool.

Mr. T. P. Reid: He not only lost his cool, but apparently the word must have come from higher up that he was supposed to "cool" it, as the word has been used to me; that he was now supposed to take it easy, and that he was to draw in his horns and treat these polluters with kid gloves.

I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that some salutary effects come forward out of any misfortune and tragedy. One is that the minister has finally accepted my recommendation and the recommendation of the leader of this party, that an inter-provincial conference be called with officials and politicians on the American side and the Canadian side to meet and discuss the problem of the Great Lakes basin.

We suggested this some months ago and finally now the minister is moving towards this, but I still say that this government is not, has not, made pollution its number one priority and it must do so in this province. We have had indication after indication of this.

I suggested to the first minister of this province that he set up a select committee of this Legislature that would go round the province and investigate all forms of pollution across the province and I am doubly convinced, Mr. Speaker, that this is more important now because obviously the OWRC and the minister are not doing this job.

If they were, this would not be necessary. We would not need organizations such as Pollution Probe that exist now in this province to fight pollution if this department was doing its job. But this department does not do anything until somebody else comes up with the facts and figures and finally presses it into doing something. Now this business that has been going on in the Dow Chemical plant in Sarnia for some time has been known to OWRC.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): For how long?

Mr. T. P. Reid: The minister says 1968.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Nineteen sixty-nine!

Mr. T. P. Reid: Nineteen sixty-nine! All right, we will go along with that.

Mr. Jessiman: Nineteen sixty-eight!

Mr. T. P. Reid: We have yet to hear from the minister what orders, what specific orders, the minister gave to them to clean up the mercury pollution.

I want to say this: that Dow Chemical must have known about the pollution that they were causing in Lake Erie. I have figures in front of me, Mr. Speaker, that indicate that a pound of mercury costs approximately $15. If they are putting 200 pounds of mercury into the lake every day—and maybe it has not been every day, it has gone up and down. Sometimes it has been more, sometimes it has been less. The point is that they have lost that mercurry; it is costing them money.

An hon. member: Three thousand dollars a day.

Mr. Jessiman: What is happening in Rainy River?

Mr. T. P. Reid: What do you mean, they are losing part of it?

Mr. Pitman: What is the member doing about it?

Mr. T. P. Reid: If they have to replace that mercury, Mr. Speaker, if they have to—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. T. P. Reid: There is a little verbal pollution in your area that we can do without.

I say to the minister, through you, Mr. Speaker, that they must have known that this was going on, because they had to replace that mercury that went into the lake. It was costing them $15 a pound. I do not have the specific figures and I do not think OWRC has them, although they have the right to demand that kind of information.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I told the member this afternoon that we had that information.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right then, you know, you know better than anyone else here in this chamber, how long this has been going on and how long Dow must have been aware of it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We knew that last year.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I find it astounding that a company the size of Dow, with all its cost benefit analysis, all their economists, all their cost control people, do not know when they are losing quantities of mercury that costs them this amount of money.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): $10,000 a day.

Mr. T. P. Reid: This is ridiculous. This is patently ridiculous. They have been using this mercury cell process for their caustic soda and so on, for I do not know how many years. The minister knows better than I.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): I am sure he does.

Mr. T. P. Reid: And for the minister to sit there also, Mr. Speaker, and say, "Well, we do not know any cause or effect between mercury pollution and polluted or contaminated fish and health, human health," is ridiculous. You have had the examples of Minamata Bay in Japan, and the Swedish experience and yet you sit there and you told us this afternoon that you see no cause and effect. You saw no cause and effect between the mercury pollution that was going into the lake and human health.

Now I have been talking, Mr. Speaker, over—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Certainly that was our main concern.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Pardon me?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That was our main concern.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I might point out to the hon. members that the member for Rainy River has the floor. The minister has not; if there are any remarks they should be directed through the chair.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker it seems that in two and a half years in this House, I have never heard the Minister of Public Works say one word about pollution.

Mr. Singer: Yes, he did. We were all going to disappear by 1970.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, my time is running short. I want to make two points. One, that I am glad that finally the Minister of Lands and Forests has concerned himself about the pollution problem. You will—

Mr. Jessiman: Right, the member's time is running out.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You will recall that in the estimates last year I tried to impress upon him that he had a role to play in this. His reaction at that time was it was strictly the responsibility of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. You can check *Hansard* on that. The second and last point, Mr. Speaker, is simply this. The Minister of Energy and Resources Management got up in this House today and said he was tired of being a policeman.

Mr. Yakabuski: No, that is not what he said.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The detective, the detective in his naivete—

Mr. Pitman: I think they are more like the Keystone Cops.

Mr. T. P. Reid: —in his naivete, he expects these companies are going to impose pollution restrictions on themselves. There has been no evidence in this province, or very little, to show that they are going to do this.

It really conjured up a picture in my mind of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management in his deer-stalking hat, followed 10 paces behind by the member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root), winking owlishly and saying: "Oh, yes, Dr. Holmes. How did that mercury get on the bottom of the lake, as if it dropped like mercy, like the gentle dew from Heaven?"

Mr. Pitman: More like Keystone Cops.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Extremely ridiculous!

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Is the member saying, "Elementary, my dear Watson"?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Extremely ridiculous! And for the minister to stand in his place today—and it will be in the papers and the press tomorrow—and say he is tired already—after one year—tired of being the detective when that is his job. I quote, Mr. Speaker, not for your edification, I am sure you are aware of this, but for the minister's, because he obviously was not. I quote from The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act, section 26, sub-sections one and two:

> The commission has a supervision of all surface waters and ground waters in Ontario, used as source of water supply: Subsection two [and this is the point]: The commission may examine any surface waters, or ground waters in Ontario, from time to time, to determine what if any pollution exists, and the causes thereof.

Now surely that is the minister's mandate to be the detective. If it was not necessary, if these industries were policing themselves, we would not have this in legislation.

I will just wind up, Mr. Speaker. I have one more comment. I would just say this, Mr. Speaker, that the minister's actions today and in the past in this particular regard, have been criminal and that all the phosphates, all the detergents in Ontario will never wash it clean.

Mr. Speaker: Are there further speakers? The member for Timiskaming?

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief, because I think that everything which really needs to be said has been said. I have only one point to make, and a rather serious point from my observation of what happened this afternoon. I have looked around the House and I have listened to the sarcasm around the House, and I really wonder if anyone is concerned about pollution? Are we in this House really concerned about the pollution or are we more concerned with throwing little insults across the House?

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): The Tories are not concerned.

Mr. Jackson: I heard from the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) that we shut down all industry if we fight pollution. Well, this is the same statement I heard from the last Minister of Energy and Resources when we talked about Larder Lake and Kerr-Addison Mines. He said if we tell them they have to build a dam to control their tailings, we might shut down a mine. Let us scare the people a little bit. Is this what we are trying to do? Or are we trying to control pollution?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What has the member done since he came in?

Mr. Jackson: The dam is built at Larder Lake. We are controlling the tailings in spite of the minister's resistance to it at that time. It is being done, which proves to me that there are people in the civil service that maybe have a little more energy than the minister has.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): You could not have moved the previous minister with dynamite. He was stuck in his own sludge.

Mr. Jackson: Another thing that bothers me is that we are going into tourism estimates after this. It seems rather ludicrous that we sit and talk about pollution in such a mild vein, you might say, because we all all laughing yet expect tourism in this province to exist even, never mind move up the scale of anything. Surely, we cannnot bring tourists into a province that is so badly polluted so that we cannot fish in our own lakes? Surely we cannot expect the tourists to come in where we cannot even give them decent sanitary facilities in many places? What really is at stake, Mr. Speaker, is the whole credibility of the OWRC and the minister.

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): Oh sure, blame it all on the minister.

Mr. Jackson: Maybe we should just blame it on the Tory government then. The member says blame it all on the minister. Surely the minister—will give you this point—

Mr. Gilbertson: We are all responsible for pollution. So are you.

Mr. Jackson: The minister is not responsible for Tory policy. We have had it for 26 years; all he is doing is carrying it on. And what we want is a change.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: The member will never sit here for 26 years.

Mr. Jackson: When we get a minister over there who is dedicated to change then we will not have to be standing here saying that it is the minister's fault or the Tories' fault. We will have it done. We will have a change.

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): Must be a new man you are going to bring in, is not it?

Mr. Jackson: But when we talk about telling industry that we are going to close them down or we are telling . . . scaring the people with closing down the industry because we tell them they have to clean up the pollution. What about the people who are out of work right now and without wages coming in because of the pollution? What about them? Maybe it is better to close down an industry and say to them clean up and put 100 people out of work, than it is to allow them to pollute and put 1,000 people out of work. And that is what you are doing today?

Mr. Yakabuski: They are marching on Queen's Park.

Mr. Jessiman: I would like the member to figure that out for me tomorrow morning.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): The minister is going to enter the debate.

Mr. Jackson: There is going to be a lot of fishermen out of work.

Mr. Jackson: I become more worried as I stand here, Mr. Speaker, because all around they speak of—

Mr. Yakabuski: The member is not worried at all; he is not sincere at all.

Mr. Jackson: Who is out of work? Name it. Name it. When the member for Rainy River was up speaking, the member for Fort William says "What is happening in your riding?" But surely as a member of the ruling body in this province—if he knows that there is pollution in Rainy River it is as much his responsibility to get on his feet and speak rather than speaking in interjections.

He knows what is going on. Why does he not get up on his feet and say so? And that is what has bothered me all this afternoon in listening to this group. Sure, we can get up and make nice little speeches and give facts and figures, but when it comes right down to it, are we really serious about doing something?

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): What has this got to do with mercury?

Mr. Jackson: About as much as the member's statement, I am sure. Mr. Speaker, really we are not debating mercury. We are not debating any one point. What we are debating is whether the government is serious about stopping pollution in Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member that we are debating a specific motion which refers to a specific action, and the member has not yet come to the point. If he is going to I will allow him to continue. If he is not, then he can resume his seat.

Mr. Jessiman: May I ask the member a question?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Get up and make your own speech.

Mr. Speaker: The member will take a question.

Mr. Jessiman: Just to clarify one point, how many persons in his riding are out of work on account of mercury pollution?

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): The member has 10 minutes.

Mr. Jackson: Mr. Speaker, he is asking a silly question so I will give him a silly answer: None.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Jackson: I am saying . . . it is very nice of them to have some interest in what I am saying, anyway, because they did not show too much interest all afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I said I had one point to make and I think I have made it.

Mr. Jessiman: The member sure has!

Mr. Jackson: But what they are more interested in is their little fun in here this afternoon rather than seriously thinking about mercury pollution and what it is doing in this province. And if we are serious let us do something about it. Let us not sit over there and say we are going to close down industry; industry is doing this and we are going to be the policeman; that all of industry is criminal. Surely some action can be taken and you have not shown very much interest in taking action.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh, we have taken all kinds of action.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Deans: What is the matter? Did somebody step on the minister's tail?

Mr. Jackson: Mr. Speaker, the one point that I really got out of this afternoon, and I will sit down after I make it, that not only has the credibility of the OWRC and The Department of Energy and Resources been questioned, and been seriously questioned, but the credibility of this government even becoming opposition after the next election is very doubtful.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, very briefly I would like to give my reaction to the present position of where the minister stands. I think that over the last four years, Mr. Speaker, we have had assurances from the former minister in this department that there were on-going studies with the International Joint Commission on pollution, embracing Ontario, New York state, Michigan and Illinois—all the states adjacent to or bordering on our Great Lakes system. We had the assurance of the minister that these studies were on-going studies and we find that now this has been a lot of misinformation and misleading of the House. These things have not been happening.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh they have!

Mr. Sargent: Well, apparently then, if they have been happening, we find from the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) today that they are going to renegotiate a new set of meetings. But to my knowledge I have had no reports of these meetings with the states of Illinois, New York or Michigan with Ontario, and I think we could have the minister report to us on what has been going on.

But what is more significant, I think, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that we have this emergent situation now in Lake Erie—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And St. Clair!

Mr. Sargent: —and St. Clair—that we have to wait on and depend on the federal government to move in and make a decision. This minister could not move—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is their responsibility.

Mr. Sargent: Somewhere along the line the minister does handle the responsibility and all our eggs are in your basket. In my opinion you are not doing a job for us. And as my colleague from Niagara Falls says, the eggs are all scrambled at this point. But the minister does not seem to know just exactly where he is going. But when he will license people to pollute, when you will have the audacity—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member will address his remarks through the chair.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, when he will have the audacity to license Domtar to pollute and charge them a $1,000 fine, this, to me, is a disgraceful admission that they are in bed with these big industries and that they are in bed with the thieves.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Who are the thieves?

Mr. Sargent: Anybody who will pollute our atmosphere, they are the ones who—it is a criminal offence in my opinion—that anyone who will pollute—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): The minister called the industries thieves this afternoon. That is what the minister said.

Mr. Sargent: It is a matter of record. It is a matter of record every day. You have got an island airport here. They take a white filter and put it into a machine, and it is as white as that piece of paper there and 24 hours later it is as black as ink and it follows —it follows necessarily—that everyone who lives in this market, their lungs are pure black as of this point right today. Anyone who does an autopsy on anyone who died in this area; their lungs are pure black because of pollution. And only recently have we heard about the pollution count in Toronto. Every day I fly in here by plane—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. member is talking about pollution—

Mr. Sargent: I am talking about pollution—

Mr. Speaker: No, no. The motion is for mercury pollution in the lake.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Well, I say, Mr. Speaker, there is a lot of mercury pollution in the air too.

An hon. member: You land here by way of Lake St. Clair.

Mr. Sargent: I would almost say that I could land a plane on Lake St. Clair. But it is a matter of record, Mr. Speaker, that the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland area is the greatest fire hazard in the country; it is a matter of record that it has been on fire twice—the river has been on fire twice.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): It is not the Cuyahoga River that has been on fire.

Mr. Sargent: The Cuyahoga River has been on fire on two separate occasions—a river on fire.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Goodness!

Mr. Sargent: My goodness, you are being very facetious, but you should be in collaboration with these people and know what the hell is going on.

Mr. Yakabuski: Carry on, carry on! You are doing well.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you very much. I do respect the minister: I think he is trying to do a very tough job. But I think that he is away behind in regard to pollution. It is a whole picture, but you must get on with it and pull up your socks.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Cochrane South.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Speaker, I have sat through this entire debate. There has been a good deal of heat generated by the debate but also a good deal of light thrown on the subject. I think one thing that has come up is that there is a serious problem of mercury pollution in Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair and St. Clair River—

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): Know where it is?

Mr. Ferrier: —and the livelihood of a number of people has been jeopardized. The investment of some people in the fish packing industry has been jeopardized, and a problem now exists that may take a good deal of time to clear up. This problem of mercury first came to my attention when the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr) started raising the question, and the things he has raised here have shown him to be really prophetic in the stands he has taken.

I am not interested so much in throwing brickbats at the minister for his negligence or such; it is a deplorable situation that has resulted. I think that a couple of statements have been made here today by the member for Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan) who has spoken on behalf of the fishermen in his part of the province and expressed concern that the publicity generated in the other end of the lake might affect the fishing industry at his end of the lake. But I think the people who really deserve some consideration—

Mr. Jessiman: How about the fishermen in Cochrane South?

Mr. Deans: Why does the member not listen?

Mr. Ferrier: You know, Mr. Speaker, if this member had the ability to get up and make a speech rather than make his nonsensical remarks, we might get something done in this House. But all we hear is a lot of loud noise and a lot of nonsense from him.

Mr. Lewis: And make sure that *Hansard* knows that the man referred to is the member for Fort William.

Mr. Ferrier: But mercury poisoning is a dangerous thing, and I think this debate today has pointed out that the problem exists. And while it may not exist in the east end

of the lake, it does exist in the west end; there is a threat to the consumer and he should be protected. I think it has been shown in the studies that the mercury on the bottom of the lake is a really serious situation and contributes to the danger. And for the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin to get up and say that it is not dangerous and not much of a problem, I think he is being very naïve and we should expect something more from the vice-chairman of the OWRC.

It was very interesting to hear the minister say today that the government has to be a detective to find out the pollution that is going on by industry, not only the particular mercury problem but other pollution throughout the province. We have been told by the proponents of the free enterprise system that what is good for business is good for the province and that we have a responsible corporate industry in this province. But the minister seems to have found out that industry really is not concerned with the expense it causes to the province and the dangers that exist to people. They are concerned about their profits and about their corporate standing.

I think it is not only this industry which is at fault here, but we have seen the irresponsibility in the last few weeks of Dunlop tire and many others. I really feel that the debate today has shown that the time has come when that government over there, Mr. Speaker, can no longer be the lackey of big business. They have to stand up and be counted.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Man the barricades!

Mr. Lewis: The minister might better man the barricades because the battle has not yet begun.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Speaker, just to conclude: If the Minister of Correctional Services feels he is proud of the actions of these companies, especially the companies that are responsible for the mercury pollution that is in Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair now, and wants to brag about that, then his sense of values and judgment is entirely different from mine and I do not want to be associated with that in any way.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I never said anything about being proud of the companies. I say you are attempting to provoke class warfare.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, I have listened with a great deal of interest to a considerable part of the debate that has taken place today. I agree that a substantial contribution has been made by the members of this Legislature on all sides of the House.

However, I would say this: In recent years we have had a situation develop; we have had the experts, the scientists, the people who know it all, who would find fault with every practical thing that is done in the province of Ontario where the ordinary person earns a living. It applies to almost every industry; to the farm industry, to everything, and I think we have to assess things on a relative basis—

Mr. Singer: A little bit of mercury is all right—

Mr. Whitney —so people can have the right to earn a living; people should have the right to develop industry. We need to look at things on a nice basis so that pollution does not occur, but I would say that sometimes things are overstressed. We see it happen time after time. We see it in almost everything. Many things are overstressed, over-emphasized—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whitney: No, I do not tell the fishermen they are wrong but I might say the federal government could be wrong in stopping the fishermen so completely. I might say that. I might say they are taking an attitude that might not be proven yet. We do not know.

Mr. Sargent: The member does not believe that?

Mr. Whitney: I would not be afraid to eat a piece of one of those St. Clair fish. Mind you, I would not eat a piece of it every day. But you people over there on a fish diet, go ahead. After all, there are always suckers.

I would say that sometimes—you know, rather than throwing people out of work, shutting up plants, doing all these things—I think sometimes we should be more deliberate in our methods; we should give consideration to all sides of our problems. After all, it is very nice for some of these scientists and some of these educated people to shut this down, shut that down, and say that this should not be done, and that should not be done, but damn it all, how do they earn a living? They are not getting a living from basic production and other people are. So I think it is time that rather than getting all alarmed and all stirred up over some of these things, I think it is

time we sort of settled down and looked at things from every angle.

Mind you, we want to protect our natural resources. We want to protect our people. We do not want pollution. We do not want things of that kind, but just the same, for years, even back in the day when our friends opposite controlled this government, they certainly welcomed industry coming in. And they had no thought of pollution.

Mr. Nixon: The member does go back!

Mr. Whitney: Oh, I do not have to go back. I am here now. But nevertheless, I think that rather than getting all stirred up and all excited, I think we should basically look at the whole thing, try to rectify our poor conditions and try to preserve our good conditions, but at the same time to consider the fact that we have to have an employed population and that we should not do things in a way that is going to destroy employment. Because, so help me, as far as I am concerned—

Mr. Jackson: Better dead than unemployed?

Mr. Whitney: Just look at it. How many people are involved in producing the basic things in our country at the present time? There are very few. The whole city of Toronto, all of our urban population, is fundamentally dependent on the product of the mine, the farm, the forest, the field. And the rest of us are providing the materials. And I am saying this: Sure, my sympathies are with the fishermen, and all these people, but at the same time—

Mr. Deans: The member's sympathy is no good.

Mr. Whitney: Well, they have to have employment, as do those in industry. Does the member disagree with that? So, therefore, here are our water resources under our energetic minister who is trying to see that everything is being done to help the situation; the facts are going to emerge and the remedies will be done.

Now then, if you people over there will get the same kind of co-operation from your counterparts down in Ottawa, I think we in Ontario need have no worry. Everything will be rectified very nicely.

Mr. Speaker: Unless there are further speakers, this concludes this debate.

Orders of the day.

THE MINING ACT

Hon. A. F. Lawrence moves second reading of Bill 2, An Act to amend The Mining Act.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I will say at the outset, and it will be an admission that will occasion no surprise, that we in the official opposition support the principal of this bill. It might be hastily added that as legislators unschooled in the intricacies of the technological process which is involved in mine safety, we can do little else but join with the minister (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) in accepting the advice of the experts who crystallize their assistance in the compilation of this statute.

The minister, of course, cannot claim that his hand is in any serious or pervasive way to be found in the verbiage that is used in the Act; he would be the first to admit that. However, sir, there are a number of things about the bill that bother me and which represent certain inconsistencies with the philosophy of safety that have been expounded from this side of the House over many years. One of them is that there is no recognition in the bill of the part that might be played by those who moil in the ground for the metals, provide their labour and their sweat in the extraction of the mineral wealth of this province.

There is a passing tribute paid in the bill in its explanatory notes to the assistance that was given to the department by the Ontario Mining Association. We know, of course, much is the accumulated evidence, that the ear of the Minister of Mines and the door of The Department of Mines has always been open to representations from the Ontario Mining Association.

I do not have a great deal of enthusiasm for that organization and the prime reason is —and perhaps I am prejudiced—every so often they send out bulletins apprising me and everyone else of the vast amount of American dollars that they are earning by the exportation of our minerals in raw state to the United States.

In the long run I do not really think that is much of a contribution to the development of a greater Canada, or the achievement of its destiny if it has one. However, if the minister tells us that they have collaborated in the preparation of this statute then it is merely a reflection of the fact that, subject to what my friend from Sudbury East (Mr.

Martel) may say to the contrary, some of the companies, notably Inco and Falconbridge Nickel Mine, in my view, and from my investigation, make a great fetish out of safety.

I know the way the member for Sudbury East will probably put it and I am not going to try to anticipate his contribution, but I firmly believe that those giants in the mining industry have a sincere and genuine desire that those who work for them shall work safely and, indeed, they impose strict disciplinary measures upon those who are found to infringe the safety regulations.

Now having paid tribute to the mining association, I would wish that the bill would show some indication that the lore, the accumulated wisdom and statistical information of the workmen's compensation board had been used. Perhaps the minister is going to tell us later that resort is made to the files and the records of the workmen's compensation board, but surely the workmen's compensation board must have accumulated over the decades a great deal of information in respect of the types of accidents, and the categorization of them, that are encountered in the mining industry.

I hope the minister will tell us that the invaluable assistance of the knowledge of the workmen's compensation board is drawn upon. I would be shocked to hear that his officials, in the compilation of this statute, had made no resort at all to that body to try to draw some extractions and some general principals in the promulgation of mining safety legislation that might be afforded by a study of accidents.

It is certainly truth to tell that whereas the companies in consideration of the enormous number of man-hours of work and the numbers employed have an enviable record, a statistical record, still there are a great many —several hundreds, thousands of accidents— occurring in our mines every year. I suppose that a lot of these are nothing else but a demonstration that when large numbers of human beings work together inevitably there are going to be accidents, notwithstanding the care.

It seems to me—and I resorted to the statistics of a few years ago—that the record for deaths in mines in Ontario is an enviable one in the light, as I said before, of the large numbers who work underground in those very hazardous conditions. Still, the numbers who come to an unfortunate, untimely and tragic end are a very small proportion of the total involved indeed.

I would hope that mining safety would reflect the opinions of the large unions that represent many thousands of workers in the mining industry of Ontario. Of course, the unions, for many years as a matter of bargaining, of lobbying and protest and solicitation of the giants of the industry, have advocated the principle that they have as much interest in safe working conditions as the employers do in enforcing the regulations.

I would hope—I am a great believer in change in human progress and having been around here for almost 11 years, I have come to have a sort of a moderate optimism about people changing their minds—but I would hope that within our time the idea, the paternalistic attitude of the employer, the concept of management rights and adherence to them, will become largely vitiated; and that industrial undertakings will take on the attitude, the demonstrated and sincerely held attitude, that the work at hand in the particular industry is a partnership between those who manage and those who provide the toil that their bodies can provide.

As I say I am optimistic that we will move in that direction. It is a very slow process, though, because management rights are fiercely entrenched in the human mentality. They do not want to give up an inch, and as far as I can see the arbitrators employed to settle grievances under the collective bargaining agreements tend to favour the concept of management rights and are reluctant to look upon industry as a co-operative undertaking.

Notwithstanding that, the militant unions, if there be such, have protested for many years that they have the right to nominate safety committees and to meet with management and to pool their common resources of experience and intelligence toward the end that the maximum of safe working conditions will be provided. I hasten to say that in the forefront of that concept has been the United Steel workers Local 6500 at Sudbury, and local 598 of the Mine Mill Union.

I do not know to what extent the recent militancy and activism in respect of mine safety directly related to the principle of this bill emanates from the hierarchy of local 6500, or to what extent there was this spontaneous emergence on the scene of Mr. Paul Falkowski, who sort of seconded to himself the responsibility of safety within the United Steelworkers.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Mines of course, and the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) who has sought some respite from the hard day he

had, and the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells), they will have noted recently that Mr. Falkowski has been enjoying an extended holiday in Florida and therefore there has been a respite in their mail. Now, to make the record complete, members of the House would like to know that since the days of St. Mark, perhaps the most noted of the scriveners who recorded one of the gospels, there has not been a letter writer who has reached the proportions of Mr. Falkowski. He deluges the government—and particularly the ministers that I have named—with letters. An enormous, unbelievable number of letters arrive on my desk every day that are passing between the ministry and Mr. Falkowski, both ways, with copies to my friend in Sudbury East and my friend in Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers) and, no doubt, others.

But Mr. Falkowski still plays a useful role. If there is something wrong with the crankcase housing on the 4,700-foot level at Frood Mine that has some inherent danger to those working with it, the Minister of Mines is going to hear about it.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Two days later I get the same letter from the member for Sudbury East.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Right, because the minister's inspectors will not do anything about it.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Within two days? Give us a chance!

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Falkowski is a quintessence of a valid presentment of a demand for shared responsibility in mine safety, and the Minister of Mines could do worse than to consult with the United Steelworkers in the preparation of a statute such as this. Beyond that, I have advocated in this House before that the statute should give some recognition to the concept of joint management-employee safety committee. That is in the light of what I have said about the joint co-operative undertaking in industry. Now I am told that, following the recent collective bargaining agreement of the International Nickel Company, some progress is being made in that area. The provision has now been made for committees in the various parts of the works, and the company is exhibiting a willingness to meet with the men and to discuss. I hope that is so.

There is also some evidence that something of a transformation in attitude is overtaking the International Nickel Company, that a new management group is coming in and some of the old ideas that made some of the feudal barons who operated under William the Conqueror look like Casper Milquetoast, are being eradicated from the head offices of that company. All well and to the good, if that is so. This is an important area, an important area personally to the worker, who daily risks his life and his physical wealth in very adverse environmental conditions in the bowels of the earth. He has a deep personal concern that is best reflected through his union, which is composed of the representatives of his own democratic choosing; they are at once his voice and his arm in guarding those personal interests that he has.

Now, I had the good fortune—just to show the extent to which this goes—of being unable to catch an Air Canada plane one night to go up to my home. I rented a car and drove up and, by singularly fortuitous circumstances, there was a half-hour interview on the CBC with a Sudbury miner.

I know who the miner was. I am not going to put his name in the records, as the CBC did not give his name. But I recognized the Irish accent; he is a man I have known for many years. He has worked at the International Nickel Company for several decades and has been closely associated with union activity. Beyond all that, he is a very articulate person who feels very deeply and conveys what he has to say with sincerity. What he had to say amounted to a cynicism about the conflict of the demands of production at an accelerated rate and safe working conditions; the two can never exist in harmony. Many of our base metal mines at the present time, of course, are having the favourable atmosphere of markets that creates an insatiable demand upon those resources. The motivation, of course, is to produce to meet market demand, and in doing that it often sets up a very invidious situation in respect of the safe conditions under which the people had to work.

They, like everybody else underground, are economically motivated and because remunertion is frequently tied to production bonuses, people are led to be less careful than they would if they were being paid at a fixed salary rate.

Well, there is a problem, and I take the opportunity here because it is such an important matter to say with emphasis to the minister that this statute should make a beginning to reflect the joint interests of workers and management in regard to matters of safety.

To put it conversely, it is not only the Ontario Mining Association that ought to be enshrined by way of tribute in the explanatory notes of the bill. I am leading to the inference, of course, that though the Ontario Mining Association is equipped to give advice to the minister and his officials, that leads me naturally to say that there is absolutely no cornering of the market—I search for a better phrase—there is no vested interest in safety. Management cannot claim, collective groups of managers cannot claim, that they are the be-all and the end-all and know-it-all in regard to matters of safety, any more than the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) is the only person in the province who knows how to operate a motor vehicle safely or the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) is the only person who knows how to build a road of optimum safety. These are matters of experience and they inhere in the adult lives of many humans, not the least of which are the people who actually work in the environment.

The statute itself, as I say, is a compilation of rules and we, as legislators, have to repose our faith in the Minister of Mines, that he is right in respect of their technical nature. He hopes, himself, that his officials are right in advising him. We can be assured that they are, because The Department of Mines over the years has, of course, become very experienced. I go on to say that this new Minister of Mines should make haste in respect of the inspection feature to eradicate from any part of the public consciousness—and especially in mining communities—that there is any form of collusion between the industrial giants and his officials in respect to the inspection. He should make haste to do this and, of course if he did it he would deprive my friend my Sudbury East of half of his rhetoric. It would cut fully in half his speeches, because this has been a matter that has bothered him immensely. Well, I am hopeful, with the sincerity of this minister, that if there have been any shenanigans in the past or any boondoggling on the part of his officials, that that will cease forthwith. The mines should be in exactly the same position as any other focus of inspection, no matter what it is. The efficacy of inspection, as you and I well know, Mr. Speaker, is the unannounced character of the visit to the premises to be inspected. Without that, of course, it has little in the way of meaning. It has a great deal to do in regard to the preparation of the environment that is to meet the inspectors.

All right, sir, just one or two other things about it. I must say that I do not like this provision in the latter part of the Act that reposes prerogatives in various people in respect to the institution of prosecutions under the Act. I see no good reason that prosecution for an offence has to be reserved, the initiation of it has to be reserved, to an engineer or at the direction of the county or district crown attorney, or by leave in writing of the Minister of Justice and the Attorney General.

It is to be noted of course, the Minister of Mines rules himself out entirely as a personage, but I suppose under "A" he has lots of engineers that could go and swear an information and take either their steel ring with them—is that the badge of an engineer, or their diploma from the university from which they graduated—to show the justice of the peace that they are one of persons who has statutory authority given by command of this Legislature to start a prosecution.

Well that, sir, is a rather odious provision in the statute that somebody in a special category has to start a prosecution, because it opens you see—without delineating it in too specific terms—you will see, your honour, that it is open to the intrusion of sinister influences.

It is open to discussions behind the scenes, and I am really unable to see that. If a person has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that an offence is being committed under the Act, then he should not be inhibited in any way from commencing a prosecution, whosoever he might be.

You do not do that with impaired drivers who are a menace on the highways. Any person may go and lay an information. It is difficult to draw a philosophical line between some other type of quasi-criminal or criminal behaviour and adverse and dangerous working conditions in a mine. You could not, by way of explication to a ready listener, distinguish between them. So why should the crown attorney be put in a position that before he lays a charge he has to be persuaded that there is a *bona fide* belief that reasonable and probable grounds exist that it is in the interest *de bono publico*—that is three words, I will not be here tomorrow!

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Why does the member not explain it?

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Ask him to spell it!

Mr. Sopha: It is in the public good that they ought to be prosecuted. The minister may give us some enlightenment on this. I suspect that is the way the mining association

would want it, that is the way Inco would want it. And Falconbridge and Texas Gulf, they would want to have the ear of the Minister of Justice or the chief engineer of mines in The Department of Mines before a prosecution is commenced. But in the light of public policy and the enforcement of a command of this Legislature—that is what it is in all its 630-odd sections, it is a command of this Legislature when it is promulgated.

Why should a trade union not be able to commence a prosecution? Why should not the mines safety committee working at a mine in Red Lake not be able to go, when there is a patently dangerous condition, and be able to approach the crown attorney and say: "We are here to lay an information"?

The Minister of Mines might say they can get an engineer to do it. They might not be able to get an engineer. Why should they have to go and get an engineer to support their cause? If there is a flagrant disregard of what I call the commands of this Legislature and people's physical safety is endangered, then why is that not, *ipso facto*, a matter for review by a provincial judge in a court of law?

The minister may scream to us that the public policy that is being pursued here is restricting the prosecution to the powers of the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart). I do not know how the poor old Attorney General gets into this, except that as a result of the urging of my friend from Downsview and myself, he is making a claim to a larger suzerainty.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That is right!

Mr. Sopha: That is probably it. S-U-Z-E-R-A-I-N-T-Y. Suzerainty!

It may be that the Attorney General is getting in the act in all departments. Because it did not say that before, it was the Minister of Mines, I am almost positive, who gave the *fiat* for the prosecution.

Well before the statute proceeds too far the minister might be moved to change it.

Now having said those things, sir, that is just about all that I want to say on behalf of this party. I suppose the bill will go to a committee and there will be an opportunity of persons to come forward and make representations to the standing committee if they so desire.

In conclusion I am perfectly aware, and to leave off where I began, I am perfectly aware, as the minister also notes in the explanatory notes in this section, that technology is developing so rapidly in this area that it is necessary to bring this up to date. It is not many years ago, Mr. Speaker, that we had substantial revision to this statute, in as thick a volume as—

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): In 1964!

Mr. Sopha: In 1964! In as thick a volume as that now before us. Well that gives me leave to say that if that is the case, we live in a world of great change in technology, as in many other areas of life, and it is all the more incumbent upon the minister and his officials to see that there is an acquisition and a development of very sophisticated knowledge within the Department of Mines so that they can keep pace with developments in the mining industry.

Secondly, it is all the more important that they require companies carrying on the mining business in Ontario to keep them informed in respect of technological innovations. It is all the more important that the minister and his officials resort to every person in the mining industry that has some sort of knowledge, and it does not have to be terribly sophisticated knowledge, in order to have made available to them all guidance and suggestions, the optimum that they might expect to have.

We of course on this side of the House, let it be said with great enthusiasm, we support developments such as this which are directed toward the provision of safe working conditions by that important group of our citizens who work in the exploitation of our precious mineral resources.

Mr. Singer: Hear, hear! Well said!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Timiskaming.

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I am quite surprised when the member for Sudbury gets up and says that they support the bill, because surely if what he said is true he could not support this bill. I can tell you right now that this party is totally opposed to it.

If it comes to principle, we believe safety is a desirable principle; but surely that is not what it says in this bill. It leaves so many things to be desired that we really do not know where to start.

I was rather relieved when the minister said the other day that he was anxious to get this to committee, because we felt that might be a little fight.

I am a little apprehensive though, because if he is going to send it to the committee on natural resources and tourism, then surely

before it gets there, we must restructure that committee. I am on record in this House in the last session—and many other members are on record—as to what we think of that committee's operation.

It serves no useful purpose; has never served any useful purpose, and if this bill only serves to legitimize the committee has it served a useful purpose. But I urge the minister very strongly before this gets to that committee that terms of reference be given to them; that they be told that they want serious discussion; that we are going to accept briefs from the public; that we are going to ask for briefs from the public. That when those briefs arrive before the committee they will be discussed, not sent before the committee as the tourism briefs are in almost preconceived decisions.

I am sure that the minister agrees with me if he has ever been before that committee. We are bothered by one serious lack in this bill and that is the lack of employee participation in any decision-making. It is always left to the employer to decide what is safe or what is not safe. Or to the engineer who, in most cases, is 50 to 60 miles away from a mine; and if he is not 50 or 60 miles away, he is so snowed under with other work that safety becomes of secondary importance. Surely that cannot be.

We have suggested many times that we should have union-employer safety groups that would sit down and decide what is safe and what is not safe. They would sit down and discuss all the rules and regulations on a piece of property. Surely the man who goes underground every day or the man who works under a 60-foot bank in an open pit has a right to say what is safe and what is not safe; or have some say in it. But under the present system and under the terms of this bill, he is not given any right.

I have something that the member for Sudbury does not have—I have had experience in mining. I have been underground; I have worked in an open pit. One of the things that always bothered me is that no matter how much the company said "we are for safety"; or how much the company spent on safety, how much they drummed it into the men every day, "we want safety on our property" it always went out the window when it came to the crunch.

When this bill first appeared in its original format as Bill 191, I wrote several letters to different companies and asked for their opinions on what was in the bill and how it would affect them as mining companies. I would just like to read one point into the record and it really is the crux of what I have to say.

> At this mine we have a corporate policy which states that if we cannot afford safety, we cannot afford to be in business. We believe in making this mine as safe a place to work as it is possible to attain, and I am sure you fully appreciate this policy.

That is true, but I know this mine very, very well. And I know that when it comes to the point where it means production or safety, production always comes first.

I have watched situations where a man is pushed under a 60-foot bank with an overhang and told he is to go in there with a shovel. I helped pull a fellow out after that bank fell on him.

Several months later the same fellow was told to go into another situation and when he refused, he was called on the carpet for doing so and told that if he would not go in there, someone else would. Surely we have in this bill somewhere, some recognition of the workman's rights to say what is safe and what is not safe. It does not recognize that.

There is another part that bothers me very deeply and that is—what is an emergency? Workers in unions have been asking this for so many years that it is almost a parable. What is safety? It is not defined in this Act; it is not defined in any of the labour relations Acts.

Yet the employer can say to a man that he must work x number of hours overtime, he must go into certain situations where he does not want to go, because it is an emergency. Who is to decide? So far, it has always been the company that has decided and if the man fought back and said "I am not going," he was told to go home. He lost his job, or had time off at the very least, and this Act does not change that.

It says that a medical practitioner who examines a man before he goes to work in the mine, must be acceptable to the employer. Why not acceptable to the employee? Surely he is the fellow who has to go underground and if he feels he has a physical deficiency, he is the one who should tell the doctor, not the company.

You know, we are fighting, I would say, hundreds of silicosis cases in this province for the very reason that someone else has the right to say that the man does not have silicosis to the extent that he is disabled.

Surely the doctor who is acceptable to the worker should have that right.

I have one silicosis case before the board right now—a man has three personal physicians whom he visited; one says without any equivocation that he has silicosis; two others say that he probably has silicosis; the board of referees say he has not.

Surely the man should have a right to say whether the doctor is acceptable to him or not? It should not be all left up to the company. That really is the tone of the whole bill. There is nothing in there that gives the right to the worker, the fellow who does the job, the fellow who is more involved in safety, because it is his life. It is his arm he loses, not his boss's arm or his boss's pay cheque; it is his arm and his pay cheque.

Surely he should have some right in saying what is safe and what is not safe. He should have some right to say "It is not a safe situation, I am not going there." But under the present Act and under this one, he does not have that right. I was in a situation where a ball-mill went out of commission because of lubrication problems. Because of an interlock system they could not operate that ball-mill without using manual lubrication.

The supervisor put a man on a 30-foot high pillar to operate the lubrication system. When I mentioned that he should have a safety belt, I was told to mind my own business. Well, I did; he did not go out. It is only because we fought a little harder than most. But that does not always happen.

In so many places, the worker, rather than fight back with the possibility of going home for a day or losing his job, or even because he does not want to be the guy that upsets the applecart, will go into those situations. Several months later, we in this party get him in as a compensation case, or the local undertaker gets him as a basket case.

Surely this is something that has got to be written into this bill. What this bill is right now, is nothing more than a rehashing of the old problems. We have changed a lot of the wording; we have put in some new sections, and I can say this without any problem, that we need what is in this bill. But really the bill is not doing what it is supposed to do. It is not a safety bill. What it really is is just some rehashing of old problems and in its present format we can do nothing but oppose it.

It says that if we, as workers, do not agree that certain things are right we can always appeal to the engineer. We can go to the engineer and change them, that the company has to submit any rule changes to the engineer before they can be accepted. But I am sure the minister realizes the amount of work that the engineer has to do on these properties .

I think the engineer is one of the most over-worked men in the mining industry right now. And surely he is the most over-worked person in your department. How can he also be responsible for knowing what is going on each day, each hour? The only man who can be responsible for that is the man that is doing the job.

Many years ago it used to be the little mine, the one that hired 15 or 20 persons, that we had all of the trouble with. These were the ones where we had all of the accidents; these were where all the broken backs came from, all the broken necks—but it is not true today.

The little mine has decided that they are not going to get enormous amounts of production. They are not going to increase their tonnage by rushing the men, so they work at a fairly steady pace and if a person decides it is not safe, he goes to his foreman and his foreman agrees.

But when you get into the larger mine, it becomes a very impersonal thing. The foreman is there because he has a certain production to make and he is told at least once a week at production meeting that he has so many tons to get out of the pit. He has to put so many tons into the mill every day, or so many tons out of a shaft or out of a drift. So many tons have to reach that crusher, and he will make that production if he possibly can, even if it means ignoring any existing safety laws.

Something else as you go through the bill that strikes you very quickly is that the manager makes the rules, and the manager enforces the rules. In fact, he is told he has to enforce the rules. If the worker makes a mistake, he is called on the carpet before the manager, or the management. He is penalized and yet the bill also says that the same man can be taken out and charged in civil court and fined.

Surely it is double jeopardy if he is going to be disciplined by the management? What right does The Department of Mines have to discipline him again? If it is a breach of the Act then surely The Department of Mines should be the one that does the disciplining. not the mining company? If it is a breach of company rules, it is a different story.

But safety rules are not company rules and should not be company rules. Safety rules

and regulations should be the exclusive prerogative of The Department of Mines. As such, they should be enforced by The Department of Mines and no man should be placed in double jeopardy, as they are here. I really do not see in this Act that management is placed in any jeopardy, because if there is an infraction of rules they just say that the man made them and he is the fellow who takes the axe. The company does not.

Mr. Speaker, we have literally hundreds of amendments to this bill, and many, many more additions. In closing my debate now I say to the minister that he should take it back, write in some provisions so that the worker can have some say in his own safety. Write in a few provisions that when a man makes a mistake some of the blame is put where it belongs, too, on management. Write in some provisions that say when profit is the only thought in mind that that thought must be changed and safety will take exclusive jurisdiction over it.

Tell us what is safety; tell us what is emergency. Write in what our rights are as workers. When you finally get a bill of that type, you will not need to take it to committee, because if you bring it back in this House we, for one, will pass it. But until you do there is no use taking it to committee unless you put a time limit on it, and this is what I am very afraid of—that the government will put a time limit on the committee deliberations.

Mr. Martel: Or accept some amendments.

Mr. Jackson: Unless you accept amendments, as my colleague says. Unless you completely rewrite the bill, then it is totally unacceptable to us and it is going to be totally unacceptable to any union in this country or any man who works underground or works in an open pit. In closing I once again say, take it back. Sit down with the unions; sit down with management and for once maybe management and the unions will get together and talk about safety. Work out something that is acceptable to all of us. There would be no debate after that.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, in taking part in this discussion on this particular bill I might begin by saying that I am convinced the member for Sudbury has forgotten to read the bill. There are no two ways that this man could have read the bill and heaped all the praise on it that he did.

I recognize there are some new points and very good points in the bill but, as my colleague from Timiskaming says, in the final analysis, the bill is much the same as that which is being replaced. I say this after speaking to representatives of the three largest unions in my area—the Rock and Tunnel Workers, the United Steel Workers of America and the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. I might say I spent a considerable time discussing it with them. They are not happy.

Before I discussed this bill with them, Mr. Speaker, I took the time to read the old Mining Act. Then I tried to follow along with the new Act to see what the changes and the amendments really meant and it was a great juggling act, really. Then I started to really look at the amendments, and in amendment after amendment there was no real significant change.

We come down to the crunch that the bill is much the same. As my colleague says, we are going to move at least 200 amendments—it is going to be a long, hot summer. Hopefully the minister will accept some of them because our amendments are not going to come from the companies' position. Our amendments are going to come from the unions' position and this is what the whole problem has been and continues to be, that management is consulted.

It is very interesting when we go to study this bill, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure the minister will agree with me on this. When we start talking about underground mining, none of us know anything about it. Now there is going to be a great group—the blind leading the blind—and we will have to resort to some of your officials and their point of view, which is your point of view.

How are we going to be really able to zero in and talk about the issues unless, hopefully, the minister intends to allow delegations to present their opinions on this bill? Because I suggest to you that when we start talking about drift and shaft and level and hoist, there are not five members in this House that know what we are really talking about.

Mr. Sopha: How are you going to write a bill then?

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, for the member for Sudbury's sake, I might say I spent some good number of hours discussing the bill with the unions. I think that is more than he had done.

Mr. Sopha: Does the member say the unions oppose this bill in principle?

Mr. Martel: I say that they do not think there is much to it.

Mr. Sopha: Does the member say they oppose it?

Mr. Martel: I did not say they oppose it. I say they do not think there is much to it.

Mr. Sopha: Because I just went and telephoned and I was told that they do not.

Mr. Martel: By whom?

Mr. Sopha: So the member's position is irresponsible.

Mr. Martel: Oh, do not listen to that nonsense.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Does the member believe that?

Mr. Martel: I do not believe it, first of all.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Why did the member for Sudbury not check with them before?

Mr. Martel: I do not think, as I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, I do not think the member for Sudbury—

Mr. Sopha: On a point of order! The point of order is that my position is being misrepresented.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: On a point of order. The position is absolutely clear.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): It is no point of order.

Mr. Sopha: The union does not oppose this bill and had the union opposed this bill they would have made the House aware of it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: You see the barracking that goes on. They do not want to get it into *Hansard* that local 6500 of the United Steelworkers supports the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: There are 220 separate amendments.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, the member for Sudbury should have the documentation that I have from the United Steelworkers, with over 200 amendments that they have drafted. But he has not taken the time, as usual. In that great rhetoric that he possesses, he gets up here and on a bill he has never read, he expounds with all the plaudits. Let me just, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Sopha: Point of order! On a point of order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury has raised a point of order.

Mr. Sopha: This is a technique that he carries out with great sophistication.

Mr. Speaker: I did not hear it. I did not hear him.

Mr. Sopha: It is sheer falsehood to say about me that I have not read the bill. That is sheer falsehood and I reject it. That is an attack upon my integrity to say that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, you know I copied a few notes down as the member for Sudbury spoke, and on one hand he talked about the great record of the International Nickel Company.

Mr. Sopha: I do not abuse International Nickel.

Mr. Martel: The great record of the International Nickel Company; and a little while later, Mr. Speaker, do you know what he said? "This company puts profits and production ahead of safety."

Mr. Sopha: I said no such thing.

Mr. Martel: Completely contradictory!

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order! I said no such thing.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): I thought I heard the member say that.

Mr. Sopha: I said no such thing. And, as in a court of law, I am entitled to get up and correct the record immediately.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): I do not think the member understands what he reads or hears what he says.

Mr. Martel: Well we will just look at the record, Mr. Speaker, with your indulgence.

This great company that has a great record in 1969—for the sake of the member for Sudbury—and, despite four and a half months of strike, managed, through themselves or their subsidiary, to kill 10 men—10 men in less than eight months. Now that is a great safety record, is it not? I have got the statistics. Would you like me to read them for the member for Sudbury's sake?

Mr. Pilkey: Yes, go ahead.

Mr. Martel: I could put them on the record.

Mr. Sopha: Let him do his own research.

Mr. Martel: I got them from the Minister of Mines. Put them on the record? Mr. Jeffery Mole on April 17, Mr. Francis—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I am sure the hon. member wants to be fair and wants to let us all in on the information. He will, of course, very briefly give us some of the circumstances of these deaths, will he not?

Mr. Martel: No, no. We will come to that in safety. I can give the minister the latest.

Mr. Sopha: The minister knows what he said.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: He said that the company killed them.

Mr. Martel: Yeah, they all heard it.

Mr. Sopha: And that man used to be a school teacher—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Not for long.

Mr. Pilkey: Honourable profession!

Mr. Martel: Well, Mr. Speaker, with the fabulous record that they possess and their tactics of "Hernando's Hideaway"—contrary to what the member for Sudbury says, he has never bothered to check with his friend Jack Pigott, as he said he was going to do on one other occasion here—

Mr. Sopha: I like to think that Jack Pigott is a friend of mine.

Mr. Martel: —"Hernando's Hideaway," which he says does not exist—or the broken arms and broken legs coming in one day after the accident which does exist. It just goes to show you how out of touch he really is with the situation and maybe to raise him a point of order for that one, too. But he has got me off the track.

Mr. Sopha: Is the member beyond rehabilitation?

Mr. Martel: Well, I know some people that have a problem too—

Mr. Lewis: The member for Sudbury is beyond redemption.

Mr. Martel: —who might look for some form of rehabilitation themselves.

Mr. Good: Anything but provocation.

Mr. Martel: Well, let us go back to the bill. That is the purpose here. We want to go back to the bill.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): That is right. Let us get back to the bill.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, as I said, there is a lot of new material in the bill; there are a lot of amendments. The amendments are mostly one-word amendments that mean very little and, contrary to what the member for Sudbury says, the three major unions in the area are very unhappy with the bill—put that on the record—including United Steelworkers of America, Local 6500; Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, Local 598; and the Rock and Tunnel Workers, who are very unhappy with the bill. The bill is deficient in so many areas that the member, who is again talking, does not know about. For example, there is very little about—

Mr. Sopha: Is the bill going to committee?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Martel: —trackless mining, a real new venture in mining. Very little about three points on trackless mining, a whole new innovation that has already resulted in several deaths. The minister knows the ones I am talking about. It is largely devoid of mention of trackless mining. Better still, how much is in this bill that deals with surface work? It comes under the jurisdiction of this bill, but how much is in here? If we were going to add to this bill The Industrial Safety Act as the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers brief will ask, we might then have some protection for the surface men. But, at the present time, there is very little, and how this can be overlooked is beyond me.

And, as my colleague said, there has got to be some protection for the men. And I just draw one case: When does a man have a right to say "no"? The case involves the gentleman who recently refused to work in the roaster building and was penalized. As the argument was pursued, a piece of plywood was put in the roaster and the piece of plywood caught

on fire; yet the man was penalized for not wanting to go into the roaster to work—a man with 15 years experience. We must have in here somewhere that a man has certain rights that he can say "no, it is not safe" and he does not have to worry about being penalized or losing a job.

The same thing has to start to apply in gas counts. This is something the minister and I battled over across the House floor over the last two years. I have before me gas counts taken by the union—280 parts per million; 500 parts per million. I can name the places, the dates, that these readings were taken; the men had to sneak a Draeger meter in, because they would have been fired had they been caught with a Draeger meter.

There is a very simple solution to this, the one I offered to the minister some time ago. And the union would love it. It would be right in front, with the shift boss taking the Draeger meter test. When they feel the gas count exceeds five parts per million, the men ask for a reading. They get the reading, and if it is 10 parts per million, they leave the site of that work until such time as the concentration of gas comes down to the safety level. It would not take very long for the company to initiate technological changes that would prevent such gas counts. Here is a dandy, and I will read it in detail:

> 1,200 parts per million around the No. 1 oversize box on the No. 1 kiln discharged a sub-A floor.

And do you know how many strokes it took to get that? It usually takes 10. This one took one—and it was 1,200 parts per million.

Now what protection—and I have been after the minister for two and a half years—is in this bill that will allow the men to say "no, it is not safe; I am not working there" and to say "you can call your inspector." They just open the flues and by the time your inspector gets there, the gas is gone. Your inspectors cannot be running there every day; there are not enough of them. In fact, if there is anything in Sudbury, there is a shortage of inspectors; you need at least six more, at least to partially cover the area because of its great size. But that is omitted from the bill.

Another important aspect—and I know that the unions have been after this for years—is men working alone underground. It is unsafe, and during the presentation, when we go into committee I will present several cases where men have been killed underground when working alone, and no one found them for several hours. And again we are going to move that no man underground be left to work alone.

These are just some of the aspects of this bill that make it so untenable. I think the minister has some good intentions, but I do not know if he is getting the proper advice as to the changes that will make mining and smelting as safe as possible an operation. You know it has always been a hazard, but not to the extent that the men are confronted with at the present time.

There has got to be some more shoring up of the blasting, and the minister knows this. I have got two cases to him now, involving the same man. The man—management's man—did it last year and he did it again recently: he walked right through a blast and wanted people to follow him. Who is going to penalize that man? He is jeopardizing the man who is on guard. The guard tells him he cannot go in there and he just walks by; he is the shift boss. There has got to be some improvement there.

In the latest fatality at MacIsaac, I am told by a man—I do not want to expose him yet, because he wants to give me a signed affidavit—there were not even pins; there were not even safety belts in the latest accident. And they are going to try to hang one shift boss, not the whole operation; nor your inspectors who apparently allowed this to go on. But we will get it back because they were all there. The whole system of inspection has got to be improved; it has got to be on the spot, without prior warning and perhaps at the request of the union that an inspection on a certain stope or a level be taken, because this never happens. You can talk to 95 per cent of the miners in the Sudbury area, and they will tell you that none of your inspectors go to the level that they want to be seen because of the conditions—never. I know you are going to say that is not true, that your men have the permission; granted, I am sure you have given them the permission to do it—but they do not do it. When an inspection is going to take place on a certain level, it is spotless; it is immaculate. They work overtime, and it is a well-known secret that this goes on. There is nothing in this bill. I just took six or seven of the most important points; let us just go over them.

Industrial safety action for surface workers, to protect them: there has got to be protection and there is nothing now;

Working alone;

Real criteria for fumes, the real knowledge on the men's part that they can leave a

hazardous area without being concerned about losing their jobs;

There has got to be something more on trackless mining, a good deal more. It is new, and if we are going to bring in a revised bill that we hope will fill a need, we should include a great deal about this new trackless mining. It is not there, or in very limited amounts.

Another important aspect that is left out of here, through you Mr. Speaker to the minister, is that the company does not allow the union representatives from the safety team to be at the site of an accident after it occurs; they cannot get there. In fact they are threatened with being fired if they show up; I can document this.

Now why has not the union man responsible for safety, or the committee, the right to see the site, to see if they can introduce in their safety programme something that will ensure that that type of accident does not occur again? It is not in here: the same right to visit the scene as the company does. It might be the company's mine, but it is the men who are working it for the company, and these men have rights. One of them is to protect themselves, and the union's obligation is to protect its employees. And this great battle continues that the company has all of the say with respect to safety.

I might just put on the record that the Falconbridge Nickel Company has a tremendous amount of foresight, unlike its big brother next door. The Falconbridge Nickel Company, about a year and a half ago, when —the member for Sudbury says I have a fetish about safety—as a result of my raising this matter, they called Mine Mill in. Falconbridge Nickel called Mine Mill in and said: "Before we become the butt of another political football in the House, we will set up a joint safety programme between management and union. We will devise the rules; we will have inspections once a month and the following month we will report back to the union on what we attempted to improve on at their request." My understanding, in talking to some of the Falconbridge officials and talking to Mine Mill, is that it is working. It is going to have its trying moments, but it is certainly a vast improvement. We cannot get big brother next door to really move in on it. After the last negotiations, they have done something, but certainly it appears to be more of a façade than anything else.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am saying that we can anticipate the blind leading the blind perhaps as they go to the committee. But I am hopeful that the minister will see fit to provide the opportunity for representations by other bodies as we study this bill so that we can have their points of view, their knowledge of what the conditions are actually like. Certainly none of us, except possibly my colleague, is familiar with it. Hopefully the minister will be receptive to the amendments that we are going to move and which we hope we will be able to document the necessity for in moving them on behalf of the various unions who have submitted these briefs to us. Unless we are looking for a long, hot summer, hopefully we can get the minister to be congenial and accept many of these amendments as we go along to make a really excellent bill.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Speaker, as you know, I come from an area where there are a great many miners. And, as I have lived in that area, I have come to realize that the mining industry is a very dangerous industry; men are hurt in the performance of their duties every day and periodically a miner will be killed by some accident.

It seems to me that this bill, as has been stated, should make much greater provision for joint safety councils of company and employees because the men who are performing the duties are the men who are subject to the injuries or to the loss of life. And surely they have at least as great a stake in the safety of the operation as the company, because there is a lot more at stake if anything happens to them than there is for the company. It is most discouraging that provision has not been made in this bill for this.

I sometimes think that management people feel that the working man is stupid and he does not know very much, that he is just a person to be manipulated. But, really, if you sit down and talk with the underground miner, you find that he is a very intelligent man who is very concerned about his work, very concerned about a number of things. He has a deep understanding of the mining industry, and in many respects he is proud of it. But he wants it to be the kind of place where every precaution has been taken to ensure that his own working safety is protected. As it stands now, the contribution and the co-operation that the worker wishes to make is not provided for, and I think that this is the glaring lack in this particular bill.

The one section talks about the doctor having to be acceptable to management. I have been informed of a case—I brought it

up in the House before—of a man who made application to be accepted as a hoistman. He went to one doctor acceptable to the company, who was a general practitioner, and he told the management that this man was colour-blind and should not be working as a hoistman; he should be disqualified.

So the man went to an eye specialist. He happened to be the eye specialist the company sent their employees to if they needed to see an eye specialist. The eye specialist certified that the man was not colour blind so he submitted this report to the company. The company said, "Well, we do not accept this report. We accept the report of the doctor acceptable to management."

Surely there must be some provision written into this bill so that in cases of dispute, the dispute is not decided by management. Surely there must be some outside body, even a court, where the thing could be adjudicated if necessary. A specialist, surely, would know more than a general practitioner in this particular field.

The bill still preserves the management rights that do not exist in other industries. To some significant degree it interferes with free collective bargaining, giving too much jurisdiction to the management. It makes it impossible when grievance procedures go to arbitration. More than once it has been thrown back at the trade unions that management rights over-rule any other clauses and that arbitrations cannot be effectively fought.

Another concern in this bill is the whole question of respiratory ailments and the provision made to protect the men in those dust-exposure mines where they can develop silicosis. To get a certificate to work in a mine a man must have his x-rays and be judged to not have any respiratory ailment. It says in the bill that if a man has tuberculosis he cannot get a miner's certificate but it does not suggest other things.

It has been my experience with The Department of Mines' doctor, if he suggests that a man has some kind of lung impairment, I have yet to see that doctor really go to bat for a man where there is any doubt involved. Doctors seem to say to a man: "You have got dust in your lungs", and suggest that he has silicosis and then they leave him dangling up in mid-air.

I think that somewhere in the Act it has to be spelled out that not only silicosis but other serious respiratory conditions that develop in those who have worked in dust exposure for a long time should also be covered under The Compensation Act.

I am interested in what my colleague from Sudbury East has to say about a man working underground alone. The former Minister of Mines, who was also the member for Cochrane South, said some years ago: "There was some justification for miners working alone underground". Then he went on to make the very cynical comment: "Well, if an accident took place only one man was killed", as though a man's life was of no value.

Of course, if two men are working and there is an accident the man's partner is available to help and get help. Those words by that former Minister of Mines have haunted him in the mining communities ever since.

I think that in society, many better things are accomplished when people are given a say and can participate in the decision-making process. We have seen the mining industry as a very reactionary industry where they have been extremely slow to adopt anything progressive, or to encourage any participation at all. They are like "big daddy", who knows everything, while you are supposed to sit in your place and not question them and do what they think is right. Of course, others have said here in this debate that when it comes to a matter of safety and production, production always gets the upper hand and safety procedures are cast aside.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is very important that this bill be rewritten to give place for more participation by the working men in the industry, especially regarding their own safety. They have a greater stake in it than the company. It is their own bodies in it, their own lives in it, their own future.

I think that if this important thing is provided in the Act, it will harmonize a great deal more than anything else the operation of the mines in this province. It will give a greater sense of justice to the working people who after all, make a terrific contribution to the mining industry. They are intelligent people who make wise decisions, and to whom we should give a lot more credit for knowing a good deal more about the mines that just the management people.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Victoria-Haliburton.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a few comments on this bill. First of all, I would like to make a few comments on some of the remarks made by the members opposite. I believe that they are losing track of the basic principle that management is responsible for maintaining safe working conditions, and

unions have traditionally, and very jealously, maintained this principle.

References have been made to management as being more conscious of production and profits than the safety of workers. I think it is well maintained in many briefs and many presentations of safety engineers in this North American continent and other places, that the cost of accidents with regard to such injuries, the hidden costs, are much greater than the actual cost that appears to the company.

Therefore, it might well be said, and I believe at the select committee on mining at Sudbury, when this committee was sitting—in fact, hearing briefs from the various unions of that area—this point was made, that it was important for the company, in consideration of the costs, to consider this matter. The hidden costs were very great and did cut into profits and did cut into production. So I think that some of the remarks offered have not considered that viewpoint.

The viewpoint about the company agreeing to a doctor has many ramifications. There is the possibility that the worker lives in another province of Canada and the worker may go home and visit his own doctor at that home locale. This has been, I believe, a problem to the company and to the workmen's compensation board on several instances where they do not have the worker able to go to another doctor to be observed.

The other part, I think, that is important here is that there has been in this country concern with regard to some doctors assigning workers back to work on the following Monday rather than on the Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday of the previous week. This has created a hazard to the company in the sense that a trained worker is not on the job. The medical profession has given the professional opinion that a man is able to go to work within so many days and this has cost a lot of money. It also has meant that the worker does not report back to his occupation at the time he would normally have done so.

There are several other things I believe concerned with this but I perhaps will leave it at this moment. Certainly in the light of the change in the machines of man-made society we live in today, this Act is to be commended, I think, in trying to update the safety regulations. I believe it is going to bring forth a worthwhile response across this province of respect of this minister.

The select committee on mining also heard much of the presentation that the member for Sudbury made on the joint inspection by the department, management and workers' representatives. I certainly thought on safety inspection, that this was a worthwhile suggestion and I felt it had much merit and said so at the time.

I believe there is some concern in this area that the minister should seriously look at any features that might be adopted that would allow this to take place, in places where it might be prohibited.

I believe also the minister last year, in introducing Bill 191 and leaving it on the papers of this House and having it sent for distribution to various interested persons, certainly has resulted in public assessment. The reflections given as the outcome of this certainty mean there has been a good opportunity for both management and workers to look seriously at this important new measure.

I wonder whether the presentations of the hon. members opposite, in suggesting that they have amendments from union representatives, should not also have been sent to the minister so that the time of this House and the serious matters that might be presented could have been considered by the department. Ready answers would have been given for not being able to do it.

Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, in relation to the final words of the hon. member across the way, in regard to the interested unions not sending their amendments to the minister. I am sure the minister is aware that since 1961 the trade union movement involved in mining has made representations in regard to what they feel would be improvements to the operation and safety in mines.

We had promises from the former Minister of Mines, Mr. Kelly, and Mr. Spooner after him, and Mr. Wardrope after him, that consideration would be given to some of the specific requests of the unions in regard to the safety and participation in mines. But I am sure when we heard from the member for Sudbury East and the member for Timiskaming, we could say that we have had it from the horse's mouth.

In their reference to the members of this House who have not worked in mines, I think they are correct; I am one of them. We have to look at it, as we have to look at many pieces of legislation, as what we had before

us and relate to the principle that we are supposed to be dealing with.

Now when one, as a layman, looks at the explanatory note, we might feel that it is a great improvement on the present Act. It says that it is a complete revision of those parts, Part IX and Part XI, which deal with the operations of the mine and, of course, the sections which deal with the offences and the penalties and prosecutions.

Then it sets out the chief purpose, the revision and the adaptation to the mining industry of The Construction Safety Act, 1961-62, The Construction Hoist Act, 1960-61, The Industrial Safety Act, 1964, The Trench Excavators' Protection Act and The Elevators and Lifts Act. When all of those Acts were dealt with they were considered improvements in regard to the safety of workmen, but most of them were lacking in the principle elements that I want to refer to in this bill, but not exactly in the same manner.

None of those Acts provided protection for the worker when he tried to implement the basic principle in the Act—safety for workmen.

If we take The Industrial Safety Act, for instance, one of the main sections of that Act—and I believe it was section 122—provided it was an offence for anyone to operate a piece of machinery or equipment that he believed to be unsafe.

But it did not provide any protection for an employee who exercised his rights under that section. We have had cases—and I have presented to the House more than one or two cases—where an employee has refused to operate equipment, has been penalized by the company, and even after going through the process of arbitration under The Labour Relations Act, he has not been able to find redress for the penalty under the Act.

I think there are two main sections of this Act that set out my argument; that the principle is not good, that it is hard to understand the lack of faith and the lack of co-operation that the minister wants to afford to the workers in this industry, in not making it a participatory programme. If we remember, three or four reports have been drafted since 1951 on safety in the operations of industry. The Roach report is one that is brought to mind quickly, which recommended it be mandatory to establish joint safety committees.

They were very elaborate in their emphasis that they should not only have a joint safety committee—the same number of representatives from management and the same from labour—but that they should have regular meetings and the minutes of those meetings should be sent to The Department of Labour and to the unions involved, to see that the committee was operating and functioning in a manner that was conducive to safety in the plants.

I want to set out the part of this Act that convinces me that we should not support it. I think the minister must be aware of it because this was the main section that was the contention of the union in previous attempts to get some recognition. And that is subsection 2 of 161, which says:

> Subject to the requirements of this Act and except as otherwise provided in this Act responsibility for the authorization and decisions as to the qualifications of employees rests with the employer or his agent.

Now, that sounds very fine but what this does, particularly in face of the fact that most of the mines are now organized and have collective agreements in effect, is it removes that section of any collective agreement that might apply to grievance procedure, promotions, dismissals and seniority rights. And this in face of the fact that The Labour Relations Act provides that if a collective agreement does not provide a suitable grievance procedure, then The Labour Relations Act provides it for it. There should be a grievance procedure through to arbitration so that the employee can get justice. This section destroys the whole intent of a participatory safety programme in the operations of mines. That is what has to be cleared up.

The second point I would briefly like to make—and being a layman, the minister might have some explanation for it—is that as I was reading the bill I came to section 169, responsibilities as to provisions and it says this:

> Where the owner, agent or manager of a mine or plant by an application in writing stating the reasons thereof, therefore requests the engineers to suspend the requirements of section 172 to 596 as to such mining plants, the chief engineer may, in writing, direct if the requirement of any such provision does not apply to such mining plants and may, in writing, direct that any such provision does not apply so long as such limitations and conditions as he sees fit to impose or observe or are complied with.

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member that this is second reading and

not the consideration, section by section. Perhaps he would relate that to a principle of the bill.

Mr. Gisborn: I am relating my opposition to the principle of the bill in the two sections I have mentioned and that is the second one. I want the minister, to explain. As I said, as a layman I cannot understand why the chief engineer or his designate, the engineer, 169, can change all of the sections from 172 to 596. Now something is wrong.

On that basis, because of the lack of any recognition of the participation and co-operation that can be given by workers whether they are organized or unorganized, this bill is faulty in principle. It is solely employer-oriented. They have the right to decide the qualifications of an employee. They have the right to decide his promotion or demotion, his type of occupation and he has no recourse whatsoever, no appeal in grievance procedures.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any other member who wishes to speak?

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I want to make only two comments about the bill and one of them is to reinforce what my colleague has just said about section 169.

We have a bill which sets forth a code of safety specifications for mine operations. Yet there is a *carte blanche* section of the bill which permits the suspension of all or any of the provisions with respect to any mine on an application being made simply by the owner or the manager or the agent of the owner, to the engineer who is an employee in the minister's department.

I think that the minister, when he comments about the bill, has got to be very clear as to why it is necessary to have that wide *carte blanche* right in the engineer—who is, after all, not all that senior an official within the minister's department—to make the decision as to whether a suspension should or should not take place.

It would seem to me that if the minister, in fact, intends that the suspension clause or authorization of suspension is to be used sparingly within the ambit of safety within the mines, he should be the person who makes the decision as to whether or not the exemption is to be granted. It seems to me that we had the occasion in The Mining Act when we were dealing with the processing question the minister very carefully transferred the responsibility about exemptions in The Mining Act to the cabinet. I am suggesting that this is one area where the responsibility for the suspension of any of the provisions relating to mine safety is a matter which should come directly to the minister for decision.

I know that it is impossible for the minister to visit each mine on each occasion and study each of the specific applications, but it seems to me that if there is going to be that suspension provision in the bill, it is incumbent upon the minister to accept in the bill the responsibility for it. He would naturally be operating on the basis of reports and advice to him as to what his decision should be, but there is no question in my mind in an area such as this that the minister should accept the responsibility in the bill for the exercise of any of the powers of suspension of all of the provisions of the bill, which is in substance the power that is now given to the engineer as a defined official of the minister's department. I think, for the purpose of ministerial responsibility in this tradition of government, that that responsibility should be assumed by the minister. Then he will be charged directly coming across his desk with all the suspensions that are taking place, what the reasons for the suspensions are, and he will have to exercise his ministerial responsibility of making a decision in any particular instance.

The second area that concerns me is the way in which the minister carefully hedged in the right to prosecute under the bill. No one can prosecute, as I read the bill, for any breach of the provisions relating to mine safety unless he has the consent again of either the engineer, of the local crown attorney or of the Minister of Justice himself, in writing. It seems to me again that if, in fact, this bill is to have any significance and impact in the field of mine safety, it should not be hedged in by such restrictive provisions as to the right of any person to go before a crown attorney and to lay a charge for breach of any provision of the statute, without having to have the intervention or the specific consent of either the engineer or an officer in the department of the minister, or of the crown attorney, or of the Minister of Justice. I think it is inappropriate. If there are breaches of safety regulations, a person directly affected should be able, as in the normal course, to go before the responsible justice of the peace and to lay the charge and to have the matter dealt with in the ordinary course of events.

The other point, which is related to the same point, is that he has very carefully also made it a matter of jurisdiction before a provincial judge or the commissioner himself.

But to the extent that he requires any prosecution to be heard before a provincial judge, what in fact he has done, so far as I understand it—and perhaps I draw an unnecessarily wrong conclusion—but by excluding the jurisdiction of the county court judge, or the county court judge sitting with a jury, he has, in fact, excluded a jury hearing of any of the breaches of the provisions of this elaborate code for mine safety. I would like to have from the minister some comment as to why he feels—if my assumption is correct—that there may well not be occasions in which it would be appropriate for any infraction of the provisions of this elaborate code to come before a county court judge and, if necessary, before a judge sitting with a jury.

Mr. Speaker, I am not an expert on the bill. Those are my comments about the principle of the bill and point up again the reasons why the bill is flawed, so far as this party is concerned.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any other member who wishes to engage in the debate? Does the minister wish to proceed with his remarks tonight? He has 10 minutes only.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Yes, I think I can finish up in 10 minutes.

First of all, this is exactly the same bill that was given first reading last year—Bill 191—and I think I explained to the House the reason it was not proceeded with at that time. On representations from some of the larger union locals in the mining industry, who at that time were extremely busy with other matters, the government decided not to proceed with the bill last year in the hope that this would generate more discussion, more publicity, more comment, more suggestions from those particular unions. As I said when I reintroduced it for first reading recently, it does represent a complete revision of the parts of The Mining Act that relate to the operations of mines in this province, that is parts IX and XI. To the extent that about 625 sections of the bill include between 3,000 and 4,000 subsections dealing with mine operations, this really could be considered a completely new safety code. In point of fact, in spite of torments of the member for Sudbury East, there are about 350 of those provisions that are entirely new or very drastically amended.

This revision of the act also incorporates parts of five other acts and adapts them to the mining industry, and again, with that in mind, I simply do not understand the comment, I believe, of the hon. member for Cochrane South, who I think touched on this. In any event, the comments of one of the NDP members certainly were contradicted by one of the others, because the member for Hamilton East certainly indicated that the bill had incorporated some sections of some these other acts here.

Just by way of indicating the scope of the legislation, I should point out the explanatory notes to the members of the House. I do not intend going through them at this hour of the night. They are there.

The hon. member for Sudbury referred to the comment that the Ontario Mining Association played a part. I believe the hon. member was misinterpreting the explanatory notes. The testing equipment which has been pioneered and developed in this province, has been a joint venture between the Ontario Mining Association and The Department of Mines. This has been a joint venture, Sir, that has proceeded for over 10 years and has been approved in estimates each year from this House.

Other than that, the industry was certainly consulted in the drafting of this bill, just as we had hoped to have the co-operation and the suggestions from the union movement as well.

I certainly admit my complete lack of comprehension on a great many of these sections. This is a technical bill, drawn by technicians for a very technical and complex industry. The hon. member for Sudbury is perfectly correct when he says the minister can take no credit for any of the wording in the bill. That is perfectly true. I do want to set his mind and the mind of the hon. member for Sudbury East at rest.

My intention is that this bill will certainly go to the standing committee and I have a very open mind. I hope that is not synonymous with saying that there is nothing there, but I have a very open mind about amendments. I have seen some flaws in it already before we got in here tonight.

There were some comments made here tonight by some of the members that certainly strike a responsive chord in my mind. I can assure the hon. member that we want the very fullest and open and informal discussion that is possible in that committee. If its going to be a long, hot, hard summer that is okay by me; that is what we are getting paid for.

Mr. Martel: Hopefully not!

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: As has been said by others, I have to be here anyway, so what the heck!

Mr. Jackson: I hope you are not sitting on a committee.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: This Act has not been amended in these sections since 1964. There have been terrific technological changes in the industry since that time and our hope is that these amendments reflect those changes for the protection of the workers.

The paramount principle in the whole philosophy of this bill is that management has to be responsible for safety in the mines. These are the people we want to get at and these are the people we want to hit. These people are the ones we want to penalize if things go wrong. This has been the philosophy of the department and this is what we have been doing.

I am not saying that there have been no prosecutions of individuals. There have been. But in the main the prosecutions that have taken place have been against management because we hold management responsible. There have been, as I said, prosecutions against individuals, but in the main these have been prosecutions for being drunk, for "bootlegging" a blast hole; matters such as those. There is no connection between the two. These have been prosecutions that we simply felt management could not be held responsible for.

In the main, we have been prosecuting management; there are prosecutions taking place right now. Perhaps there has not been enough publicity given to some of these prosecutions, but I can assure you that the management groups certainly know about them. Maybe we have been a little bit backward in not making sure that the public appreciate the scope of some of these prosecutions as well. But this has been the principle.

Now it is not a principle that I am irretrievably wedded to, and I say that quite openly. I admit that I do not know enough about it. Quite frankly, I agree with the hon. member when he says in a lot of cases it is going to be the blind leading the blind. This is why I want to get the bill into the committee and this is why I want to have thorough and, if needed, lengthy discussions in that committee. I hope in that committee we will have representatives of union and management. We will have the technical experts in our department there, who will be available to answer questions and, if need be, change the bill.

In general, the theory behind joint safety councils, as far as legislation is concerned, I really do not believe is one that we are ready to embark upon as yet. Quite frankly, I cannot see the union itself helping us and helping management to prosecute individual members of the labour force who do contravene the Act. That, as I say, is not necessarily industry-wide; it is not necessarily applicable to all locals. But my hope is that saneness and sensibility will come to the mining industry —and it is not there at the moment in some localities on either management or labour side —the mining industry itself I hope catches up with labour-management principles that have been adopted decades ago in other industries, that these principles of joint safety councils themselves will be adopted by individual managements and by unions as part of the bargaining procedure. It is happening now, and I am glad I do not have the cynicism of the hon. member for Oshawa.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. minister has not completed—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I have completed, sir. I merely want to indicate that, as a result of these technological changes and in view of this legislation and in the belief that the Act will eventually go through, I am completely reorganizing the mines inspection branch and its procedures to a very great degree. The director of the branch will continue to exercise the overall control, but a chief engineer of mines will be appointed for the Sudbury area which alone produces more than half of Ontario's mineral wealth. There will be another chief engineer for the rest of northern Ontario and a third for southern Ontario, in which are located most of the pits and quarries, salt and gypsum mines and metallurgical works. Our chief electrical-mechanical engineer of mines will have jurisdiction in his field throughout the whole province.

Mr. Speaker: Unless the House—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I move the—

Mr. Speaker: —wishes to carry on, we should either have the debate adjourned or the adjournment hour should be set on.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Sir, I have finished the main gist of my remarks and my hope is that we will have a full discussion of all of these matters again in committee in any event where the proper technical people will be there to answer or to defend the provisions, and therefore I move second reading.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask the minister a question? He can answer in one word.

Mr. Speaker: Normally the custom here is that after the minister closes the debate that is the end of the debate. If the minister wishes to answer the question—

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I would be glad to answer.

Mr. Sopha: Exactly, Mr. Speaker. In the light of what has been said, may I ask the minister whether he received any representations from the Steelworkers, Mine mill or any other union to the effect that they opposed the bill in principle?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: No. I am having the counsel of the Steelworkers in to see me tomorrow afternoon to discuss—

Mr. Martel: He did not know that either.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: —with them how their detailed objections, comments or suggestions can be presented to the committee. In general, my understanding is that they do accept the principle of the bill. After all, who can be against it? It is an updating of safety provisions in the mining industry.

Interjections by hon. members.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I presume that the necessary question as to direction of this bill not be acted. It shall go to the standing committee? Agreed?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue with the estimates of The Department of Tourism and Information.

Hon. Mr. Grossman moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.35 o'clock p.m.

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CONTENTS

Friday, April 3, 1970

Reorganized citizenship and community affairs programme, statement by Mr. Robarts 1097

Human rights commission, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 1100

Indian affairs and Department of Citizenship, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Peacock, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Bernier 1100

Examination of fish samples from all of Great Lakes for mercury content, question to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Nixon, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. T. P. Reid, Mr. B. Newman 1101

Earth resources technological satellites, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 1102

Custody of child kidnapped from hospital in Kingston, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Deans, Mr. Lewis 1103

Proposed increases in lockage fees on St. Lawrence Seaway, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Haggerty 1103

New Liskeard School of Agriculture, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. T. Reid 1104

Breathalyzers and the Criminal Code, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Singer 1106

Use of mercury solutions on seed by Ontario farmers, question to Mr. Stewart, Mr. T. P. Reid 1106

Estimates, Department of Tourism and Information, Mr. Auld, continued 1107

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 1132

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1970

The House met at 10 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Later today—apparently it is Ottawa day—we will have with us, students from St. Theresa's School in Ottawa and Immaculate Heart School in Ottawa.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, members will recall the announcement in the Speech from the Throne that it is the intention of the government to consolidate and co-ordinate in one department many of the activities of the government which encourage the fullest possible participation of the individual in our society. Through a comprehensive citizen and community affairs programme, we hope to achieve a greater awareness on the part of every person in Ontario of the part he plays within our province, of the challenges that we all face and the community goals which must be attained.

Thus, as we indicated in the Speech from the Throne, we are drawing together a number of related programmes and branches of the government in a reorganized Department of Citizenship.

At this time, I should like to outline to the hon. members some of the steps which are in the process of taking place to achieve our objective.

In this reorganized department, we shall bring together special programmes related to integration of newcomers, leisure activities, recreation, cultural activities and community affairs. We shall co-ordinate programmes and services for both newcomers and established residents. In short, we are seeking a total citizenship programme

The first phase of our activities relates directly to community development programmes. Subsequent action will be in the area of cultural affairs. Together they reflect the desire of all of us to improve the quality of our relationship to the community in which we live. Together they represent the policy of the government of Ontario to make decisions based on the needs of the people of this province and of providing each person with an equal opportunity to enjoy a full and meaningful life. Much more concern must be directed to the quality of life.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If the members are not interested, the exits are there and they can walk right out of the House.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): We are interested in what the Prime Minister ultimately is going to say.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is a typical reaction, Mr. Speaker, of the opposition, when we are attempting to do something for the people of this province. If they are going to hand it out, they had better be prepared to take it.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): This is just a wrist-slapping of the minister.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): The opposition is just like some protesters; it is not happy when we take the action it asks for.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, if I may get back to putting before the members the intention of the government, The Department of Citizenship will be—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Is it like this every Friday?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: You would not know, would you?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is why he is asking.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, The Department of Citizenship will become increasingly concerned with the social implications of government programmes and policies. It will assist groups within our society to overcome barriers to full participation in the economic, social and cultural aspects of life in this province.

This will be done through liaison with these groups and with other government departments and agencies, as well as by providing special services specifically aimed at helping those who, for one reason or another,

find themselves removed from the mainstream of life in this province.

This will be done, in part at least, through the use of the process of community and social development in which people are stimulated to play a much greater role in the planning and problem-solving activities of government and in influencing directly the decisions which affect their everyday lives. The department will work in close partnership with other provincial departments and agencies, providing them with knowledge of the special needs of our native people, the young, the newcomers and migrants, and our many cultural groups to aid in the effective development and delivery of provincial services.

Responsible planning cannot take place without taking into the fullest consideration at all stages of development the effects which particular programmes and policies will have on the ultimate wellbeing of the people of Ontario. This virtually new department will have the responsibility of focusing all of its attention and resources on social development. It will reflect changing requirements and concerns within our constantly changing society.

In addition to the existing services for newcomers to Canada in The Department of Citizenship, we shall add:

1. The activities of the athletics commissioners, now located in The Department of Labour. This will be the initial step toward a more comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to, and greater emphasis upon, amateur sports in Ontario.

2. The municipal education function of The Department of Municipal Affairs which is directed toward making people more aware of the workings of local government in the hope that this will encourage them to participate more fully in their community affairs.

3. The Indian community development branch of The Department of Social Services will be transferred as well.

Mr. Peacock: That is what he meant to say all along.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Wait for it, wait for it.

Mr. Lewis: We know what it is.

Mr. MacDonald: We knew from the first sentence.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Have members read this? Have I given them all this before?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I interject here that we consider this programme to be very, very important for the people of this province. It is a somewhat nebulous concept but I think it is going to be one of the great challenges of the 1970s, and the years that lie ahead of us, to integrate the people of this province into the total life that goes on here.

The members opposite may find this all very humorous and they may find it a subject for interjections but I would just point out to them that what we are proposing and laying before the House in this statement is going to affect broad sections of the population of this province. We want to draw them in to the total life that we offer in our society in Ontario, so I would suggest that the members might listen and learn—

Mr. Lewis: We all agree.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: They would rather have it as a political football.

Mr. Lewis: We regard it as a great nebulous challenge in the 1970s.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: They just do not like what we do.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, that is the approach—

Mr. MacDonald: We do not like your put-on.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Positive, you fellows, positive thinking.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: To disregard and agree at the same time, you simply cannot do it. You are either with it or against it, and you do your best to sit there and agree and disagree but it will not work. You are either with us or against us as we put this programme before the people of this province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, if I might resume—

Mr. Sopha: Announce his resignation right now.

Mr. MacDonald: It has taken you a year to do what was obviously needed.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Now, sir—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Sir, may I say that one of the greatest challenges which faces our

society is the guaranteeing of equality of treatment—

Mr. Sopha: He is not getting along with the Minister of Social and Family Services.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —and opportunity for all people in this province regardless of race, regardless of religion, regardless of ethnic or cultural background or what part of the province they may live in. In this area, one challenge now fully recognized of course, is the equitable provision of services and opportunity to our native Indian population. Service to Indians is regarded, constitutionally and by custom, to be primarily a concern of the federal government. Nonetheless, within the government of Ontario considerable progress has been made in developing a realistic and effective provincial response to the problems and needs of Indian people.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): That is a matter of opinion.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Through the Indian community development services branch of The Department of Social and Family Services, we have offered the Indian population of Ontario special assistance to help them develop a greater degree of economic and social independence and leadership.

Although it is impossible to measure social progress by dollars alone, it is significant to note that expanded grants were made available to support and encourage a wide variety of projects undertaken by our Indian residents.

For example, the $1 million appropriated during the 1969-1970 fiscal year assisted some 50 projects. Among these were 27 economic development projects initiated by Indians themselves totalling grants of some $700,000. Housing and service projects and social and cultural projects across the province received the balance of these funds. Some $50,000 was also granted to support the programme of Indian friendship centres and other Indian organizations.

In order that all members may know just what has been done I would like to table this document, and it will be available to the members. It is a complete summary of the projects that I have mentioned. A detailed review, of course, of what is in this document will be contained in the annual report of The Department of Social and Family Services.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): When can we expect that?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It has been the intention of the government for some time to incorporate the needs of Indians with those of all other residents within an extensive programme of citizen participation. I indicated this in May of last year when I told the House that we were actively involved in the development of the total citizenship programme. I also indicated at that time that it was our intention to include our concern for Indians within this broad programme.

The primary function and overriding philosophy of the Indian community development branch has been to help the Indians to help themselves. Through this branch we have encouraged the Indian residents of Ontario to recognize their own needs and to propose ways of meeting these needs—needs which are as numerous and diverse as the number of Indian bands and communities which are scattered across the province. I believe the Indian community development services branch has dealt with the problem of Indian communities with understanding and flexibility and that this challenge is being met with success.

By including the Indian community development branch with the expanded citizenship department, we believe the Indian people will benefit further by being part of this new emphasis on community development and citizen participation programmes. We are confident that the Indian people will participate directly in the design and development of this total approach to helping themselves and helping them to take their full place in the life of the province. The grants to which I have just referred will assist them to do this, along with the full and frank discussions we have had with the Indian people themselves during the last year.

Another segment of the reorganized Department of Citizenship will deal with cultural affairs. I spoke briefly about this during the debate on the reply to the Speech from the Throne. The Ontario co-chairman of the Quebec-Ontario permanent commission, Mr. W. A. B. Anderson, will report to the Legislature through the Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship (Mr. Welch). The first meeting of the commission was held at the Ontario Science Centre on March 5 and 6, and this, I can report, was a successful meeting and the work of the commission is now well under way.

As I also indicated to the House on March 4, Mr. Anderson, who is also the chairman of the Ontario Civil Service Commission, has been given a third responsibility—namely to

co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of the reports of the task forces on bilingualism. Again, in this capacity, Mr. Anderson will report through the Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship.

Other activities to co-ordinate the cultural initiatives of the government are under way, and the results will be announced in due course.

Now, Mr. Speaker, with this outline of some of the action we have taken following the Speech from the Throne, the members will have a greater understanding of what we are attempting to achieve through the reorganization of The Department of the Provincial Secretary and Citizenship.

As time goes on, and these programmes and other programmes are developed to fit within the functioning of this department, further statements will be made to this House.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Premier if it is his intention to move the responsibility for the human rights commission from The Department of Labour to The Department of the Provincial Secretary.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No. At the present time, Mr. Speaker, the civil rights commission will stay where it is in The Department of Labour.

Mr. Nixon: In view of the statement that the Premier has just made about the expanded responsibility that the Provincial Secretary will have in assurance of the rights and the integration of a large number of groups into the community, I do not see how he feels that the Provincial Secretary can accomplish this without having our main arm of legal requirement in these matters under his direct jurisdiction. Surely it is obvious that the human rights commission must be the strong right arm of what the Provincial Secretary is now being asked to do.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I pointed out in the statement that there are some areas in which this department and this minister will be working with other departments of government. In some cases it is possible to transfer certain functions from one department to another. In other areas, for various administrative reasons, this may not just be the course of action we want to follow.

Now what I have outlined to you this morning is the basic concept of what we are after and what we are proposing to do immediately. I have also told you that this is an on-going programme and that there will be future announcements as to how we propose to further implement the basic idea. There are other areas of activity in the government which are being examined at the present time, but I can just say, in answer to your question, that at the moment we do not intend to transfer the commission.

This does not mean, of course, there is not a high degree of co-operation between the functions of that commission in The Department of Labour, not only with this department but with other departments of government, because there is.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question, I would ask the Prime Minister if he would not consider this as an intrinsic improvement in strengthening the statement he has made?

And I would ask him further, directly concerning Indian affairs, if any of the terms of reference, either in his statement this morning or in the understanding that the Provincial Secretary will have this new responsibility, there are terms that step directly from the confidential talk that the Premier and the Minister of Social and Family Services had with the various Indian bands last spring and summer.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We carried out that programme of discussions with the Indian bands across the province with the idea of telling them what we had in mind and getting their ideas on what we might do. They had been consulted, of course, on what I have set forth to the House here this morning and as far as it is possible to get agreement on what we are doing, I think we have had agreement.

Certainly it has not been what is commonly termed "unilateral action," because we understand one of the great problems right across Canada is that in so many instances in their relationships with government, they have not been consulted and they really have not been aware of what was being done on their behalf. So we have consulted with them as fully as we found it possible to do as we developed these plans, and they have been consulted on what is contained in this book and these various projects that we have put into effect in the last year or so.

They have, of course, been consulted on all those, as many of them are projects that they have brought forward themselves, things on which they wanted assistance from us in order to carry out. I think I can assure the

House we have had a high degree of discussion and consultation with the Indians themselves.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. By way of consultation and information transfer, have the bands now been informed that the Provincial Secretary is responsible, and are they aware of the specific terms of reference under which they can get part of the $1 million we are expected to vote later?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, they are aware. I am quite certain they are aware of how they can participate in these various projects or initiate them for us. The word will go out today specifically as to this transfer, because, of course, I wanted to make this announcement in the House, but I think they are all pretty well aware of what we had in mind, because as I said, they have been consulted about it.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor West has a supplementary?

Mr. Peacock: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. Will the assistance of the Provincial Secretary encompass assistance to those bands refused representation on county or district school boards, as in the case of the Kent county board?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am sorry, I did not understand the question.

Mr. Peacock: Does the assistance referred to by the Prime Minister encompass assistance to those Indian bands refused representation on county or district school boards, as they are entitled to under The Schools Administration Act?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not find myself in a position where I can give a tentative answer to that question. I do not think I really quite understand—

Mr. Peacock: The Premier knows two Indians bands have been refused representation.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, I am aware of that.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Thunder Bay has a supplementary?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): A supplementary. Does this mean that the personnel under the Indian development branch of The Department of Social and Family Services will be transferred to the citizenship branch of The Department of the Provincial Secretary?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Does the Leader of the Opposition have further questions? Sorry, there is a supplementary. The member for Kenora.

Mr. L. Bernier (Kenora): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker, to the Prime Minister: could he outline what will happen to the Indian advisory committee through the new department?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, it will be transferred, but continue to function just as it has in the past and will be advising the branch that is now in The Department of Citizenship.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce has a supplementary?

Mr. Sargent: I would like to ask the minister if there is any reason why, in my area, there are two reserves that have no projects?

Mr. Speaker: I doubt if that is supplementary to the question.

Mr. Sargent: But it is on the same subject.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, but that was a ministerial statement. Now later the member may ask a question in respect to that, but at the moment we are dealing with supplementary questions to the original question. Has the Leader of the Opposition further questions?

Mr. Nixon: A question of the Minister of Lands and Forests, based on a quote in this morning's *Globe and Mail* attributed to the supervisor of the water quality appraisal section of the Michigan Department of National Resources, namely Carlos Fetterolf, who is quoted as saying in Lansing that he believes that fish in all of the Great Lakes are probably contaminated with mercury. This is a very serious statement indeed. Can the minister tell us whether his department is undertaking the examination of fish samples from all of the Great Lakes, or at least the ones on which Ontario borders?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, we are at the present time taking samples from various areas in the Great Lakes.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary: Is there any indication that what the American official said might be true? Does the minister have any indication so far that the mercury pollution has expanded beyond Lake St. Clair, the south end of Lake Huron, and the west end of Lake Erie?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We are in the process of trying to determine that by obtaining more samples.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, may I ask by way of—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a supplementary question, then, may I ask the minister whether there are any grounds for the hon. member for Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan) yesterday flatly asserting that there was no mercury poisoning in the east end of Lake Erie? Is the government only now making the surveys to determine whether there is mercury poisoning in the east end of Lake Erie?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As has been mentioned in the last two or three days, Mr. Speaker, we have been collecting samples and these have been analysed both in California and in Winnipeg. At the present time we are in the process of obtaining more information. We hope to have this within the next few days.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister has no conclusions as yet with regard to the possibility of mercury poisoning in the east end of Lake Erie?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: At this present time we have not sufficient information to impose a ban.

Mr. MacDonald: That is what I wanted to learn.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Rainy River has a supplementary.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): May I ask, Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary, if the minister has any plans to set up a research centre for this kind of investigation in Ontario—he or The Department of Energy and Resources Management?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, the federal department laboratory at Winnipeg is conducting tests at the present time. I understand that in Ontario we are also looking into the possibility of having tests conducted within this province through the facilities of universities.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville has a supplementary.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Yes, I have a supplementary question of the minister, Mr. Speaker. Have either the minister or members of his department been in direct communication with the officials in the state of Michigan concerning the statement that Mr. Carlos Fetterolf made as reported in this morning's *Globe*?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I am not aware, Mr. Speaker, of this statement.

Mr. B. Newman: If I may, Mr. Speaker, ask the minister, has his department been in direct communication with the state of Michigan concerning the discussion of mercury pollution?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, it was mentioned by my colleague, the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr), that he has been in touch with the governor of the state of Michigan and other officials. There was a meeting yesterday at Washington with the federal authorities of that country along with the federal and provincial authorities of Canada, so I would think that this matter at the present time is certainly under very active review.

Mr. B. Newman: This minister's department, itself, has not been in communication with the state of Michigan concerning the fish and fish pollution, then?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It could well be that we have, Mr. Speaker. As I said, we were working jointly together—the three departments, Health, Energy and Resources Management and Lands and Forests.

Mr. B. Newman: May I suggest to the minister, then, that he get into the—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member may not suggest; the member may ask a question. The Leader of the Opposition has further questions? The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Prime Minister. Has the province of Ontario any direct involvement, or indirectly through the federal government, in what is known as the earth resources technological satellites which are going into orbit this year? They will make it possible for the United States to map every square foot of the resources of Canada, including Ontario, so that they will be able to tell us what the ground resources are with considerable information as to the underground resources.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that we have any connection with this undertaking. That does not mean that we

have not. I would like to take the member's question as notice and find out, but I am not aware of any connection.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Minister of Social and Family Services. Would the minister clarify the legal status of the child mentioned in the news stories this morning as having been kidnapped from the hospital in Kingston? When the parents were granted a divorce last week the children then were granted to the mother, but this unborn child was not; no custody was granted and the children's aid accepts no responsibility. Where does the legal responsibility for that child rest?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Actually, Mr. Speaker, I expect the legal responsibility would be a matter which would have to be determined by the courts. The story as reported in this morning's *Globe and Mail* is, in relationship to the fact, quite correct as I have checked them. Since that time steps have been taken to clarify with the chief judge the right of the local judge to hear an application by the children's aid society for custody. In the meantime, it is my understanding that in the interest of the child itself—that is, the newborn child—a charge has been laid in order that there be a legal avenue of bringing the child and the parents before the courts.

Action is being taken in order to bring this child into a position in which the responsibility may be established and the necessary steps be taken in the interest of the child. Between the Criminal Code and The Child Welfare Act, there are established procedures which have been developed in recent yars in the interest of a child.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary?

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): In the investigations the minister conducted this morning, can the minister indicate whether the child has yet been found?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: The child has not yet been found, to my knowledge.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister, by way of supplementary, why did the children's aid society not immediately assert control or custody, its right of custody, for medical reasons as the Act provides, which would have prevented the right of the mother to take the child when the transfusion was required?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the children's aid society had begun to move in this direction but there was some question in the mind of the local judge, who was contacted, about his position. We took steps this morning to have that clarified through the chief judge.

Mr. Lewis: As a supplementary, is the minister saying that the children's aid society attempted to assert custody at the appropriate time and that was denied by the court, or was the children's aid society slow in attempting to assert custody?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: The children's aid society has acted, I think, with all speed. There was no doubt or hesitancy on the part of the children's aid society; it was on the part of the authority which they approached, and that has been clarified.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: A final question of the Prime Minister. In view of the statement of the Ontario Economic Council that the proposed increases in the lockage fees on the St. Lawrence Seaway will add costs of $3.5 million to Hydro and perhaps $1 per ton to steel, has the government made representations to the federal authorities and, if so, is it possible to have a copy of those representations?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, we have done a lot of research in this area. We have had studies in order to be able to document our position, which has always been that we opposed the imposition of fees—particularly in the Welland Canal. We have made and will make, our position known in regard to fees as this matter is considered.

Now, as to the research we have done, the Ontario Economic Council has done certain studies independently in carrying out its own functions, and its conclusions have been put forward. I do not think the studies we have made are necessarily public documents, but the points really is that the results that flow from there are certainly public, because it is the basis of our representation that not only should these various fees not be increased, but in some cases they should be removed entirely. It is completely ridiculous that the Welland Canal, in terms of this province, should be tolled. It establishes a gate right in the middle of the water passage from east to west in the province. Therefore, our position is a firmly held one, we have already made it known and we will continue to do so.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of supplementary, in view of the multiplier effect in increased

prices that the proposed increase in the lockage fees is going to have, has the government given any consideration to making representations to the Prices and Incomes Commission? Presumably their responsibility is to keep the lid on rising prices.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am quite certain that we have not made this particular pitch to them.

Mr. MacDonald: Why not?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, in the first place, I would say that the Young commission is dealing with what I would call a short-term problem of inflation. This battle over the fees on the seaway is not a short-term problem; it is a problem—

Mr. MacDonald: Agreed, but it has short-term effects.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —that has been going on; I do not know how many statements I have made in this regard, in order that the position of this government could be very clear. We have been mixed up in this particular battle for a good many years. The Young commission is dealing with the problem of inflation, and the whole problem of the increase in tolls on the seaway relates, of course, to the terms and references of the seaway itself and the problems it has. I do not think that the question of tolls is necessarily part of the current discussion about inflation.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question of the Prime Minister. Do I gather by his remarks this morning that the province of Ontario is ready to step into the business of subsidizing the Welland Canal for its operation?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is a very wrong conclusion to draw from the remarks I have made, Mr. Speaker, and I would not like to think that the members would draw any such conclusion from what I said today.

Mr. MacDonald: Something of a credibility gap.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce has a supplementary? Has the member for Scarborough East a supplementary?

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): No.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for York South completed? The member for Grey-Bruce has the floor.

Mr. Sargent: A question of the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. Repeatedly, over the past few years we have had assurances from the Minister of Public Works, the Prime Minister and the new Minister of Energy and Resources Management, that ongoing meetings on pollution were being held with the International Joint Commission in the neighbouring states to the south of us. I would like to ask how many of these meetings have been held; where; the personnel attending, and where the reports are from these meetings?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, Mr. Speaker, if that question will go on the order paper, I will get the information for the member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: I would like to ask the Minister of Social and Family Services a further question in regard to the child. It was stated in today's press that the county court judge is the only person who can grant custody to the children's aid society and that he was on vacation. Is there no other method or avenue open to have custody granted? Is there no other person who fills in for the county court judge when he is on vacation?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: No, there was a county court judge who was approached in this matter.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): He just could not make up his mind; it did not say he was on vacation.

Mr. Deans: It said he was on vacation.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. With regard to the New Liskeard School of Agriculture, is it true that the officials at the school were so desperate to fill it that they are now paying the full tuition fees of the students there as well as their room and board fees?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Not that I know of. There is an arrangement for special rates for students in residence at agricultural schools. I have not at hand the actual figures in connection with the New Liskeard Agricultural College. I do know, however, that because of the long distances involved in northern Ontario and in fact because it is the only agricultural school we have in northern Ontario, that we did use some incentives programmes to attract

students to the school in order to get it established. We were approached by many agricultural communities in northern Ontario and by the farm organizations in northern Ontario, suggesting that there should be a school that was adapted and directed toward the conditions of agriculture in the north.

Previously, those students had come to our agricultural colleges in southern Ontario at Guelph, Kemptville and Ridgetown, and we had attempted to give them the same course as other students were getting. However, I think the hon. member would agree that agricultural conditions are different in northern Ontario—different climate, different type of soil—which require special application of classes and courses involved. So we developed this school in the north.

It may well be that certain incentives were used for this purpose. I am sure my hon. friend would not suggest that we should not give special consideration to those students who have to travel so far, because there is only one school there.

Mr. T. Reid: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Did the Minister of Agriculture and Food discuss what amounts to a special awards type of programme for his students with the Minister of University Affairs and Minister of Education (Mr. Davis)? In other words, we might be treating students differently under one minister compared to another minister if there were no rationalization going on.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions between the Minister and the Minister of University Affairs and Minister of Education concerning this; and this was done in full knowledge of all concerned including the Treasury Board and cabinet in government.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, a final supplementary: did the minister's discussions with the Minister of University Affairs and Education include discussion of the future of the schools of agriculture and perhaps proposals to integrate them with the colleges of applied arts and technology; or indeed with the Haileybury School of Mines which is quite close to the agricultural school?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member seems to have the idea that agricultural courses can be integrated quite easily, but I am sure that if he knew anything about agriculture he would know that this is not the case. The agricultural courses—

Mr. O. F. Villeneuve (Glengarry): Yes, that is right.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: —are a very special type and there is a different type of relationship that has to exist between the students and the school and the surrounding community than in the other technology courses, so it was established that there should be a northern agricultural school.

Now we do not know how many students are going to continue to attend that school. We have been pleased with the response we have had so far. I gather from my hon. friend, Mr. Speaker, that he feels there should not be an agricultural school in northern Ontario *per se* and that there should be established in the various colleges of applied arts and technology across northern Ontario agricultural courses. And yet I heard him stand in his place the other day in the House and criticize this government because we have too many of these schools, apparently, to his mind. Either he has to agree there should be concentration in a school for agricultural courses or he—

Mr. Singer: Is that an answer or a debate?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: —must agree that what we have attempted to do is the proper thing as far as agricultural students are concerned. I am interested to know what his reaction is as far as his party is concerned—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister may be interested, but the question period is not the time to find out.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well that may be, but neither is the question period a time for an individual member to make contradictory remarks.

Mr. T. Reid: He is not interested in seeing the taxes come down.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question?

Mr. Singer: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Wait until I see if there is a question from the other party. The member for Downsview.

Mr. T. Reid: It is a waste of the tax dollar.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: He thinks he knows everything about everything, but his ignorance is really showing up today as far as agriculture is concerned.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I address this question to the Premier in the absence of the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart): In view of the decision made by the British Columbia court saying that the new provisions of the Criminal Code relating to the breathalyser are invalid and in view of the fact that this is under appeal, does the province of Ontario intend to proceed in accordance with the provisions as written or to refrain from taking any action until the appeal has been finally determined?

Mr. Sopha: The Premier has been away from the bar too long to answer that one.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member is quite correct, Mr. Speaker. I think the hon. member for Sudbury has answered the question for me. I will have to take some advice from the law officers of the Crown, because there are some nice problems of legal precedent and procedure.

Mr. Sopha: Besides, the Premier never knew anyone who was impaired anyway.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well now I would not say that was exactly true, Mr. Speaker. Having accepted one remark from the hon. member for Sudbury, that is enough for this morning.

But certainly of course, to get back to the question at hand, this decision of the British Columbia court is one of great interest. We will have to see upon what basis that decision was granted and if it goes to the root of the whole statute or is a particular fact in a particular case. These are matters that will have to be looked at before we could decide what our approach will be. But I can assure the member that the matter is being looked into.

Mr. Singer: By way of supplementary: Could the Premier undertake to have someone advise the House as quickly as possible what the province is going to do? I think it is very important to the whole law enforcement procedure.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I think the Attorney General will be back in his seat on Monday and the matter can be dealt with in the normal course of the procedures of this House.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary?

Mr. T. P. Reid: I have a question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, the hon. member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Can the minister indicate if mercury solutions are being used by farmers in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, Mr. Speaker, mercury solutions are being used on seed in the province of Ontario. However, it is in such minute quantities, really it is so infinitesimal, that we can see no real pollution problem whatever in this regard.

Methods are being sought to find satisfactory substitutes for mercury in seed treatment and we hope we will be able to find these within the next few months. However, seed that has been treated with mercury has been used here and in the United States this year and until we can find satisfactory substitutes I should think that will be the case.

But I can assure everyone, Mr. Speaker, that in the results of tests that have been undertaken, as enunciated by the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests yesterday, on wild life, this is, birds in areas where mercury has been used in spray programmes, the mercury contents that were found in the birds were far below the World Health Organization standards.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask—

Mr. Speaker: This completes the oral question period.

Petitions.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order!

We had a little difficulty because of the absence of certain ministers, and I am not quarrelling with their being absent, but we have had difficulty in trying to find the proper persons to whom to address questions. For instance, the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) was absent for two weeks and the Attorney General has been absent for one week.

It would seem to me that it would facilitate the proceedings of the House, particularly at question period, if the government would undertake, when a minister is going to be absent for longer perhaps than a day to designate, and let us know what the designation is, an acting minister for that department. Government business goes on whether or not a cabinet minister is present in the House and it is important that we have someone to

address these questions to and someone who is going to be able to give us an answer and that the questions not be shelved for the period of the extended absence of the particular minister concerned.

Mr. Speaker: I am sure that is a problem which perhaps has been considered by the committee on procedures, and I am sure that it is one that will be considered by the Prime Minister, who is in the House at the moment. There is really very little that the Speaker can do about it except to receive such motions on proceedings as may be put before the House.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The seventh order; House in committee of supply, Mr. A. E. Reuter in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND INFORMATION
(continued)

On vote 2102:

Mr. Chairman: We had completed the first programme, that was promotion services. The next programme is the St. Lawrence Parks Commission. Is that programme carried?

The hon. member for Perth.

Mr. H. Edighoffer (Perth): Mr. Chairman, I noticed by the annual report of the St. Lawrence Parks Commission that the attendance was up considerably this last year. In the estimates for the total expenditure of the park there is almost $3 million, and in the report it stated that the estimated revenue was approximately $1.5 million. This leaves $1.5 million difference and as there were approximately 3,000 visitors to the parks, it appears that we are still subsidizing each visitor to the tune of 50 cents. I would like to ask the minister if he expects that this will continue for some time or if it will go down.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Chairman, I might just correct the figures of the hon. member. The budget last year was $2,693,000; the estimated revenue was $1,506,000, so that there is actually a difference of about $1,100,000.

This is partially due to the fact that the commission has approximately 30 miles of shoreline property from Cornwall to Morrisburg, a great deal of which is non-revenue producing. There is a game sanctuary and a great deal of shoreline which has not been developed for either day-use or camping. Eventually, as the demand grows, and this will probably be the case, it will produce revenue and that we will get closer to a totally self-supporting situation; but at the moment I think it is fair to say that the camping areas and the day-use areas are paying their operating costs but the cost of maintenance, particularly in old Fort Henry, which we lease from the dominion government, but for which we are responsible in terms of maintenance, is substantial.

The fort is not self-supporting and Upper Canada Village is just about self-supporting. The main deficit—if I can put it that way—would be this large area of non-revenue land, as we call it, which is being preserved for the future and the maintenance costs and so on at old Fort Henry.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, I notice that the minister has allotted $10,000 for land acquisition. Is it the purpose of the department to extend the holdings of the St. Lawrence Parks Commission so that a larger portion of that area may be kept for the public good for the future?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, in this connection, as I think I said last year and the year before, it is really a token amount. There are from time to time small acquisitions of property adjoining existing parks, particularly the one at Johnstown, near the International Bridge, where we have a long-term plan to expand. But we have not been expropriating property from the adjoining property owners. When these properties come on the market, we are in a position to acquire them.

There is no specific plan in mind at the moment to acquire large pieces of property but we have a long-term plan—again, which can be implemented if property comes on the market—for Highway 33 from Kingston to Adolphustown, where we presently have three locations.

Mr. B. Newman: There is no long-range plan for the future development of the park? I am referring to a plan for 10 or 25 years from today?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not in the sense of a specific development plan for the whole 130

miles which is within the commission's jurisdiction. There is an outline plan along Highway 33, and we are presently developing a plan for the Thousand Islands parkway. We have a plan for the area between Cornwall and Morrisburg which is certainly a long-term plan, but it is not in great detail as far as construction and so on is concerned, because it is a matter, really, of the funds being available and the changing or the increasing demands and pressures on the commission for recreational space.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, in the view of the minister the operation is a worthwhile operation; it is for the benefit not only of the citizenry today but of the generations in the future. Then, if I assume that that is correct, does the minister have plans for duplicating either on a small scale or a large scale a similar type of project in other areas of the province?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Speaker, I just remind the hon. member and the other members of the committee that the commission was set up under an agreement with the dominion government some years ago at the time of the construction of the power development and seaway. It was one of the terms of agreement among all the agencies—Ontario and New York, Ontario Hydro, the seaway authority, and New York state power authority—as a specific project. I think I can answer the hon. member's question by saying that I and my department do not have plans to establish something similar.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further on the St. Lawrence Parks Commission?

St. Lawrence Parks Commission programme agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: The next programme is historical parks. The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): I would like some information from the minister with regard to the problem that either the minister, or somebody in his department, is experiencing with the historical sites up around Huronia. You have this problem with the architects, the engineers, and reports that those facilities are unsafe because they were not authorized by an accredited or duly qualified engineer supervising the construction. Could the minister enlighten the House on that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not sure that I understand the hon. member's question. To my knowledge there is no question about the safety, as far as the public is concerned, of any of the facilities that have been constructed in Huronia, either at the Nancy Museum of the Upper Lakes at Wasaga Beach; Ste. Marie-among-the-Hurons, at Midland; or the military and naval establishment at Penetanguishene.

There is a legal action between the architect and the consulting engineers who were involved in phases of that construction, but to my knowledge it has nothing to do with safety. It is, I think, a financial disagreement between one and the other.

Mr. Stokes: The minister is able to assure the House and, through the House, the public then, that there is no danger of any unsafe condition for the viewing public?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further on historical parks? The hon. member for Welland South.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): I would like to raise a question of the minister pertaining to the park in Ridgeway, Ontario. It is at the present time a park controlled by the municipality and this park is called the Battle of Ridgeway. There is a cairn there at the present time. I think when one enters this building at the entrance by the big door to the left there is a bronze plaque stating that this commemorates the battle of Limestone Ridge. This played a very important role in the history not only of the province of Ontario, but of Canada itself. I think in one sense this is known as the Fenian raid at Ridgeway, Ontario, and played a very important role in fostering the confederation of Canada.

I was just wondering if the minister had given any consideration to the fact that perhaps this park should come under the historical parks of the province of Ontario, and maybe even be incorporated into the Niagara parks system?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In reply, Mr. Chairman, perhaps I should explain that this item is called "historical parks" for purposes of reference. It simply deals with the Huronia development council. It used to show in the estimates as the Huronia development council. There is no statutory authority or budget item in my estimates, no statutory authority

in the department or budget item in the estimates, to make grants or to take over, or to establish other parks.

In other words, the reason that we go ahead with Huronia is that there is a specific item, this one, to deal with it. For Treasury Board or reference purposes it is called "historical parks".

I am aware of the area that the hon. member mentions and I agree with him that it is of particular importance in the history of Ontario and Canada. I can only suggest to him that either the municipality might approach the province to see whether Lands and Forests might involve themselves in the acquisition of this; or that grants might be available under The Municipal Parks Assistance Act for expansion or improvement; or that the Niagara Parks Commission could be approached to see if they would have an interest in including it in their operations.

Mr. Haggerty: That is the reason I raised that question of the hon. minister. I believe that you are vice-chairman of the parks integration board. Would you take it from here, then, once I submit application?

Mr. Chairman: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, the minister knows that annually I bring up the topic of a seigniory in Essex county and the minister keeps giving me a 'no' answer all the time. I wonder if at this time he is still not convinced that the development of either a seigniory or some similar type of project, a historical park, in the area would not be a worthwhile thing. And likewise, that the province should be one of the individuals promoting such a venture.

I notice that the Greenfield Village, across in Dearborn, Michigan, as the minister is fully aware, is spending millions of dollars in enlarging the attraction that it has at present; that includes the Ford museum. It certainly would be a real worthwhile move if we on the Canadian side could have something that would appeal to the hundreds of thousands, yes, and I could say millions, of visitors to the complex on the American side. They would come in, visit Ontario, see what we have, learn a little of the history of our province before they return to the United States.

The tremendous commercial impact that it could have on the economy of the Essex county area, Mr. Chairman, is inestimable at this time. I think it is the type of project, that is the seigniory or something, that may be more appropriate. If the minister's department could suggest something more appropriate that should get some serious consideration from the department, may I have an answer from the minister?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I will not repeat my comments in past years about this matter. I think I have said to the hon. member that certainly there is no question that some good historical restoration related to the early history of the period around Windsor would be an attraction, and would be a good thing. But as I have said before, it is really a matter of priorities and funds. We hope to have the major part of the work in Ste. Marie and Huronia completed in this current fiscal year. We are studying a number of possible projects in various parts of the province for, hopefully, another project like this.

But in many cases, and I think I have mentioned this before, in the Windsor area there has been great interest on the part of the Essex-Kent tourist association and we h ve had a good deal of correspondence and meetings and discussion with people from the association. We have a certain amount of research and planning assistance and operating advice, and we are prepared to continue that.

We would be delighted to co-operate with any group that would undertake a project like this, as we have in other places where it has been done locally. Perhaps, some day, if it is not done locally, it will be possible for us to undertake it. But at the moment I would not want to mislead the hon. member and say that we are going to start this year.

Mr. B. Newman: What does disturb me, Mr. Chairman, is that if we do not act fairly soon, there will not be the property available there. And if we do decide on having it, it will be beyond the financial resources of the people that are promoting it, the municipality, and maybe even the province. I think that if something could be done to at least hold the properties, or some of the properties at this time, even if the development would be a long-range development. But as long as we had the properties, we would know we were well ahead and that the project could develop in the future.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further under this programme?

The programme carried?

Historical parks agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further under the tourist industry development service? The hon. member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I might ask the minister just how comprehensive this section is? What does it envisage? How far is tourist development seen here? Is it total development in areas in the province?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, this branch which is the largest branch in terms of complement in the department, has two basic functions. One is the licensing and inspection of all accommodation of two units or more, which is not licensed by the liquor licence board, and the advice and assistance to operators in renovations, in new construction, in addition to renovation. Also, we liaison with the various tourist associations in the field—local chambers of commerce, area tourist councils, regional tourist councils and outfitters' associations and so on to assist them in their own promotional activity and their own development activity. Does that answer the hon. member?

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering if this also envisages long-term planning for the tourist industry in the province?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Specifically not in the development branch; that is being done by the research branch. The long-term plan we started two years ago; when the research for it is completed, it will be used as a guide for the development branch when they are working with area groups and industry groups.

Mr. Young: Then the matter I want to raise, I will raise under research.

Mr. Chairman: Development branch? The hon. member for Perth.

Mr. Edighoffer: Mr. Chairman, I remember last year in the estimates, the minister mentioned that they were conducting seminars in secondary schools. Would this come under this vote?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Edighoffer: I was wondering how many of these seminars were conducted? I believe this referred to promoting summer employment and future managerial positions and whatnot, in the tourist industry. I wondered how many seminars were held, how successful were they, and are they being continued?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed there were about 15. I do not suppose I could say how successful they were; it will take a year or two to find out the effective results. But there is considerable interest in this field, both in this type of thing and the other type of seminars which I mentioned in the hospitality programme, which we do jointly with the Canadian Tourist Association and a local group such as the chamber of commerce.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor West.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): I want to raise a matter with the minister which falls principally under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr), namely the impact on marina operators of the regulations of this department in respect of pump-out tanks.

However, the aspect of the problem I want to raise with the minister relates to the diminishing business of marina operators and the request they have made of the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and, I presume, of the minister himself, on behalf of the marina operators' association, for assistance from the Minister of Tourism and Information in recovering this business.

The association wrote on January 10 to the Prime Minister, pointing out that competitors on the other side of the international border, along the Great Lakes states, were spreading reports of the very dire consequences that would face boaters coming into Ontario waters if they did not have the required equipment. I just quote from a portion of that letter:

> Many American boaters and yacht clubs did not rendezvous in Ontario this year. Rumours were widespread among them that Ontario would prosecute, detain and confiscate the boats if they came into Ontario waters and were found to be not properly equipped to meet Ontario regulations. These rumours were created and spread by the marina operators in the USA where there are no antipollution regulations in existence as of this date.
>
> At present it appears that we will again operate this coming season under the same conditions. We now know, according to the losses reported, that this would mean financial disaster for many of the marina operators. We are most dependent upon the tourist flow to support our marinas, our motels, restaurants, gasoline and oil outlets, souvenir stores, liquor and beer outlets, boat and engine repairers, amusement parks, winter storage, clothing stores and taxi services. All reported severe losses in revenue from the lack of tourist trade.
>
> We ask that a public relations programme be carried out in our neighbouring states to

spell out clearly the situation at hand for the 1970 boating season.

Now, I do not believe, Mr. Speaker, that this association or its members, at least in south-western Ontario, are taking issue with the regulations that Ontario has asked of those operators in respect to pump-out facilities and holding tanks. But I think they are asking this minister if he will provide the specific detailed information to U.S. pleasure-boat operators through an advertising campaign in the States that register these boats and whose operators and users frequently come into Ontario waters. I wonder if the minister has taken that letter under consideration.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the hon. member was not in the House on Wednesday when a similar comment was made. I think I said at that time that the Ontario Water Resources Commission has embarked on what I believe to be a quite effective campaign to inform U.S. boaters, particularly in Michigan and New York, of the Ontario regulations and to let them know where presently there are pump-out facilities.

I do not think that an advertising campaign, as such, by our department is the most effective way to deal with this. I believe that what OWRC have done in reaching yacht clubs, power squadrons, and the various boating organizations directly with letters—which perhaps, the hon. member has not seen, but are available from OWRC—is the most effective way.

From the little information I have thus far—and it is still pretty early for the boating season—it appears that this information has got across. I should also mention that they have, of course, got in touch with the boating magazines and as a boater myself I think that the methods that OWRC are using are, as I understand them, the most effective.

I would just make one other comment. The hon. member probably knows that the marina operators' association, and particularly those operators in the Sarnia-Windsor area, have been very concerned about their apparent change in dollar volume last year. They have been to see us. The other factor which they attribute—perhaps equally, and in some cases more—to their lack of business is the fact that there is no longer a refund of the gasoline or fuel tax. The same situation has affected marina operators in my own area of the Thousand Islands.

This is a matter for the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton). Submission has been made to him and all I can say is, from my own knowledge, this is being studied.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister, through you, sir, if he considers part of his function in developing the tourist facilities of Ontario, what he considers the part of his function and responsibility is in protecting the tourist industry in the province of Ontario? What I mean specifically, sir, is the fact that this minister's attitude is that we will get tourists here by any means possible; we will not worry how they get here or what they spend once they arrive. As long as we have the bodies, as long as we can fill out a large statistical table that we have had hundreds of thousands of visitors to Ontario, this department and this government is not really worried about the way they got into the country and what they do once they get here.

Some time ago, Mr. Chairman—a couple of years ago—I brought to the minister's attention, if he was not already aware of it, the problems of the commercial tourist operators on the American side of the border. They fall into two or three main categories—commercial air operators on the American side operating into Ontario, who fly in people, specifically; also, outfitters, specifically camp outfiitters, and especially at Ely, Minnesota, operating into Quetico park in northern Ontario; and third, houseboat operators operating on the American side into Canada.

I again draw the minister's attention specifically to the case on Rainy Lake. In northern Ontario we used to have eight to 10 Canadian houseboat operators. There is now one left in business. The American operator on Rainy Lake recently released a brochure suggesting that he now had 10 extra houseboats with which to supply his guests.

As I say, Mr. Chairman, some time ago I brought to the minister's attention some of these problems and I received the courtesy of no answer from him. I would like to bring, most forcefully, Mr. Chairman, to the attention of this House that these problems are still going on. I am going to ask specifically, when we get to research, about the study that has been undertaken by this department, or under the aegis of this department, on the commercial aspects of American competition on the tourist industry in northern Ontario.

I would like to say, however, Mr. Chairman, in regard to this, that I am glad that the department finally moved. It was some

time ago that I suggested to The Department of Lands and Forests that such a study be carried out. I am glad to see the government finally acted on it.

I hope that the terms of reference were specific enough to include all the facts and figures that we need to deal with this problem but it bothers me, Mr. Chairman, that the minister who is responsible for the tourist development in this province of Ontario has had to be prodded for so long to take action in this regard. Literally millions of dollars of revenue are going south of the border to American operators who are using Ontario resources. And, of course, the corollary to that, Mr. Chairman, is that, at the same time, by allowing the practice to continue, we are depriving Canadian operators of that revenue, the Canadian taxpayers of that revenue and we are funnelling and channelling employment south of the border.

The related problem, Mr. Chairman, is that these Canadian operators operate at a great disadvantage, especially in regard to the capital costs of their equipment—in most cases airplanes, houseboats, canoes, and so on. The cost of these articles is a third to a half more expensive in Canada. This immediately puts the Canadian operator, the Ontario operator, at a competitive disadvantage.

I was not altogether surprised, Mr. Chairman, but during the meetings of the tourism and natural resources committee, the Conservative members of this Legislature—the member for Kingston and the Islands (Mr. Apps) and the member for Welland (Mr. Morningstar) rose to their feet and said that they had a similar problem with American competition in their areas. And yet this department, which is responsible for fostering the tourist industry in Ontario, is almost actively—by its nonactivity—fostering American competition and putting Ontario tourist operators at a competitive disadvantage.

I would like to hear, Mr. Chairman, from this minister now, what action he intends to take and what pressure he intends to bring to bear on his fellow cabinet ministers to correct this situation that exists in the province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I think we have had this discussion on several other occasions. I think—

Mr. T. P. Reid: But no action.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —that at the time I suggested to the hon. member that he might speak to the hon. member of the House of Commons for his area, with whom I think he is well acquainted, to bring up the matter of the fly-in aircraft and the non-reporting-out rule that presently exists. The problems as far as international boating or shipping are concerned are, as he knows, totally outside the jurisdiction of my department or this province.

The hon. member obviously did not hear my introductory remarks on Wednesday when I said that first is the report on fly-in tourism in northwestern Ontario, which suggests controls on American aircraft by introducing water landing permits or their equivalent.

The Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) has continually sought assistance from the federal Department of Transport to plug this hole, but so far this has not come about. It may be that if a water landing permit programme is introduced, this will offer to Ontario operators a new opportunity for income in a field presently occupied almost entirely by our U.S. neighbours.

I am well aware of the situation to which he makes reference. In fact, prior to his election in this House, there were representations made almost yearly by the northern Ontario tourist outfitters and, I think Kenora camp owners and others, by his predecessor in this House, by the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) and by many people. But I repeat what I said last year and I think the year before—until such time as there is some jurisdictional control that can be exercised by the province, I know of no solution that will solve the problem that I know exists. It may be that this suggestion which emanated from the report will be a solution.

It may very well be that as far as the hunting end is concerned, the new regulations and trophy fees, introduced by the Minister of Lands and Forests in an effort in part to do something about this, may be effective. To suggest that this department or I have no interest in these things—or that I am only interested in bodies coming in—I think the hon. member knows is reaching a bit. We are very interested in dollars, in all the economic and social benefits that come from increased tourism, and the statistics really are the least important part.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, may I reiterate one point that obviously has escaped the minister? The problem of commercial fly-in people from the American side is only one aspect of the total problem. I pointed out a couple of others to you: the American houseboats; the canoe people at Ely, Minnesota. Surely, the minister has some responsibility for some of these and can do something about them. Really, I find the lack of animation in the

minister most disturbing in this regard, as he says this has been going on for some time. It disturbs me, since he has a research department and he has a head of the department, that this department has not done a complete survey in the past and got the facts and figures.

The minister is as well aware as I am that to go to Ottawa or to come to this government and plead that these people are ruining us, without any facts or figures, is a waste of time. Governments no longer listen to such a pleading unless these special pleadings are backed up with facts and figures.

Apparently the terms of reference of this report have not been made public. I recall no announcement that the minister had commissioned such a report. I went to a meeting and I suggested that this be done; somebody said, "Yes, it will be done," and that was the end of it. If the people in northwestern Ontario were contacted, I do not know.

But these are special problems. Let me show the minister, if he is unaware, how he can do something specifically about these problems. I have in my hand a brochure from an outfitter in Ely, Minnesota, which goes on at great length to explain the beauties of the Canadian wilderness in Quetico park, as they all do down there, and they make this boast: "We have approximately 100 canoes more than any other outfitter in North America and the largest supply of lightweight aluminum canoes afloat." This operation, as all of them do in this area, operates principally in Quetico park.

Surely the minister can talk to his colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests, and come up with some kind of plan—perhaps discriminatory fees are necessary; I don't know if this is a solution, but I suggest it as one—to at least put the Canadian operators on a competitive basis. The ones I talked to are not asking for any special grants or special subsidies. All they want to do is to be put on a competitive basis with their American competitors, and yet the minister who has this kind of responsibility moves in no way in this direction.

Well, I would like to bring up, if I could have the minister's attention, one other thing. Also in this brochure from Ely, they advertise Canadian fly-in outpost camps. "We have several comfortable fly-in outpost camps at Harris Lake in Ontario, 100 miles northwest of Ely, fully equipped," and so on. I have asked the minister on numerous occasions whether or not Americans, on the American side, are allowed to be licensed or have or own or have a land-use permit for tent camps in Canada. Could we clarify that one point before I go on? Are they?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right. Now the minister has sat there and said it is all a federal problem. I say, before I get into this, that as the minister knows it has more effect if this government, as the government of the province of Ontario, goes to the federal government with facts and figures and says, "Look, we have this problem, we want it solved." I have seen the correspondence, and the federal Minister of Transport said: "We will do anything we can to help you. You come up with something and we will be glad to help you." This is one area specifically where the minister has control, yet he allows it to go on, and I have brought this to his attention numerous times before. Can the minister explain to me why he allows his department to license American tent camps for Americans operating on the American side? Why do you allow that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not know that I can explain it, because I have obviously been unsuccessful in the past. The hon. member recalls, first of all, that a great many of the substantial operators in northwestern Ontario with a large capital investment in a base camp and a number of outpost camps are American. I think he will grant that; he knows that.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Operating from which side of the border?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In Ontario.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right. Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Totally in Ontario. I do not know yet how there is any way to differentiate between an American who has his entire operation in Ontario and an American who may have some of his operation in the U.S. or a Canadian who may have a base operation in Ontario and a portion of his operation in the U.S. Now, in connection with the report that the hon. member mentioned, it is in draft form and will be printed very shortly. It will be available to everybody, but I will give him the highlights.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Could you give me the terms of reference from the report?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The economic impact of American fly-in—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Only the one aspect of the problem?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is right. We have discussed the houseboat operations many times, and I think I asked the hon. member and others in the past whether they wished us to send decoys into the States to be able to prove that these people were actually renting the houseboats. I think the consensus of the House—and certainly my own feeling—is that we do not want to operate that way.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I did not get that impression.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is the only way I know of that we could ever convict any of these people under the law and regulations that this department administers about tourist camps and rental of houseboats and this sort of thing.

A short synopsis of the report is that American commercial planes brought in about 7,000 passengers in 1969. The total number of passengers, both private and commercial—and the hon. member understands what the distinction is—is broken down as follows: non-scheduled carriers, 7,700; private individuals, 19,193 and scheduled air carriers—that is, Air Canada and so on, 2,866. Twenty-six per cent were non-scheduled, 64 per cent private and 10 per cent scheduled commercial.

It is estimated that Americans who were brought in by commercial aircraft spend about $1,100,000. It was further estimated that only about $200,000 of this $1,100,000 was spent in Ontario. The hon. member, all members of the House and those people in the area who are interested will receive copies of the full report as soon as it is printed.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, just to go back to the one point the minister raised. He says you cannot differentiate between an American operator on the American side of the border and someone operating on the Ontario side of the border. I do not follow that reasoning or thinking at all.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps I might explain a little further. I think we went through this on a couple of occasions before, that some of the people who are of great concern to us do not admit they are actually taking people to outpost camps. What happens is that a fellow in Lands and Forests or our own staff region in a lake some place says he is only supplying transportation, which has nothing to do with us, and that he really is not an outfitter, that the equipment the party has is its own equipment and that the individuals are simply camping. Unless we can get an individual in that party to say that he paid the carrier for both transportation and outfitting and so on, our hands are tied.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, all right, that is fine.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And this is well known to the operator.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, right. We are well aware of that, and I must say I do not think the minister or his department is making a valid effort to stop that. And I disagree with his point when he says he felt it was not the feeling of the House that we should send decoys into the United States. It was my feeling that we should do this, because it seems there is no other alternative in stopping these kinds of practices. This minister, this department, as a matter of fact the whole province, are being laughed at by these people. They think it is a big joke that we should allow them to operate this way.

But I think the minister has missed my point, or I have not made myself clear. His department licenses tent camps—you know what a tent camp is, you may even have seen one at one time. You do understand what I am talking about? Now, the minister's department has apparently licensed this outfit in Ely with an Ely address—he is well known to one and all in northwestern Ontario—obviously to operate tent camps in Canada.

The department knows where this man is located. It is known he is operating from the American side. All he is paying is a $50 or $35 fee to operate that tent camp for a year. He is charging $179 per person for seven days and that money is all going to the United States, to the operator in Ely. And yet all he is paying this government is $35 for that tourist camp licence. And the minister allows that to go on.

Does the minister understand the point I am trying to make?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, why the devil does the minister not stop it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I told the hon. member last year, and I was just checking to make sure I was correct, we do not license an outpost camp unless there is a base camp that goes with it. You cannot get a licence from my

department for an outpost camp unless you have a base camp.

Mr. T. P. Reid: As far as I know, this gentleman, and he is only one of several who have this kind of operation—

Hon. Mr. Auld: He is probably operating in conjunction with a Canadian operator.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Let me suggest a couple of other things. A fellow on Rainy Lake on the American side was forced finally to divest himself of his tent camps. So now he has an operator on the Canadian side, who is also an American, who bought the old tent camp setup for $1. Now, this man still flies his people in to these tent camps. They pay him, apparently, on the American side of the border; the revenue is not paid to the American operator on the Canadian side.

Now these are little things that are going on. And we have Canadian operators who are trying to make a living. I make no special pleading for them, but it hurts the economy and it hurts our part of the country as a whole.

Let me suggest something to the minister. I do not know whether this is feasible; perhaps he can tell me. Why does the minister, or in conjunction with Lands and Forests, not say, "If you are going to operate a tent camp, before we give you a licence, the people must be conveyed to that tent camp by an operator located on the Ontario side"?

Is there anything illegal about that? Is that a great restriction on people's freedom of movement? It would ensure that at least we are getting something out of the people. If they have to use Ontario conveyance to get there then, supposedly, they are going to pay the operator on the Ontario side and we are going to get some income tax out of them, plus the employment, plus the revenue generated by the transportation. Maybe they can go to these tent camps by boat, some of them can, but at least we are going to make some effort. You know, if we even felt this government was interested in controlling the situation, we would feel better.

I offer that suggestion to the minister. Is it feasible?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I can only say I do not know. Let me say this, the hon. member gives me the impression he is implying that I am not interested in this problem.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think he knows in his heart that that is wrong.

Mr. T. P. Reid: No, I do not.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I suppose, with all the problems we have had in our department, we have spent more time on this specific one than any other one. Every time somebody comes up with what appears to be a good suggestion, we find it will not work, probably for either a jurisdictional, or some legal, or perhaps an ethical reason.

Just to go back to what the hon. member said a few moments ago. I really do not believe in trying to catch people by putting in decoys or spotters. It just does not appeal to me as a proper way to conduct any kind of an operation, particularly government.

As far as the suggestion of requiring only Canadian registered aircraft to fly people into Canadian camps, I cannot say, because no one has ever suggested that before. I suspect the reason no one has suggested it in the industry is because a great many of the legitimate guests which the resort operators get in the northwest come by American aircraft. What the effect would be of requiring everybody to get off at Ely and go over to Rainy River or to get off at International Falls and drive across to Fort Frances and then get into Rusty Myers' aircraft or something, I do not know, but I do not think it would be greeted with a great deal of enthusiasm. However, we will pursue this.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The minister will look into that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I would appreciate that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But in terms of the operators, I suggest to the hon. member that if there are Canadian operators—and I infer from what he said he thinks there may be—who are in cahoots with—

Mr. T. P. Reid: There is no doubt about it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would love to have a suggestion from him as to how we deal with that, because if it is a Canadian operator and he has made some deal with somebody else to sell his service, how do we tell whether it is legitimate or is not? The same thing happens, in a sense, with a travel agent who books accommodation for you and gets a commission, which is known to everybody, from the operator for supplying the service of selling accommodation.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I agree that it is a difficult problem. There is no doubt about that. But I must take issue with the minister on the fact that he does not want to do certain things. Now maybe I am a little too involved in this problem. I feel very strongly about it. I feel that these people are thieves, quite frankly, and they are thieves only because this government—and the federal government supposedly is just as responsible—are allowing them to steal our natural resources and steal employment from us. It is a straight steal all the way down the line.

The way you would have to deal with these people is the same way as any other law enforcement body does and, if you have to, take a thief to catch a thief. This is perhaps not exactly the phrase I want, but if we have to use undercover people I see nothing wrong with that. Perhaps if the minister were to go to the RCMP, to the federal Minister of Justice and say, "We do not have the men"—I understand the OPP do not do too much undercover work except perhaps in the drug business—but perhaps if the minister made an appeal through that agency, they would do something about it.

I see the member for Kenora ready to rise. I trust he is going to support me in this, so I will yield him the floor at this time.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Kenora.

Mr. L. Bernier (Kenora): Mr. Chairman, this particular matter, of course, strikes a keen note for us in the Kenora area. We are very close to the situation with regard to American domination, and more particularly the matter of fly-in operators operating out of the United States into northwestern Ontario.

The minister's statement that they are looking into a landing fee, I think, is an excellent one. I hope he pursues it to the end, because I think this may be the answer to our problem. I want to relate to you, sir, what is happening at this very moment at the Minneapolis sports show. We have an American operator down there and he has set up a booth and he is accepting deposits for this summer's operations for fly-in service into the wilderness of northwestern Ontario.

I have had several phone calls in the last couple of days from the operators and from the air transport carriers in that area, and private individuals. They point out to me that this individual has not yet received his air charter from the federal government in Ottawa. However, he has assured every one of his customers that he will have this charter within the next 30 days.

I point this out to the member for Rainy River and his brother, who is our representative in the federal House. The federal member for Thunder Bay is aware of the situation. Because everyone in northwestern Ontario knows that it takes 10 months to a year for a Canadian to get such an air charter. Here we have an American getting such a charter from the federal government within 30 days. I think the federal government is trying to undermine the province in this particular field, and I do think they should be carrying some of the load.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am glad the member rose on that point and I agree. I do not think the federal government is doing what it should be doing in this problem and I have written them on many occasions.

I brought to the attention of the Minister of Lands and Forests some time ago—and he accepted that suggestion, and I wish he were here to answer this morning—that when these American operators apply for a charter that The Department of Lands and Forests protest, or object to such a charter being issued. Perhaps armed with the facts and figures that the minister has come up with, they will have something concrete to go to Ottawa with.

I suggest to this minister also that his department concern itself with these American applications. The minister should be in Ottawa himself, I think, appearing at these hearings and saying: "We already have too many American fly-in operators on the American side operating in Ontario. They are draining us of revenue; they are cutting out the Canadian competition. We cannot afford any more of them." Surely this is something that the minister should be active in and, if he carries with him the weight of his department and of this government, and if he went with his colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests, surely it would have an impact on the federal authorities?

I will ask specfically, is the minister prepared, or will he be, from this date forward, when any American applies for a charter to operate into Ontario, will his department make strong objections to such a license for any sports flying into northern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, first we will have to get agreement from the DOT that they will let us know when these applications are made, because at the present time we do not know about them. We have, on occasion, supported applications when the

applicant made us aware of it, for Canadian operators for the—I have just forgotten the designation of the commercial licence—but to carry for hire in a general area.

But at the moment we have no way of knowing who is applying and I do not know how many applications are made and how many types of licence there might be. This is one of the things, in conjunction with Lands and Forests, we are pursuing. So I simply give this undertaking to the hon. member—that we will inquire as to the possibilities of our being told when these applications are being made, so that we can make representation.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am sure really, Mr. Chairman, that the federal authorities would be glad to let you know when these applications are made and when the hearings are going to be held. Quite frankly, the operators in the area are so fed up with this situation that they no longer even have the will to object to these applications.

Surely it is incumbent upon this minister, as the minister responsible for tourism in the province, to actively engage himself in these activities. I suggest that perhaps he should talk a little more closely to his colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests.

Mr. Chairman, I want to make one more point only and that is that this study that is now being drafted, I would like to ask the minister if he will give this House his undertaking to make a complete economic study of the cost to the province of Ontario of all American competition on the American side of the border operating into the province of Ontario. I understand that this American competition also includes the Sault Ste. Marie area and the areas of Kingston and the Islands and Welland also. The related problems of houseboats, outfitters operating into the province of Ontario, the whole, complete aspect of the problem; would you give me that undertaking?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I am afraid I could not give that undertaking at the moment. It sounds to me like a gigantic task and I wonder whether there would be factors that should be taken into consideration at say Niagara Falls, Fort Erie, Windsor, Sarnia, Cornwall. I really could not give that undertaking. We will take a look at it, but it sounds like a five- to 10-year project.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I realized that when I made that suggestion, quite frankly I was going to restrict it to northwestern Ontario primarily, because I think this is the area of the largest problem. But I know that the member for Kingston and the Islands and other members are equally concerned with this problem; we are all looking for some action on the minister's part.

We can stand up here and make emotional speeches until they come out of our ears. We can go and take our knapsacks to Ottawa and plead; but until we have the facts and figures required we cannot expect them to take any action.

I think it is incumbent upon your department—you have a research department, you have the staff—to at least make a move in this direction. You have facts and figures on the aspects of the commercial flyers in northwestern Ontario. You have a large part of it already started; I do not know how complete the report is, but surely you can continue on. We will not expect a report by the end of the summer or by the end of the year, but surely by this time next year you could give us some indication at least of the trends and how much money—a guesstimate of how much money the province is losing in this regard.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further under development programmes? The hon. member for Niagara Falls.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Chairman, I listened with interest to my colleague, and the member for Kenora, who made a rapid-fire speech—it was about three minutes—threw all the responsibility on to the federal government about this major problem, and then sat down.

He said that my friend, my colleague, could speak to his brother, who is a federal member, and he, in turn, could speak to the authorities to clear up the situation. You are not only using the back door but very, very poor reasoning to a very major problem.

I would think that he, the member for Kenora, because he happens to be on the government side, would speak with this minister, and this minister, in turn, would go down to Ottawa and speak with the authorities there about a major problem. The door is wide open to you, I am sure. I am sure you could get into that door much quicker than my colleague's brother.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The minister has been.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): I would agree with that.

Mr. Bukator: Yes, the member for Kingston and the Islands agrees with me.

Mr. Apps: I do not think their private members have any conversations with the ministers.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Just like here.

Mr. Bukator: I would think that since the member for Kingston and the Islands agrees with me, being a reasonable man, this would be the right approach, I would think. I would think it would be a very good approach for the problem.

We often speak about the ports of entry from United States to Canada and, everywhere that you have one, each particular member representing that area says the largest port of entry into Canada from the United States happens to be the one that he represents. I hear Windsor has the largest group coming across there from the States into Canada. I hear that at Sarnia, Point Edward in Ontario and Port Huron, they all come in that way.

I also have reason to believe that most of the tourists, or many of them, come in at that port of Niagara Falls, the Peace Bridge at Fort Erie, the Rainbow Bridge, the Whirlpool Bridge, the Lewiston Bridge—there are a lot of people who get through into that area.

I was presented with a paper from some of the people in the area that I represent, and I thought it made good sense. I thought rather than bore you with my opinion on the matter, I would read two or three paragraphs of the report, they sent to me. They have a different approach to the problem. They are not concerned too much about the fact that tourists do not come into the Falls, they do. They are a little concerned about what happens after they view the falls. Where do they go from that particular area?

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): They go to a hotel room.

Mr. Bukator: I do not suppose there are any statistics, after they go to the hotel room —after they did view the falls, my colleague says they go to the hotel room. Then where do they go from that particular point? It is my opinion in many cases they get into their cars and immediately head back into the States.

Now if you have these major ports of entry into Canada and you want them to come on in as far as Owen Sound, let us say, if no further, to see this province of ours, to spend their money along the way, I would think that is good common sense and makes good reasoning. So these gentlemen, who are in the tourist business in Niagara Falls, came to this province, to the representative here, to your deputy minister, I think it is Mr. Bray, and made certain suggestions. I will read part of the brief; at least I will read it to you and put the record straight.

> Fifteen members who represented the various segments of the local tourist industry, elected eight individuals to pursue the discussions and recommendations of the meeting held at the Brock Hotel. Consequently, within 10 days, the eight members who were selected at the original meeting met at the Skylon and the outcome of that particular discussion was that it be resolved that Mr. Hal Logan, president of the chamber of commerce for 1970, Dave Haggerty, chairman of the visitor and convention bureau, and Bud Chaffey, representing accommodations, and Mr. Reece, representing the attractions, make up a committee representing this group.

Now I like this next paragraph. I am sure the chairman of the parks commission will be interested:

> Through the co-operation of Mr. Don Wilson, general manager of the parks commission, it was arranged to meet with The Department of Tourism and Information in the office of the deputy minister. We met with Mr. Bray, deputy minister and Mr. Boyer, the director of the Ontario Department of Tourism, and it was proposed to The Department of Tourism that a plan be formulated which would resolve some of our local problems, in the general area of the Niagara Falls region as follows:

I like this paragraph, too.

> First, we brought to their attention that the lines of communication between the provincial and local levels were not as open as they should be.

Now, I disagree with that. We have people in all areas of the province who feel because you have a local representative who is not a member of the government, therefore the door may not be as open to that individual as it would be if he were a Conservative representative who could speak on their behalf and could get this door open.

I have never bought that kind of selling in my day. I have had the greatest co-operation from every minister of this provincial government, barring none. When I was put in a position to make an appointment with some member, some group, that had a problem to contend with, I found most ministers were

most respectful, and did give me that appointment. However, there are some people who feel they could do it better through someone who has that political strength.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): One of the burdens of our lives.

Mr. Bukator: One of the burdens of our lives, I think my colleague is right.

> Secondly, we realized that to properly promote the Niagara region in the international level—

And they say "international."

> —of tourism, the primary factor was "limited funds for promotion and advertising." The provincial government unfortunately, could not assist us in the funds so necessary to aggressively promote tourism in the Niagara region.

And beyond that, as I say, into the interior. They not only speak of the Niagara region but I like what they say in their brief about a survey that was made by the Niagara Parks Commission. I have in this House on many occasions found fault with some of the operations of the parks commission and I suppose, from day to day, or from time to time, I will continue to do that. Generally speaking, as you all know, I have spoken about the parks commission and the representatives on it as fine gentlemen who are trying to do a job. Now having said that:

> During the summer of 1969, the Niagara Parks Commission conducted a questionnaire survey. The results of this questionnaire were that, in regard to the question, "Why did you come to Niagara Falls"? Eighty per cent of the people responded by saying, "We came to see the falls."

This is exactly what I said, they come to see the falls and where do they go beyond that point? Do they go back to the States? If they do, we are missing a market in this province that we could benefit from, because we need those tourist dollars, and we need them badly. Since we have them on our doorstep, beyond that, in the front door, we can bring them into the province and throughout the province, naturally. People are looking for them all summer, because the tourist season is, what, 100 days? Not much more. They need that business.

> Eighty per cent of the people responded, "We came to see the falls." It was our objective that this statement was a fact. However, it would be our objective to reduce that 80 per cent to 50 per cent by promoting and advertising the Niagara region. In other words, exploit the other virtues of the Niagara region as a reason for coming to Niagara Falls. We feel that this would bring forth return visitors to the Niagara region on a more continuing basis.

I will not read the rest of this brief. It is rather long, but I like what they say toward the end of their brief, which you people are acquainted with. They wanted to know:

> What can Niagara Falls do to promote further tourism in the province of Ontario? The Niagara region is the gateway and we can become more effective to promote tourism in this great province of Ontario, and yes, even to the other provinces. Let us not just look at ourselves, but let us promote Canada from Vancouver to St. John's.

I thought these men were very reasonable in their comments in their report. I say to you that the tourism and information bureau that you have as you come off the Rainbow Bridge —a fine old building and a fairly substantial parking lot now—is not properly located.

I do not believe they get half of one per cent of the people who cross that bridge to stop there to get information about the province of Ontario. Now I know you have congestion, and again I am glad that the chairman of the parks commission is here. You have this congestion at the Horseshoe Falls where the people congregate, I think at this particular point, Mr. Minister, through you to your colleagues, if you had a deck of cards you could play a little hand of bridge there. You are all having a nice friendly little chat.

I would think, Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, that if you want to promote this province of Ontario after they have stopped at the falls, do so in the area of the Table Rock, where they get out of their cars and get into the parking areas.

I know the congestion is there, but there and then you could tell them of the 18 or 32 points that you have in the parks system and beyond that particular point. Then tell them that there is a lot more to the province of Ontario than just that little area of the Horseshoe Falls.

That is where your promotion and your advertising should be. When I say that, I speak of every port of entry along the Ontario border—where the people congregate, where you have them. After they see the falls they turn their backs on it and you can hear this conversation among the tourists—"Well, what do we do now? Where do we go? What do we see?"

You have the girls here in the red coats; you have several under the Rainbow Bridge, and this is a rather comical thing in my opinion, having lived there since 1916. Beautiful offices, also promoting tourism; again, I do not believe one per cent of the people who come into that area drop in to them underneath that Rainbow Bridge, believing them to be private stores. I will do this on The Department of Highways estimate which has just come up.

The Department of Highways do maintain those stores. They can rent them and then promote the areas that I speak of where the people are. If I was going smelt fishing tonight I certainly would not park my boat in the middle of the Niagara River. I would get my little canoe, or boat, or dock or net along the dock, or along the shore, because that is where the smelt travel. And if you want to talk to the tourists, they come to that Horseshoe Falls; and there is where your tourist information should be, and there is where your pamphlets should be handed out. And then you would be doing a job.

Now, Mr. Chairman, you probably find it rather difficult to understand that I have stood on my feet here for almost ten minutes and have insulted no one. I must be mellowing with age.

An hon. member: You are not that old, George!

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is not going to continue on the other subject perhaps I could take one minute to comment briefly on the remarks of the hon. member for Niagara Falls.

First of all, in connection with the visit of the representatives of the area to the department and the meeting with the deputy minister—I believe I was in northern Ontario—we pointed out at the time we were unable to make a grant. I believe they requested something in the order of $100,000, for—

Mr. Bukator: Something like $250,000!

Hon. Mr. Auld: —for the area. But we said we were prepared and we would be delighted to assist where we could. They had never heard of our co-operative advertising programmes, which they learned about and were interested in; and we also mentioned that we would be prepared to work with them on producing a marketing plan for the area. Thus far we have not heard back from them, but no doubt we will be shortly.

In connection with our facilities at the Rainbow Bridge, I would be the last to say that they are ideal. One of our problems is that where we were located was not too good. We took the spot under the bridge because highways had the location there, and when they have completed their new interchange or intersection design, we expect then to be in a good position to deal with the incoming traffic.

The suggestion of moving down toward the falls is an interesting one, but I think we want to study that pretty carefully because our experience everywhere else has indicated that the closer we are to the bridge plaza, the higher the percentage of incoming tourists who will stop.

Mr. Bukator: I did not say it in a manner to be smart when I said that I did get co-operation from the minister. I will speak to these people, apparently it is their next step to sit and talk with you. I know that money is not provided by your department, but I also know that we can do a lot more with advertising than we could with the few dollars that you might submit to us. So I would be happy to talk with them and maybe we can meet with you people again.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Delighted!

Mr. Bukator: Thank you.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Grey-Bruce?

Mr. Sargent: This industry, the tourist industry, Mr. Chairman, is one of our major revenue producers for the province. We have, in this province, some 800 motels; and in the central region we have probably 300 tourist resorts. In northern Ontario there are probably 600, for a total of probably 2,000 establishments across this province.

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is no booze in some of them too.

Mr. Sargent: Pardon me?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The figure is 8,000!

Mr. Sargent: I am talking of the major operators, the major operators—and the niggardly amount of money supplied in the budget, less than $1 million for development of this industry, is a disgrace. I want to say that I have reason to know this, as I publish a magazine called the *Canadian Tourist Motel and Tourist Court*, which the minister knows about. The sad way this industry has been treated by this department and by the government of Canada is a disgrace too.

The minister last week, I understand, made a statement that he was going to put up $1 million to be available as loans of $50,000 each. Now this in view of the history of motels and this industry that is in the first risk category in loan agencies.

I mean a motel operator has a tough time getting money, period; because of bad experience where the supplier's credit rating is concerned. Regardless of this, it is a matter of record that this industry generates about $200 million in taxes paid to Queen's Park and to Ottawa in the money it generates. There is no reciprocity on the part of the government.

We have largesse on the part of this government through IDB and through the Ontario Development Corporation giving loans to Mr. Caswell and Holiday Inn. The big boys can get money any time they want it, but let a small hotel operator get a chance and the minister comes up with a paltry $1 million.

Now this amount in $50,000 parcels will give you 20 loans across Ontario by this way of thinking. I think that this is a complete joke. I do not know who sets the policy and how much regard the minister can have for this kind of a policy—

Mr. Haggerty: The Minister of Agriculture!

Mr. Sargent: I would like to get some dialogue with the minister on the intelligence of the policies. Am I right or wrong? Is this what you are doing? Is this your plan for 1970-1971? One million dollars for development, in loans of $50,000; 20 loans across Ontario?

I would like to know further from the minister: we expended a lot of money, you do a good job on your promotional material to Americans and your colour shots. I have seen your colour television in the United States operation and evidently you are good.

But you are spending a potful of gold to bring the Americans into our beautiful country, especially where I live. The Bruce peninsula is the finest resort and playground of all the northern United States and all Ontario. The Bruce peninsula is the finest by far, and yet you know, Mr. Minister, we have these resorts and we cannot give the Americans a drink or we cannot buy them a drink. We cannot sell them a drink.

I would like to say that it is not intelligent that you would spend this kind of money to bring them up and say: "Okay boys, you can have it at home but you cannot have it here in the playground."

Now there should be some statement of direction or policy on the part of the minister, on the part of the government. Are we going to give these people a continual phony answer that they cannot have a seasonal licence even though the local option policy is still in effect? Can you not give them a seasonal licence to operate? Let us have some new thoughts on this, Mr. Minister.

I respect the job that you are trying to do, but you are going about it in the wrong way. If you are going to have a large producer of income for our economy, for our government in the form of taxation, let us reciprocate and let us do it properly. You would not run a business this way. Why should you run your department that way? I expect to hear your answers.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I think I can only repeat to my hon. friend from Grey South what I have said before—

Mr. Sargent: It is Grey-Bruce, not Grey South. That is a bad name.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is just that he looks so brown today; he is below the line.

Mr. Sargent: I did not get that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I will explain that later. The situation, of course, is that the liquor licence Act and the Liquor Licence Control Act are in the jurisdiction of the Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship (Mr. Welch). I can tell the hon. member that the matter is under continual study—

Mr. Sargent: That does not look so bad.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think I said the same thing last year, and I think the hon. member was pleased with some of the results the study has brought in the last two or three years, because there have been a number of changes.

I would take issue with him a little, although this property is not within the scope of these estimates. I would take issue with him on the subject of our law being so antiquated as compared with other jurisdictions. I think he will recall some anachronisms in legislation in some of the States, as the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman) reminded the House the other day. There is local option in most of the United States, and in fact it seems to me that in Virginia they just got around to starting local option two or three years ago. Before that it was totally dry.

Mr. Sargent: Well now you are turning back the clock 100 years; this clock is wound, it is 1970.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well I say let us wait and see what tomorrow brings.

Mr. Sargent: Well, we have not even started yet on this. The minister admits that our laws are stupid insofar as—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I did not say that.

Mr. Sargent: Well, you implied they were.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I said that there were a number of updating changes.

Mr. Sargent: Well, then, would you consider then representations to the Prime Minister and to the Provincial Secretary to give seasonal licences to operators of these camps? You know, if you give banquet permits—and banquet permits are the biggest joke in the world—you are a wee bit pregnant, but not—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, you know what happens when you get a wee bit pregnant.

Mr. B. Newman: No, tell us.

Mr. Sargent: Would you consider giving seasonal licences then?

Mr. Chairman: I am afraid that question is not appropriate to this section.

Mr. Sargent: I do not care whether it is appropriate or not, I would like an answer to it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The one question I would answer, Mr. Chairman, is that the hon. member said: How could you make an appeal? In the throne debate—

Mr. Sargent: Would you turn that speaker up, I cannot hear! Would you turn the speaker up a bit?

Hon. Mr. Auld: the estimates of the Provincial Secretary, the budget debate—there are many opportunities for the hon. member to make a plea to the government on this subject—to the government as a whole, or to the responsible minister, rather than the Minister of Tourism who has no specific jurisdiction.

I really think, Mr. Chairman, we are out of order on this.

Mr. Sargent: I respectfully submit to the minister that this is very important. We are talking about millions of dollars that could be generated for these operators to give them a chance for a break-even point.

A man has an investment ranging from $25,000 to $100,000 in a camp, but he cannot sell a government licensed product, even though you have a banquet permit setup for local option areas. Why do you not give him a permit for a season, the same as you do for six hours for a banquet permit? It is only a matter of degree.

You must realize there must be some kind of intelligence once in a while over there. You must realize that these men have an investment and the right to make money. But geography has changed the whole picture, as far as this province is concerned, and geography should not be the yard stick as to whether a man can make a profit or not. He is rendering a service and you are spending his money to bring these people in here and yet you cannot serve them a drink.

So I would like to ask the minister again, why not give these tourist camp operators a seasonal licence? I am not pleading for myself; I know I cannot get it. But in an area where we have—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! The chairman should point out that this is a topic the member should pursue with the Provincial Secretary.

Mr. Sargent: Oh no, no, he is asking us here for $1 million for tourist development and I am talking about tourist camp development, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! This department does not make laws concerning this arrangement.

Mr. Sargent: Pardon me, sir!

Mr. Chairman: This department does not—

An hon. member: That is very good, he will get a second chance.

Mr. Sargent: I am asking him to pull up his socks and do something about it with the minister.

Mr. Chairman: I would assure the member that he will take it up with his colleagues and the government.

Mr. Sargent: I am not through; I am not a wee bit through. And I would like to know, would the minister try to get a seasonal licence for these tourist camp operators? Would he approach the Prime Minister and the Provincial Secretary?

Hon. Mr. Auld: All I can say is I have certainly listened with a great deal of interest to the plea that the hon. member has made.

Mr. Sargent: Well, that is mighty neighbourly of you.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Better than saying he has not listened at all.

Mr. Bukator: I am glad for the committee that he is listening.

Mr. Sargent: Would the minister qualify the four or five-year loan programme for tourist operators, as I have mentioned before? Is it factual that you have allotted $1 million for—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I suppose I could repeat—although I do not need to—what I said in my opening remarks. There is a separate item in the Minister of Trade and Development's (Mr. Randall) estimates of $1 million for loans to the tourist industry, as the hon. member has said. At the moment it would appear that there would be a limit, or a maximum, of $50,000 per loan but the terms—which is important—will be flexible and will be long, probably running up to 20 years. This has been one of the problems in financing, as the hon. member knows, and the main emphasis—

Mr. Sargent: Do you mean—on a question—do you think it is adequate for 20 loans across Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think it is a great deal better than none.

Mr. Sargent: Oh, come on now, you must be kidding.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I am not.

Mr. B. Newman: One million bucks, to help the tourist industry?

Mr. Sargent: $1 million for across the whole province for one year; 20 loans is all you are going to consider?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I say it is a lot better than none. I have also said I wish it were $10 million, and I hope that one of these days it will be, but at least we have made a start.

From the discussion that I have had as recently as Wednesday night with the executive of ATRO, the Association of Tourist Resort Operators, they, too, are very delighted. They would love to see more, but they say it is a start. I think in my remarks I said it was a "modest" beginning and that is what it is.

The emphasis, as far as the administration of this fund is concerned—for the moment, as we feel our way—will be on additions to existing establishments; to modernization, particularly the winterization in those areas where the potential for winter tourist revenue is great, and particularly to the resorts in the north where these problems are even greater than they are in some of the other parts of the province.

Mr. Sargent: Would the minister advise, then, now they are in the area of giving capital help in the niggardly amount of $1 million to brace, did you say 8,000 establishments who want to upgrade—8,000?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I said there are 8,000 that we have licensed.

Mr. Sargent: Yes. These people have planned investments, in the larger plants, probably up to $500,000, yet they cannot get a nickel's worth of bank credit today. There is no inventory—they cannot borrow money on inventory, or anything.

They cannot get a bank credit, yet you loaned to Holiday Inn, a multimillion-dollar corporation, you loaned them $500,000 up in the Muskoka area. You give Caswell, the president of the Conservative association in North Bay, a $1 million loan, or whatever it comes to. But you offer $1 million in total, across Ontario, for thousands of operators to upgrade their premises.

What a ridiculous statement this is. And it does not become the minister—I regard him as one of the better ministers—it does not become him to offer this industry that kind of statement. I think he should be rather ashamed of this niggardly treatment.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, could I just make one comment although this is more properly, I suppose, the affair of the Minister of Trade and Development. The ODC loans, to which the hon. member for Grey-Bruce referred—the Holiday Inn in Muskoka and Caswell resort in Sundridge—were of a different nature. If the hon. member will recall, the Muskoka Tourist Association, I believe, supported the application of Holiday Inn.

The loan was given, not for accommodation, but for banquet facilities and other things which would help to fill up existing accommodation in the area, and this has been done successfully. The loan was not given for accommodation and it was not given for normal motel or resort operation.

Mr. Sargent: Were these forgiveness loans?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, it was a—

Mr. Sargent: They have to pay them back?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, it is a repayable loan. A conventional one.

In the case of Sundridge the same thing applied. It was for a swimming pool, meeting facilities and so on. I am told that, as a result, the other motels in the area, the other accommodation in the area, instead of having about a 20 per cent occupancy in the winter, ran something like 80 per cent. I believe it also included snow-making equipment. In other words, to improve the tourist plant, so that the existing unused accommodation would be used and we would be helping the other operators, as well as the applicant.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Chairman, what is the minister's department doing about the Niagara Escarpment?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, we have members from our department on a number of the interdepartmental committees that are working on the Niagara Escarpment—that is Dr. Gertler's study.

Mr. Lewis: On the assumption that the thrust of the Gertler study was accurate—namely, that the entire Niagara Escarpment is a very useful object for recreational and therefore, evidently, for tourist purposes, what has The Department of Tourism and Information done to acquire certain lands and how much has been spent, how much do you intend to spend? There must surely be some specifics available, since the report, if I recall, is now almost two years old.

Hon. Mr. Auld: To answer very briefly, our department has done nothing to acquire land because we have no funds nor statutory authority to do so. I can tell the hon. member that he can get more details from the Ministers of Energy and Resources Management and Lands and Forests. As part of the long-term implementation of part or all of the plan, acquisitions are being considered and, I believe, in some cases are being made by those two departments, either through conservation authorities or through Lands and Forests via Public Works. But I am afraid I cannot give him detailed information, because the information I have comes from what has already come forward to the parks integration board for approval. There may be many other things in the works of which I am not aware as yet.

Mr. Lewis: Why do you not find out?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are involved, of course, in the tourist and recreation studies for the whole province, particularly southern Ontario. This is one reason why we are involved with the Niagara Escarpment studies; there are many of these things that relate to the overall recreation figures.

Mr. Lewis: That is why I wanted to pursue it for a moment. Frankly, I am a trifle confused about how it is that a minister of your department, sir, through the Chairman, could have so little information about what must surely be one of your main focuses over the next several years. Dr. Klopchic sitting across from you has been making a number of studies. I respect that, but surely the escarpment study itself must have been acted upon sufficiently to give you an idea of the tourist use and potential in the immediate future. Or are you saying simply that you are the recipient of bits and pieces of information that come your way from other departments and, when they have made up their minds, you will then inherit whatever there is to be inherited?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I did not make myself clear. As far as the actual purchase of properties, should we implement parts of the plan, I am only aware of those that have already been made. I am not involved in the deciding of priorities, the inquiring as to what property is available, what may have to be expropriated, how the plan will be implemented in terms of time and so on.

Mr. Lewis: You are not involved in that at all?

Mr. Stokes: You have no thoughts on it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am involved and our department is involved in the drafting of the plan and the studies that have gone into it and that are being made around it. But, as far as the actual mechanics of acquiring land is concerned, I am aware of what sort of priorities there are, but I am not involved until it reaches the parks integration board.

Mr. Stokes: What are the priorities?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, I do not feel that it is my responsibility to mention what priorities there are. I would rather that these questions would be asked of the Minister of Lands and Forests or the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, because I am not sure

what their priorities are or what other factors might be involved—

Mr. Stokes: You should have the priorities and they should make the resources available.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —in terms of acquiring property, whether the minister wants to announce what his objectives are before options are obtained and this sort of thing.

Mr. Lewis: You say you are aware of some parcels that have been acquired. Can you tell us which parcels those are?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid I do not have that information in front of me.

Mr. Lewis: Do you have any vague idea as to the amount?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would have no reason to, Mr. Chairman, because there is nothing in my estimates having to do with that.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, how in God's name can the minister be so little concerned with what is happening when what occurs with the Niagara Escarpment will directly and qualitatively affect the entire tourist industry in Ontario and, rather more important, the recreational facilities for the province of Ontario, which by virtue of your department, are absolutely integral? The man sitting across from you in your research branch is doing all the preparation on which every other department will base its decision, so how can it be other than fundamental to your department?

The reality is that we have a study that is now almost two years old. Those of us on this side of the House are very much concerned that the entire escarpment is disappearing into the hands of private control and will be removed from the public sector forever. We are very much concerned about that. The lead time is gone, the period of four years within which all the purchases were to be made is virtually up in terms of the priorities that Gertler set out. Frankly, I am bewildered, I find it incomprehensible why this minister, who has a primary responsibility, says Lands and Forests is acquiring land. Maybe they will make the dollar purchases in the final analysis, but surely it is somehow integrated with what you yourself expect as a minister and what you yourself rely upon in terms of the use of the escarpment area.

You will recall, sir, that Gertler had divided the acquisition of land into three areas. He had set priorities in dollar amounts; he had set the number of years in each instance. We have not been able to get from government the slightest suggestion of where the acquisitions have been, if in fact there had been any, or what is intended. There is absolutely no information available at all. It is one of the most extraordinary conspiracies in government, and one would wish that this minister could give some of that information. That is really what I am seeking. I am not saying that the plans are diabolical, but we are becoming increasingly anxious about the absence of any information at all. I do not know whether I can press any further. You say to me that there is no point in pressing other than through the other ministers, but I find it difficult to know how you expect to plan for the future of your department without access to this information.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The problem is, as I say, that there is nothing in my estimates to involve the kind of information the hon. member wants. He knows that we are preparing the master tourism plan and he has spent some time with Dr. Klopchic to go over this. He, I believe, knows that we do not expect to have the first report until October of this year, so far as the specific items that interest us are concerned, if I can put it that way, we have completed that.

My main point, Mr. Chairman, is that I just do not have—and there is no way that I would have—the kind of detail which I would want to have before I would attempt to put myself on record in this House to give information to the hon. member about the plan. I certainly do not want to mislead him, and I suggest to the hon. member that he might either ask the provincial Treasurer and Minister of Economics, who is involved to a great extent with his economic planning group, or the Minister of Lands and Forests, who would be carrying out certain aspects of whatever has been or will be decided in the future regarding the acquisition of land, the development of it, or the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, because the conservation authorities are already involved and may well be involved to a greater degree in the future.

Mr. Lewis: Fair enough, Mr. Chairman, I have only one more observation. So be it, Mr. Minister. But the message is very clear. It is not escaping me, not escaping me at all. If your colleagues have not even taken the trouble to give you an idea of precisely what is intended, then nothing is intended.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member, I think, is misinterpreting what I said.

Mr. Lewis: I do not think so.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I said that I have information as to what is going on, but I do not believe that I am the one to put it forward because I do not have the details in front of me. I did not say that my colleagues were not keeping me posted. As the Minister of Mines (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) reminded me a moment ago, The Department of Mines is also involved, obviously as far as portage is concerned. Everybody is involved, including the Minister of Highways.

Mr. Lewis: Right, about The Department of Mines: I saw the minister behind you, and I wanted to smile charitably at him. He is involved simply in the destruction of the escarpment. I am involved in the presentation of the escarpment and wanted to focus my remarks in that fashion, so I did not pursue it. Even if you—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I really think that this discussion, as far as the Niagara Escarpment study is concerned, is out of order because there is nothing here that has to do with it. If you want to discuss the tourist and recreation plan, that is another thing, in the—

Mr. Lewis: In the research branch, is what you are saying?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In the research branch.

Mr. Lewis: Well, I have patience too.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Niagara Falls.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, to continue on this very subject, I remember my first speech here in this House in 1960 when Mr. Frost was the Prime Minister. Speaking of this escarpment, he called it the—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I wonder if the hon. member would save his remarks till we get the research cleared up.

Mr. Bukator: With the greatest of respect for the minister, because the speaker before me was on this very subject, I will just add another chapter to the book, and I will not take too much of your time.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if we could find out if there are any other remarks or questions about tourist industry development and then move on to the next vote which would make us all in order.

Mr. Bukator: Just as long as I am assured that I get the very next chance at it, on the next vote.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Niagara Falls will have every opportunity.

The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. Bukator: You have just said what I asked you not to do, Mr. Chairman. I do not want to change the subject at this time because I think it is pertinent at this session. It just does not make sense to stop.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): It is out of order.

Mr. Bukator: The speaker before me was out of order.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Lewis: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. You have allowed a discussion on the escarpment area to proceed for some 15 minutes. Do you now intend to move to tourist development of another kind and then come back?

Mr. Chairman: I would think myself we should clear up the matter of any discussion on this particular topic if the minister has his resource people with him at the present time. Is that true?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: We will hear the member for Niagara Falls on the Niagara escarpment.

Mr. Bukator: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Provided it relates to the tourist part.

Mr. Bukator: Oh, without a doubt. No doubt tourists will be travelling on this escarpment road, when and if it is ever opened. There is no doubt about it at all, there will be many tourist areas along the route, as the plans were submitted—and this is what I tried to tell you—in 1956. Can you imagine that? Not two years ago, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. B. Newman: Fourteen long years.

Mr. Bukator: There was a brief submitted to this province by the counties of Welland, Lincoln and Haldimand, speaking about an escarpment drive for tourist purposes from Queenston—not in my riding—to Hamilton.

Mr. Haggerty: Another one in 1967.

Mr. Bukator: There were councils of committee and the two county councils, Lincoln and Welland, who decided this ought to be. And the land could have been purchased and

purchased very cheaply at that time, Mr. Chairman.

The brief was brought through this House and the hon. Prime Minister stood up in his place and said that this is the greatest thing that ever came down the pike—and it is in *Hansard*. He did not say "down the pike," but he said it was an excellent proposal and we should get on with the job.

I was on that committee, if you get that brochure it was well done, Mr. Chairman. We went on with the two counties taking movies of the escarpment and every area where they could have a road and a park and so on, long before they built those houses on the escarpment at Hamilton, or many of them.

And so we come to the government again. We saw the Minister of Highways, it was then Mr. MacNaughton and Energy and Resources—I do not think it then had that title—but there was another department of this government who said there is money here for you. And the then Minister of Public Works, Mr. Connell, had his people from Hamilton saying this was great, we should get on with the job.

Now, I have said in this House that I have mellowed with age. That is not true. I might have been frustrated then again you get beyond that point, and you find yourself sitting here in the front benches, as I have done for years, and you quit talking about these things because they are not going to happen.

Since the Minister of Mines has been brought into this particular picture, surely as long as they continue to dig holes, what the gentleman from Scarborough West said is true. The Bruce Trail or the escarpment trail is being completely demolished because of houses that are done away with and excavation of rock that is necessary in this part of the country. At one point, dealing with tourists again if you will, maybe these areas that have been dug out could be made into some type of gardens; maybe some of the top that they take off from time to time to get to the rock could be pushed back in. Perhaps, in a few years' time, you could get things to grow again and it could become green. But this is not a new subject and that, Mr. Minister, is why I complain about this thing yet. That brochure in 1956 was meant to accommodate our people as well as tourists, but we only took it from Queenston, no part of it touching my riding, to Hamilton, and so the wheels of government—I was going to say "roll on," but they do not roll at all as far as this particular subject is concerned. The brakes are on.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: They are rolling.

Mr. Bukator: Are they? The Minister of Mines says they are rolling. I am going to quit. I do not think I could accomplish much more on this subject if I were to speak here for three days. I will be the happiest man in this Legislature when they have taken the necessary steps—not for us, but for our children and their children after them, because this is a must. I do hope that this minister and the three other departments he speaks of will get involved in this thing and save it—or what they can save of it—while there is still a chance to save some portion of it.

Mr. Chairman: Programme carried? The hon. member for Lakeshore.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Mr. Chairman, I take it that the minister in charge does agree conclusively and without any qualifications that the preservation of the escarpment as such and the Bruce Trail are crucial to the interests of the people of Ontario, now and into the future, so far as the tourism industry is concerned. Would that be a true statement?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I guess in a general sense that is correct, yes.

Mr. Lewis: General?

Mr. Stokes: With reservations.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): What is the reservation?

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, what caused you to say, "in general"?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Because I am not sure exactly what the hon. member means as to his interpretation of what was involved in preservation. I would simply point out again that if you want to discuss the tourist and recreational development, I am prepared to discuss it, but I think we are out of order if we are discussing the Bruce Trail and the escarpment study, *per se*, because there are no funds in my estimates that have to do with it.

Mr. Lawlor: You have got developmental possibilities and it is a part of the role of your department. You have made statements that your department has engaged in some kind of nebulous enterprises with respect to the escarpment. My next question, then, perhaps to draw you out a little bit with your

"in generals" and make them not so general, is precisely what is the role and function of your department? What are you doing? What reports are you making to whom? And what, in effect, are you saying presently so far as the tourist industry is concerned, touching the matter of the Niagara situation?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I assume, Mr. Chairman, we are dealing with research services now, this item in the vote? I believe we got on to the research aspect, which is what we are now discussing; but I believe there may still be some discussion on the previous item.

Mr. Chairman: When I left the chair half an hour ago the discussion was on the tourist industry development services. The item is not marked as having been carried and as far as I can determine we are still on the tourist industry development. Now, if we have gone into research it was out of order. So we should be discussing tourist development services.

Does this programme carry?

Some hon. members: No.

Mr. Chairman: No. Then we will debate further the tourist industry development service.

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, let us get this thing straightened out.

Mr. Lewis: But surely, Mr. Chairman, we have been for half an hour on the problem? We have been on the problem of the Niagara Escarpment and its tourist potential and its preservation for that purpose. It unhappily seems to overlap the two branches. That has been the difficulty. Although you are in the chair, your immediate predecessor in the chair, while he admitted it was somewhat out of order, said he would permit the discussion on the escarpment to end before the other details came in.

Mr. Chairman: All right, I will accept that as being reasonable. We are still dealing with the tourist industry development, but we will permit the discussion on the Niagara Escarpment before we carry the development branch.

Mr. Lewis: The minister may have something to tell us.

Hon. Mr. Auld: May I make this comment on the question of the hon. member a moment ago? Our involvement at this stage in the Niagara Escarpment studies and the plans that will flow, or are flowing from it, is related to the tourism and outdoor recreation planning study which this department is making in our research branch. The reasons for this should be obvious but the basis of it, the expenditure for tourism and outdoor recreation facilities in the province, is now estimated to be approximately $250 million annually. This obviously is not all in my department. It is in a number of departments, including Highways, Lands and Forests and others.

The second reason was to ascertain what lands in Ontario should be preserved for multi-purpose use and particularly for tourism and outdoor recreation. About 80 per cent of Ontario, as the hon. member knows, is crown land; and in central Ontario, about 60 per cent is crown land.

In addition to determining the amounts of land that should be made available for tourism and outdoor recreation facilities in each county or district, lands associated with other economic uses such as agriculture, industrial, commercial and residential must also be considered. Of course, this would be the responsibility of the regional development branch of The Department of Treasury of Economics. Our people are involved with the study. Dr. Klopchic, our director of research, is chairman. There are representatives from Highways, Education, Lands and Forests, Municipal Affairs, also Treasury and Economics.

Before the escarpment plan can be completed, I think it is fair to say, the input from all the counties and so on within the escarpment area have to be established, collated and interpreted, and this information carried forward so that the escarpment plan can be completed.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Chairman, continuing my question as to the second function or purpose that you are carrying out, have you yet, in your department, designated, even tentatively, specific lands on the escarpment for acquisition purposes?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No we have not; at least we have not recommended. We would not be—

Mr. Lawlor: Do you know pretty well?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We would be suggesting, but we have not got all the information. We hope to have this information and the recommendations by this fall, but I am informed that it may not be possible to complete it by that time and it may be next year.

Mr. Lewis: Well, Mr. Chairman on the same point: What the minister is saying then is that three years will have elapsed since Gertler submitted his study to you. It was submitted in June, 1968, and you are not likely to have the material, you may not have the material, until well into 1971!

That simply means, Mr. Chairman, it might as well be on the record, that the escarpment as a recreational and tourist resort is lost to the province of Ontario.

Mr. Lawlor: It looks like that.

Mr. Lewis: There is no conceivable or workable alternative. The committee which was recommended in the report was never established, the committee which would have made some perusal of the specific requirements! The only thing one has is the TORP study, I think, the one you have just described. Notably absent is a representative from the ministry of Energy and Resources Management—at least absent from the list you read, Mr. Minister. It really has been a very interesting morning, because we now have some credible evidence to suggest that three years will have elapsed.

Perhaps I may take a moment, Mr. Chairman, it will only be one moment, to remind you of what Gertler said about the lead time. He said:

> The approach to priorities in this study arises out of the nature of this escarpment, a unique and irreplaceable resource of high recreational and amenity value. In the nature of things, action to preserve the escarpment where it is, under the kind of pressure that will destroy its essential quality, will have to be taken quickly if it is to be effective. It is suggested that control of priority one lands be treated as a matter of the greatest possible urgency.

That was written before June, 1968, when the report was finally tabled. We are now told that it will be almost three years before you have the assessment from the counties, which would presumably be a preface to the acquisition of the land. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, what the government is allowing to happen is the loss of the escarpment as a tourist and recreational resource for the people of the province of Ontario.

Surely it would be possible, were it otherwise, for the minister to rise and say to us, "These are roughly our plans and these are roughly the expenditures we expect." At least I might wring from him, perhaps in a poignant vein, an assurance that the basic premise of the escarpment study, which was its preservation for the public use, is something that he, as a minister, is prepared to guarantee absolutely. Can he do that? No, you cannot make that guarantee. And, without seeing conspiratorial manoeuvrings behind the scenes, Mr. Chairman, may I say to the minister that the reason you cannot guarantee it, sir, is because the escarpment is systematically being purchased by private speculators, and all the lands that we require for public need will have been lost, because the lead time is lost. Indeed, the nature of the private acquisitions, as one hears, is perhaps a little out of the ordinary. One would wish that there was some way of stopping it and some way of your department stepping in and saying, "Look, at the very least, have some compassion for me; I cannot lose the best tourist and recreation resource I have in all of south-central Ontario."

I concede, Mr. Chairman, that I do not know whether one can drive this minister further, except that this report will not be buried this session without an appropriate funeral dirge, let me tell you that. There will be some serious lamentations on this side of the House when your colleagues emerge—and you have mentioned three of them who have primary responsibility—and we will call them to task when they come before us. It is criminal and absurd that you will sequester an entire environment for private use when every single person who has studied it said, "This is the primary public focus in recreational and tourist terms for the province of Ontario."

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Niagara Falls.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, if the minister indicated to the last speaker that it would take three years for the counties to get this data together—

Mr. Lewis: If he did.

Mr. Bukator: Yes, if he did. Well, I say he is not too well acquainted with what has been taking place there since 1956. There was a brief; they had it laid out on paper, both the county of Welland and the county of Lincoln. Now the Niagara regional metro council has these documents; they have all of the facts. I bet you they have in detail exactly where this road will go, so you do not have to wait three days; you could get this this afternoon. That ought not to be a hindrance.

When Mr. Frost said in this House in 1960 that the Bruce Trail or the "escarpment drive" would be completed, that made me very happy. Work was being done behind the scenes by these counties; they do have these

facts now. The present Prime Minister got up here two years ago and made this presentation, and I cheered him on because I believed this should have been done long before that. But I thought that the present government, with the Prime Minister in complete accord, would get on with the job and complete it. So there is nothing to hold you up beyond this evening.

The facts of where the road will go and the details are there before you. All you have to do is call two offices; that ought not to stop you. I suggest that someone in this government, since the Prime Minister made that statement two years ago about the escarpment and the Bruce Trail, has not done too much about it. I think the ministers are all busy in this government, and therefore they just did not get together on it.

I think you could open the drawers of your desks, put this piece together, and within a month you could put the show on the road. There is nothing to stop you.

Mr. Lewis, Who is buying the land? Who is buying it up now?

Mr. Bukator: Oh, it would no doubt be land developers, such as they always do.

Mr. Lewis: Give us a name-by-name list of who is buying it.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Chairman, I wish to add my voice to that of my colleague in this matter. Why, oh why, the delay? The matter is one of imperative necessity; a most precious, perishable, non-replaceable asset is going down the drain. The minister sits, as far as I can see, phlegmatically accepting that as some form of fate.

I would appeal, I would cajole, I would pray, I would beseech, I would do whatever is necessary to ask the minister to get on with it.

I would ask the Minister to say to this House today that while he may not be prepared to give a guarantee of the acquisition of the escarpment, he should be prepared to give to this assembly a statement that he is prepared to make the item of absolute first priority in his department so that another year will not be lost.

It seems to me that we have not been given the reasons for this further inexplicable delay. What reason is there that you may not bring forward recommendations and legislation in this regard by the fall at the very latest? Why the mollycoddling? Why the pusillanimity in this area? Why the failure to move in? Are you playing into the hands of the developers?

Mr. Lewis: Are you in league with the thieves again?

Mr. Lawlor: Otherwise, could the minister be kind enough to inform us precisely as to the reasons for this indicated delay this morning?

Mr. Lewis: It is a protection racket for private speculators.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can only repeat that these are the estimates of The Department of Tourism and Information; the TORP study is involved—

Mr. Lewis: It is dead on these estimates.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not the minister responsible for the Gertler report and the activity from it—

Mr. Lawlor: I have never seen a more blatant case of official ball bouncing.

Mr. Lewis: I just want to add, Mr. Chairman, that within the minister's department, within his research branch, under the direction of Dr. Klopchic, all the relevant decisions for south central Ontario are being made, and every piece of government information is to be incorporated into those decisions. And the minister has not only a responsibility, he has the primary responsibility.

The matter of dollars and cents and who acquires the land is an irrelevance. The plan for the acquisition is the focus and the fact that there is no such plan means that it is now a cabinet decision, whether it has been made thoughtfully or *in absentia*, as it were, to let it go by the boards. Because there is no way you will step in and save it now, not if you are waiting until 1971. It will have completely vanished and no Tory government is going to engage in massive expropriation of above the escarpment from developers, not a chance. Like every other single issue which has come before this House in the last six weeks, you have lost the will to govern. You have given up again.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Welland South.

Mr. Haggerty: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was not going to get into this debate on the Gertler report but I must give credit where credit is due. The Department of Lands and Forests, I know, have purchased land in the

short hills area of Fonthill and this is part of the Niagara escarpment.

I am also aware of the problems of the purchase of the land along the escarpment. I have sat on county council, and been chairman of county roads. I know, through the study in 1967—completed by the scenic drive committee between the counties of Lincoln, Welland and Wentworth, I believe it was—and I have been informed, too, there are options already taken up by developers along the Niagara escarpment. Again, I would question it and say if we continue with this part, are we opening it up for developers to move in? How do you go about stopping the holdings, the options, they have already taken on the land?

Mr. Lewis: By legislative action. It is all in the report.

Mr. Haggerty: By legislative action. Again we could come back and perhaps get into the issue. We can see what would take place here. It would be the same as has happened along the lakeshore, with lakefront property rights to the beaches, to our shores. It is something that will, perhaps, go by the wayside if the government does not act now in setting out and defining an area for park purposes. How they go about it, I do not know. I have not the solution for it. But I go along with your views that this should be done.

The other matter I would like to move into, Mr. Chairman, is a matter which perhaps is not as contentious as the Gertler report or the Niagara escarpment report. It is a problem that I raised with the minister some two years ago in his estimates. It is a matter that costs the province of Ontario nothing, and this I believe is important to the people, the tourists who come over here to Ontario. I think there must be regulations now provided by this government for water safety in the province.

Last year, along with the minister of The Department of Lands and Forests who made several trips within my area, we were discussing this issue with one of these lakefront property owners, the Sherkston Beaches. They said they do provide lifeguards, he does at the quarry, but for the two miles of lakefront property there is no lifeguard whatsoever. Yet along the lakeshore at certain distances apart they have what they call stands where a person or a lifeguard could be located. What they have located on these stands are rubber rafts or plastic floats, for rental purposes.

I have got the chairman lost as usual but the—

Mr. Chairman: The chairman is not lost. He is just wondering where this comes into development.

Mr. Haggerty: Development? I am talking about water safety and I think this should come under—

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member should be talking about tourist industry development.

Mr. Haggerty: This is part of the tourist industry. You are bringing these people in; you are allowing them to come in. You are saying come on over to Ontario, we have some of the finest beaches. But I am saying we should also promote safety along with this. The point that I raise is in renting these floats out. There were two young persons left adrift on Lake Erie through the night and were picked up by one of the larger lake freighters on Lake Erie. Now if they had been in a rough sea, the two lives would have been lost.

This is the point I want to bring to the minister—that I think it is time, through his good offices, that regulations are set out where charges are made for use of the beaches for swimming purposes that markers, bench markers, for the depth of water, buoys, should be put out there with ropes or something defining an area for swimming. And perhaps there should be a light signal put up there to indicate that in heavy seas no swimming will be permitted. I think the tourists should be guaranteed some protection.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I do not disagree with the hon. member. I simply say that it is not a function of this department.

If the hon. member is, as I think he is, also referring to provincial parks, he might bring this up in the estimates of the Minister of Lands and Forests. If it is a matter of water safety itself, which is presently under the small vessels regulations of The Canada Shipping Act which are enforced by local police, he might discuss it with the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), but I am afraid there is nothing in my operation that has to do with water safety, other than the fact that like all members of this House we are anxious that the waters be safe.

Mr. Haggerty: Well surely the minister can do something about these matters. It costs you nothing.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

I presume there will be more discussion on tourist industry development, and in view of the time I believe that we—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I wonder if there is more on research. Since we had a long discussion on that, I wonder if we might get that one passed.

Mr. B. Newman: I have one on tourist development councils, Mr. Chairman. I would just as soon hold it off until next day, but if you want to allow me to bring it up under research.

Mr. Chairman: That is the very reason I determined from the committee that there would be further speakers on tourist industry development. There is no point in pursuing it in view of the hour.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I just wondered, Mr. Chairman, if we have completed research, which we have also discussed—it is the next item. If so, the members of the staff who will be involved in that would not have to return.

Mr. Chairman: The committee had agreed to take this vote by programme of activity. Was the research programme called? Is there discussion on research?

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, I have a matter I want to bring forward and was told to wait until research. It has been covered in some manner here. I do not want the Niagara Escarpment to be ruled out when we come to research again, because this deals partly with that. It is a matter in which I was waiting to be in order in my approach.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves that the committee of supply begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed, Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, the programme for next week would appear to be this: We would have the contribution in the budget debate of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) on Monday afternoon, and if time permits we would then return to these estimates. There will be no session Monday evening. Tuesday it is the contribution of the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. MacDonald) and then we will go to estimates. There will be sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings of next week.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.00 o'clock, p.m.

No. 29

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, April 6, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Monday, April 6, 1970

Resumption of the debate on the budget, Mr. Nixon 1135
Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. MacDonald, agreed to 1146
Action to close all fishing, commercial and sport, in certain areas, statement by Mr. Brunelle 1146
Baby taken from Kingston Hospital, re question to Mr. Yaremko by Mr. MacDonald 1146
Trial of Clinton Duke, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 1146
Death of Ronald James Harrow in Don Jail, questions to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Nixon 1147
British Columbia government and breathalyser test, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Singer, Mr. Bullbrook 1147
Passenger rate changes by Canadian Pacific Railway, questions to Mr. Haskett, Mr. MacDonald 1149
Ministerial order against Johns-Manville in North Bay, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. R. S. Smith 1149
Actuarial deficit of Teachers' Superannuation Fund, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Martel, Mr. T. Reid 1150
Retirement allowance to Mr. L. D. Irwin, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Nixon 1150
Sales tax on chemicals and replacement parts for municipal pollution control centres, question to Mr. White, Mr. Paterson 1151
Difficulties at Laurentian University, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Pitman, Mr. T. Reid 1151
Seed grain treated with mercury fungicide, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Burr, Mr. T. P. Reid 1151
Ban on fishing in certain areas, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Paterson, Mr. Allan, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. Ruston, Mr. Spence 1152
Mercury pollution from Abitibi Paper Company at Iroquois Falls, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Jackson 1153
Compensation by Dow Chemical to people affected by mercury pollution, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Bullbrook 1153
Ontario physicians and symptoms of mercury poisoning in humans, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Burr 1154
Sulphur dioxide emissions at Falconbridge, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Martel 1154
Facilities for checking mercury content in Ontario waters, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Ruston 1155
Study of borrowing procedures for larger municipalities, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Good 1155
Property taxes paid by provincially assisted universities, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. T. Reid 1155
Legislation to eliminate special-purpose bodies, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. Good, Mr. Bukator 1155
Indian community development projects for Saugeen and Cape Croker reserves, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Sargent 1157
Property taxes paid by business corporations in Ontario, question to Mr. White, Mr. T. Reid 1157
Evaluations for Ontario succession duties and federal estate tax, question to Mr. White, Mr. Ruston 1157
Cemeteries Act, bill to amend, Mr. Good, first reading 1157
Retail Sales Tax Act, 1960-1961, bill to amend, Mr. White, first reading 1158
Income Tax Act, 1961-1962, bill to amend, Mr. White, first reading 1158
Race Tracks Tax Act, bill to amend, Mr. White, first reading 1158
Tobacco Tax Act, 1965, bill to amend, Mr. White, first reading 1158
Estimates, Department of Tourism and Information, Mr. Auld, continued 1158
On notice of motion No. 2, Mr. Davison, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ben, Mr. Bolton, Mr. Bernier 1168
Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 1179

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and that the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

ON THE BUDGET

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. During my absence from the House, in fact, on April 1, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister realizes that this is a pre-arranged programme for television today. He can have a question of privilege at any time, yes; the minister is entitled to the floor, but I just wanted to point out that there were other arrangements.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the question of privilege. During my absence, on April 1, somebody impersonated me in the House and the *Globe and Mail* of that day, published a picture of this impersonator and attributed the photograph to myself. There has been no correction, that I have noticed, by the parties to this impersonation.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): And the minister does not want to be associated with them.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Surely it is the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) who should be complaining.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I merely wish to draw this to the attention of the House. There were some others who were there; it is a question of privilege.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, on the same order of privilege, I too noticed this. I have made arrangements to take proper action against the newspaper and I have asked the Attorney General to represent both of us.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I do not know how you are going to deal with these important matters raised by the Attorney General and the Minister of Highways, but I am glad to have the opportunity, sir, to comment on the budget that was presented by the gentleman who is really the subject of these points of privilege that have been raised for your consideration this afternoon.

Unfortunately the hon. gentleman does not seem to be here this afternoon. I trust that he will come in later. I am particularly anxious that the views expressed by myself, as leader of the Liberal Party, are brought to the attention of the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), because I must say that he is the centre of some serious complaints as far as we are concerned.

He was asking us, in his budget motion, to approve the expenditure of $3.74 billion for the financing of our provincial programmes during the coming year. If I can quote just a phrase from his budget, he says:

> This is a continuation of the government's policy of severe and deliberate expenditure restraint.

Well, it is just at that point that the credibility of the hon. Treasurer, who is still absent, begins to crack just a bit. If you compare the $3.74 billion prediction of expenditure with the amount that was spent a year ago, $3.2 billion, then, even without the benefit of new math, you can see that the budget of this province has gone up 14 per cent in one year. If we extend it back over a three-year period, comparing it with the budget of 1967, you will see, sir, that expenditure in Ontario has gone up almost 68 per cent.

I would ask you, sir, if this is consonant with your understanding of "severe and deliberate expenditure restraint"? Obviously this is a ridiculous phrase to associate with a budget of the size and magnitude of that which was presented to this House just a week ago.

You might further look at some of the indications of severely limited expenditure and

restraint that are going on about the province at the present time. From your own office window, Mr. Speaker, you can almost see the steelwork for the $24 million new office complex to the east of Queen's Park which is going up right alongside the $36 million offices that were completed just a year ago.

And every day, as I drive into Toronto on the Queen Elizabeth Way, I look out into the Toronto harbour by the exhibition grounds and I see the $13 million construction of something that is going to be opened next year, election year, and known as Ontario Place.

I do not want to use the limited time at my disposal to continue the list, but every member knows of our commitment to a new headquarters for the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education which, before it is completely paid for, will cost us $60 million. I am glad to see the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) just taking his place now, because I know he is concerned with efficiency and restraint in expenditure, even though he has gone ahead with the construction of this new headquarters for our institute for studies in education.

There are other expansion programmes pertaining to the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) and the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman)—each one of them by itself fully justified in being allowed to proceed within a period of time—in which this government, and particularly under the leadership of the Premier (Mr. Robarts) who sits opposite, advised by the Treasurer, cannot be said to have undertaken any severe restrictions or deliberate expenditure restraint.

I want to follow up briefly this plea of credibility because it is an important matter when we realize that this province is leading the discussions among the provinces with the government of Canada which should result in far-reaching and important tax reforms. These reforms have really been to long postponed and I believe the attitude of this government is going to further lengthen the process of tax reform which is really needed in this country and in this province to result in a new tax system.

I want you to recall, sir, some of the events in the last two years, particularly since the present incumbent became Treasurer. You recall, sir, as well as I, that about 15 months ago he made a speech in which he was predicting a fiscal nightmare for this province of Ontario, the richest province in Canada. This was followed just a year ago by a balanced budget, once again by severely restricting expenditures and holding the line on new taxes.

It is often forgotten, however, that last year, even without increasing taxes, there were close to $300 million in new dollars to be spent by the hon. gentlemen sitting opposite in the conduct of their administrative responsibilities. This year, once again, without any new tax levies, almost $476 million in new dollars were found for the funding of our programmes.

So it seems to me that any thought of increasing the tax base, or even any suggestion that it be increased, is irresponsible and unnecessary; that the government sitting opposite is provided with ample sums of money to fund expanding programmes. It is their lack of suitable and acceptable priorities that we are prepared to criticize in my remarks this afternoon.

In discussing the credibility gap that is building up around the Treasurer, and particularly around the Premier, I need only further recall, Mr. Speaker, the Premier's weird about-face associated with Medicare. It seems like ancient history but it took place only a year ago; he said that Medicare was a Machiavellian fraud and then went on to implement it in this province.

We know also that the Treasurer has undertaken a rather long-range battle with the Minister of Finance of Canada. It is a battle with feather dusters, I believe, because the Treasurer has backed off from his original charges that the Minister of Finance has grossly underestimated the income increase associated with the federal proposals in the white paper for tax changes at the federal level.

It is interesting that the Treasurer, as I say, has backed off in this battle now that he has what political kudos and advantage there seemed to lie in it. He has not, for a moment, undertaken to justify his charges in this House, nor even to undertake the consultations with the federal government that might be to the advantage of both sides.

He has gone cold on this particular political gambit, but at the same time has lost another measure of his credibility because, sir, we rely on the Treasurer to give the figures associated with the financing of the government's programmes when he goes to Ottawa to indicate just what our provincial needs are. Obviously, we rely on him to report accurately and meaningfully to all of us as members of this Legislature when he predicts

the expenditure of $3.7 billion in the fiscal year that began just last week.

I want to say something more about his ability as a predicter, surely one of the most important functions that must be exercised by our Treasurer. As you know, sir, we have provided him with the penthouse suite in one of the finest buildings in Toronto. The Treasury was opened two years ago and it is located across Queen's Park Crescent. He has floors of experts there to advise him; the provincial auditor's office is just down the hall. We have bought him the biggest and most elaborate computer that I believe exists in the province of Ontario, and still his record is as follows:

He underestimated personal income tax last year by $50 million;

He underestimated corporate income tax by $73 million.

He underestimated other revenues by $57 million, and this, of course, excludes the changes taking place half-way through the year resulting from the Premier's decision that Ontario had to take part in Medicare.

He is no longer treated seriously by those who look objectively at the responsibility of his high office. I believe that he has cried "wolf" once too often. When he talks about an austerity budget he does not underline the fact that he had half a billion dollars extra this year in order to accommodate the changing programmes.

For anybody on that side to say that all of these funds were earmarked before they were even collected is, of course, seriously misleading. If the expenditures directed by the gentlemen opposite are without any control as far as they are concerned, then maybe the government ought to just pack up and go back to Grand Bend for a lengthy holiday. Because it is the responsibility of the gentlemen sitting on the Treasury benches opposite to set priorities and to command the civil servants who come under the direction of them as ministers as to what is going to come about; and not throw up their hands and say "of course our expenditure has to expand by 10 to 14 to 15 per cent this year simply because it did last year."

Surely, Mr. Speaker, you would agree with me and my supporters in the Liberal Party that the Treasurer and the members of the administration opposite have developed a serious credibility gap. It is associated with their inability to predict the financing of the province; it is associated with their deliberate misleading tendencies and policies in dealing with the government of Canada.

When I accuse the Treasurer of having this credibility gap, I do so most seriously. But perhaps it is not as important as what I would call the accountability gap. This is not specifically the Treasurer's responsibility, but the direct responsibility of the leader of the government, the Premier who sits opposite.

Mr. Speaker, you know that the provincial auditor, who often sits under the gallery to your right in order to hear the debates in this House, has a heavy responsibility coming down through the great traditions of the parliamentary process. But it is his job not to be the servant of the government but to be the servant of this Legislature, a responsibility which he publicly acknowledges and which is laid out in the statute which controls his affairs.

You know further, sir, that the report of the provincial auditor deals only with his assumed responsibility to pre-audit the expenditures of the various departments represented by the ministers sitting opposite. In order to understand what this means we must realize that this House has a responsibility to vote sums of money, this year amounting to $3.7 billion, which then the ministers go out to spend in the support of the various provincial programmes.

It is the auditor's responsibility, or so he sees it, to give his certificate before any of these dollars are spent on programmes. This simply verifies that the money was voted by the House for the purposes indicated on the requests that come in from the ministers as they want to spend the money during the 12 months of the fiscal year. We, on this side, feel that his responsibility must go much deeper and broader than that. We feel that, in fact, he must undertake the researches necessary to verify to this House that the money has not only been spent in conjunction with votes of this House but that the money has been spent effectively and efficiently and without the waste that characterizes the programmes of the hon. gentlemen sitting opposite here.

He has said, echoing the phrases that I have heard come from the Premier himself, that they do not conduct any sort of a witch hunt in the province of Ontario. I would say to you, sir, that perhaps we do need a witch hunt if we are going to reveal the fiscal skeletons that are hanging around in the closets of the government ministers' offices.

From time to time it becomes apparent, through researches done by opposition members in both parties, and other people in the community, particularly those associated with the press, that moneys in tremendous amounts have been mismanaged. And in this, I am not talking about corruption. That is surely a different subject and one for which there is no evidence in the government, at the present time. We are talking about the efficient use of the hundreds of millions of dollars that pass through the hands of the ministers opposite in the day to day administration of their heavy responsibility.

We believe that the provincial auditor must no longer be so closely associated with the administration in his responsibility, which he sees primarily as being merely a pre-audit. He must be provided with the staff and with the direction of this House, which, of course, can come about only with the leadership of the government, since they command the majority in the House.

Obviously he must be provided with the direction to undertake the broad and deep investigation of government programmes, which has been lacking in this province since the Conservatives took office in 1943. We are not prepared to be personally critical of the gentleman's fulfillment of his functions, because he can only respond to the directions of the Legislature as a whole.

You know, sir, that a week ago, when he was requested for specific information resulting from charges made in his annual report that The Department of Public Works had not followed his directions a year ago, he found it impossible to give the detailed information that was requested by my colleague, the hon. member for Downsview who sits at my right hand. When this was brought up at the public accounts committee, he said that he did not have the power to do this unless he was so directed by the whole Legislature. We believe that the time has come for such direction.

We are prepared to put forward a resolution calling for this sort of co-operation with the auditor's office. We are prepared to set out the guidelines which we feel are minimal if the provincial auditor is going to have a function that is modern and effective in the day-to-day accounting procedures of the government of Ontario. We would ask, sir, for the support of all sides of the House when this resolution comes before the chamber.

There is a small problem in connection with this procedure because, as you know, the procedure for bringing forward such a resolution would be simply to stand in line for the use of the one hour each week devoted to private members' business, and when that hour is completed and the debate on each side — in this case, on the efficiency of the provincial auditor — is completed, then there will be no action possible. In other words, there is no lever, there is no power, at the disposal of the opposition members to even attempt to force the government or this Legislature to take this strong, progressive and, I would say, very necessary step.

All we can do is persuade the government opposite, and particularly the Premier, and marshal support across this province which would require the government to bring forward these guidelines and to put on the order paper a motion similar to the one we intend to put, to accomplish this very necessary goal.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of matters that have been brought to the attention of the House in the Treasurer's budget that he gave last week that I want to deal with in some specific detail. I refer, first, to the involvement in a new $10 million programme, ostensibly to assist our pensioners.

I have been speaking, for the last few months, of these people, many of them living in unfortunate poverty. I have referred to them as the new poor. I think a point is well made when it is pointed out that while most of us, certainly the members of this Legislature and the government, have been able to stay ahead of the pressures of inflation — as costs increase, our salaries have at least kept pace — those people in the community who have not had this good fortune are those living on fixed incomes, particularly those living on the basic public pensions which accounts for a good many hundreds of thousands of our people.

When the federal budget was brought down some weeks ago, the provincial Treasurer was critical of the lack of some federal programme to assist the pensioners. I asked him if he did not feel that, in fact, this was primarily a provincial responsibility and did he not agree that Ontario, as the richest province, should bring down a programme to assist our own pensioners.

He agreed and his comment in the budget, calling for the expenditure of an additional $10 million to assist the pensioners was the result of his agreement or, at least, his views on this important matter. I want to say something specific about it because, under the guise of reform, the government has put forward a scheme which, it says, will help these

elderly citizens of our province who live on limited, fixed incomes.

I am well aware of the plight of low-income pensioners and I have called this group the new poor. I would say that they have been forgotten by the federal and provincial governments in the past. But we must not lose sight of the fact that a federal programme, called the Canada Assistance Plan, commits the federal government to meet, dollar for dollar, any provincial programme that is specifically designed for the assistance of people such as those living on fixed incomes in this province.

At first glance, the provincial plan looks to be of some value in assisting pensioners. On closer look, however, we see that it is seriously inadequate. It does not make use of limited resources to give real help to those people.

I ask you to consider one or two of the statistics associated with the pensioners in the province of Ontario. In our province there are 600,000 people who receive the basic old-age security payment of about $80 a month. Forty per cent of these people, or 240,000 Ontarians, qualified for what is known as the guaranteed income supplement from the federal government in January of this year. Less than half of these, however, 115,000, receive the full income supplement of $31 a month and the rest, because they have resources that are privately available, receive only partial assistance beyond the basic pension. I would like to point out that the 115,000 who receive the full income supplement benefits, receive an annual income of $1,336.92. They are poor people in anyone's language.

Let us look at the supplementary programme for relief—perhaps that is an unfortunate word—but for assistance as set out in the budget. It is to be paid only to those who are in receipt of this income supplement. The basic figure is 240,000. They receive the income supplement and therefore they could be eligible for the special provincial assistance.

Immediately, however, we must disqualify 50,000 people who are housed in institutions or subsidized senior citizens' housing. Thus 190,000 are left.

Let us look at the requirements set out by the Treasurer once more. There seems to be only one grant allowable per household. If we consider that approximately one-fifth of the 190,000 are married people, we find that we now have 150,000 eligible for assistance.

But the next requirement and the most pervasive and discriminatory of all the requirements says that the pensioners must maintain an independent household by being a tenant or a homeowner.

The question then arises as to how many homeowners and tenants who are eligible for the income supplement actually exist. It is evident that we are considering a very small number of people. How many people earning $1,300 annually could own their own home, or maintain apartment rentals on incomes which, in fact, are only $111 a month?

Mr. Singer: That is a very good question.

Mr. Nixon: The Premier says they had not really thought about that. We undertook in the House to look at the scheme once more—

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Right.

Mr. Nixon: —and perhaps they will extend eligibility to those living in rooming houses. The whole programme, in our opinion, should be thrown out—

Mr. Singer: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nixon: —and new beginnings made.

Mr. Singer: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nixon: This time the programme should be developed with care and with consideration and with true reform in mind. If this government is prepared to allocate $10 million to the cause of assisting pensioners then I would be the first to say, of course, that this is certainly needful and, in fact inadequate—then the government should have proceeded to introduce a programme that would have provided maximum assistance.

With $20 million, that is $10 million from our budget matched with $10 million from the government of Canada, Ontario could provide an extra $83 annually to every one of the citizens of our province in receipt of the income supplement. It could have substantially helped 240,000 people.

Instead, the government has come up with a pipe-dream which will help an uncertain small percentage of our citizens. It will pass over a large number of people who need help the most and will make use of only one-half of the potential funds available.

I urge the government, with the strongest possible plea, to eliminate this programme before it begins, and to present a plan which will provide real help to these, our forgotten Canadians.

Mr. Singer: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nixon: In dealing with some of the Treasurer's proposals in detail, I do not want to miss an opportunity to discuss the matter of housing in the province of Ontario. You may recall, Mr. Speaker, that it was three years ago when the press, the public and certainly the politicians took a great interest in the problems of our young families and many other people living in our major centres who could not find adequate housing.

We brought to the fore the problems that young families particularly faced when, instead of setting their sights on moving out of a high-rise downtown apartment into a single-family dwelling, they were, in fact, simply looking for a cheaper apartment. We thought that the proposals brought forward by the government, particularly under its beautifully named Home Ownership Made Easy policy were misleading and certainly not meeting the needs of the province.

Let us see what they are doing this year. In February, 1970, just a bit more than a month ago, there were 1,006 housing starts in the entire province of Ontario. In February, 1969, a year ago, there were four times as many—4,635 housing starts. So under the gentle ministrations of the minister for housing, who is unfortunately absent this afternoon, the housing starts in this province in one year were reduced by 78 per cent.

Mr. Singer: That is a pretty good average for him.

Mr. Nixon: On March 31, the provincial Treasurer told us he would do something about the housing crisis in the province and that that something would be to make $50 million available for first and second mortgages for 3,000 homes. Three thousand housing units will not go very far in solving housing needs in this province when in Metropolitan Toronto alone there are 18,000 families who require accommodation—the size of a small city—and the list is still growing.

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to examine in some detail the new mortgage programme funded by $50 million that the Treasurer announced in his budget a week ago.

On June 1, 1969, less than a year ago, the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) told the Legislature that $50 million in second mortgage money would be made available to an estimated 15,000 middle-income families to purchase condominium units, or to buy new homes under the Home Ownership Made Easy programme. This was last June when he promised $50 million—that magic figure which is designed to solve all problems.

In September, 1969, just a few months after the first announcement, the minister found out that the programme was not working. As a matter of fact, the $50 million was sitting in the top righthand corner of his desk, or wherever he keeps that money. He went to Timmins and told the northern Ontario development conference that Ontario would enter the first-mortgage market and would finance up to 95 per cent of the cost of new houses built under the HOME programme and that he had found $50 million to finance the new programme.

And the reason, we understand, is that the $50 million set aside previously had not been touched; and the reason was that private lenders had not produced their share. Even at 10 per cent, they could not be persuaded to bring forward part of the funds to meet the basic cost of the original mortgages.

In other words, the government was sitting on a $50 million nest egg until it could be announced in the Treasurer's statement a week ago as a bold, new programme in the 1970 budget. It is neither bold, nor new and it certainly does not meet the need.

Shortages of accommodation are triggering increased housing prices in cities and towns throughout this province. As a matter of fact, the continuation of the basic shelter exemption is another pressure which is bound to increase rents. We, on this side, have opposed the extension of the basic shelter exemption because of the inefficient way the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough) has seen fit to use this tremendous fund. It could have been used better to reduce the property taxation associated with growing tax responsibilities in the province.

The demand for housing far outweighs the supply and it has for many years. It is interesting the way various issues move in crisis proportions across the front pages of our newspapers and on television screens. Now it is pollution and, of course, this is a matter that I want to talk about later this afternoon. But the housing crisis is still with us. If anything, it is worse than it was three years ago because of the ineffective programmes brought forward by this government.

I should point out to you, sir that mortgage rates are still climbing; NHA's interest rates rose from 10.01 per cent in January to 10.25 per cent in February. I ask you, sir, if you lost a few years in age and probably something less in your august position, if you were starting out in life again, with a wife and

young family, how you would like to be saddled with a 10 per cent mortgage? No doubt there is no reason any young couple would saddle themselves with this particular weight and burden, which surely can never be overcome until we have programmes that will meet it head on.

The Ontario government's answer is to provide a warmed-over programme to ease the housing need. In the meantime other provincial programmes mitigate against the provision of low- to middle-income housing. By leaving a heavy part of educational costs on the homeowner, municipalities are more likely to decide against low-income housing, which might yield lower taxes and at the same time a big crop of children to be educated.

In January, 1970, Ontario announced a freeze on public housing construction. As of March, 1970, a week ago, the province has still provided no commitment for services to the Malvern development, where the minister claims 57,000 people will be housed by the fall of 1971. It is surely time that a concrete start was made in this direction.

Ontario must significantly lower the tax burden on housing in the province. Once again, I want to emphasize that 80 per cent of education costs should, in the long run, be borne by the provincial Treasury.

Ontario should also channel more funds—considerably more than $50 million—into housing at interest rates which people who need housing can afford to pay.

Toronto is the area where the housing crisis is most acute. There are more than 18,000 low-income families on the waiting list for accommodation. In 1969, there were 1,902 public housing units started—clearly a number which does not come close to meeting the need. And in 1969, there were no starts at all in Metro on limited dividend housing which is designed to offer reasonable rents to elderly couple and to families in the $6,500-$8,500 income group. A disaster for families who can presumably afford housing is also looming—in February of this year there were 55 single-family housing starts in Metro, compared to 275 a year ago.

I would say to you, sir that the re-allocation for the third time of the $50 million fund in the budget announced last week simply means that the minister responsible for housing is living up to the reputation he has earned, as the minister of unfulfilled promises. He has been guilty for a number of years, as his predecessor was, of housing by headlines. It is a phrase, I suppose, that politicians use, but in this connection it is specifically correct. Certainly the results are to the detriment of a good many of our citizens who are looking for a share of the economic advantage in our major urban centres and elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, the third and last specific programme set out in the budget that I want to discuss has to do with pollution and the funds assigned to its abatement in the coming year. I firmly believe that pollution control must receive the same priority in the '70s that education did in the '60s. However, this government does not seem to share this view. The expansion of the highways budget alone—and the Minister of Highways is present this afternoon—is much larger than the expansion of provincial programmes designed to control pollution and to undertake its abatement.

Clearly, the whole problem regarding mercury pollution in Lakes St. Clair and Erie points up the problem that we must face. Just a few days ago, we had an emergency debate in this House—I feel it was a very worthwhile one indeed—in which members of all parties and the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) had an opportunity to discuss this matter of urgent public importance.

But the fact is obvious that the government is not equipped to protect our environment. It has no money allocated for what perhaps could be called a river detective. Perhaps if it had the proper laboratory facilities and alert investigators, this situation associated with mercury would have been stopped before it reached its present proportions.

We should not have to wait for another disaster, for that is surely what this is, before we take the proper measures to ensure that the mercury incident, or something like it, will not be repeated.

There are well over 60,000 public employees in Ontario. In the coming months we will be asked to approve hundreds of millions of dollars for the various departments in which these people work. But in a time when the very survival of mankind is at stake, and experts like Richard Nixon's special adviser on urban affairs, Daniel Moynhihan, says, "Man may have less than a 50-50 chance of surviving the next decade" surely we are facing an urgent situation, which this budget seems to ignore.

At a recent international conference, Prince Philip joked that people do not drown in the Great Lakes, they just rot. This is no joke and we must take the stand that the time is long past when any company can regard the Great Lakes as its private cesspool.

If the fines against polluters were more significant, perhaps the money could be used to track down the polluters. The $1,000 fine levied against Domtar probably just barely covered the legal costs associated with the action.

I have mentioned the term "watchdog" before, referring to the auditor. I feel that there must be another watchdog—it should be the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. He claimed last week that he is tired and fed up with being a Sherlock Holmes. Well, if he is not prepared to search out the polluters, who will?

We clearly recognize his role as policeman and we are prepared to support him in that role, to provide him with money, staff and the equipment he needs. I am told that he was pleased by recent press reports on pollution because he intended to use them as a lever to try to get more money in the budget earmarked for pollution control. If this is true, it appears he has seriously failed.

I would like to ask the minister where is the money in this budget to allow the government at least to make a substantial start in cleaning up pollution? Not just to locate and prosecute, but start the mammoth task of cleaning up our lakes and streams.

Recently at the Sportmen's Show at the CNE there was a key exhibit on pollution. It was a tank of water containing a sample from the bottom of Toronto harbour. It was alleged that it contained 200,000 worms per square yard of harbour bottom. This is supposed to be the world's highest worm count and surely this is nothing to be proud about.

Where is the money in the budget for changing this, or to provide some sort of an initiative to clean up the things that are troubling our environment so seriously?

I started by alluding to the mercury pollution in Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie. The facilities of the Ontario Water Resources Commission are so inadequate that they could not do the mercury tests; so they had to send their samples to California, along with samples of a University of Western Ontario graduate student who appears to know a good deal more about the problem than the commission. I would hope that in the near future he would be on the commission's staff. We will definitely press for more money to be spent for such facilities when the estimates come before the House in more detail.

It has been said many times that pollution knows no boundaries, and we have seen that to be the case in the recent mercury pollution of the Great Lakes. When one or several American plants were charged directly by the minister with seriously contributing to this type of gross pollution, I say again that what we need specifically is an international conference at the state and provincial level. I have put it forward; the minister has put it forward—it remains only for the Premier to accept what I would consider good advice from both sides so that we can pinpoint the sources of pollution on both sides of the Great Lakes system and take the appropriate action with the kind of international co-operation that so far has been sadly lacking.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I see that the time is running on. I did want to refer to something that I consider the most important matter in the budget, and I would begin by quoting from the budget, page 20, where the Treasurer says: "We have made reform our highest priority" and then he goes on to list the programmes that contribute to reform of taxation in our province. He is good enough to set them apart in his budget statement. By the way, I notice that all of the dailies—at least the weekly newspapers in Ontario—are advertising that you can write in and get a copy of the budget statement; I do not know the purpose of this. I notice that the Premier of British Columbia has done this for a good many years. The budget statement in British Columbia is one of those big affairs, with four-colour pictures, that is simply designed to blow up the expertise of the Social Credit Party in British Columbia. I sincerely hope that this particular budget statement—which is on a more modest scale than the Social Credit one out west, I must admit—is really in the hands of a good many of our citizens. On the other hand, I hope that the government is not going to make this another arm of its public relations attack, now that it is within a year or 15 months of an election.

When we talk about budget reform and tax reform, it is interesting that in a budget of $3.7 billion, only $125 million is allocated to tax reform. The No. 1 item is one that I believe is a good example of tax reform, and that is an increase in the allocation of funds to the school boards, raising the provincial participation from 46 per cent to 51 per cent. It is interesting that it is 51 and not 50. Because it simply means that the Conservatives sitting opposite have finally fulfilled George Drew's promise made in 1943 to pay half the cost of education in the province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: It is a fact; it is a fact. But even setting that procrastination aside, it means that the government opposite, is responding to something that was in our election platform, the Liberal election platform in 1967; that is that on a phased basis, the provincial government had to take over a greater share of the responsibility for education costs and thus relieve the municipalities from this burden, which has been breaking their backs now since 1943.

So the move from 46 per cent to 51 per cent is a timid step in the right direction. If you fulfil your commitments made a year ago, you will achieve 60 per cent by the end of 1973, and we will support you in this. We believe that the government should go much further. We believe that the resources of this province, particularly the rate at which the tax income is growing, should lead to the assumption of at least 80 per cent in the five-year period that is a general budgetary turnover period.

In dealing further with tax reform, I bring to your attention, Mr. Speaker, the report of the provincial royal commission on taxation, the Smith report, which came down in 1967. I wonder if any of the ministers opposite ever pick it off the shelf now, or whether it has been forgotten. They picked a couple of plums out of it to assist them in their electoral problems in 1967, and I will admit they were pretty successful then. But, since that time, nothing has been done in reform. I want to quote from page 443, volume 2, chapter 103; it is not very long:

> If nothing else, the unfathomable maze of grant programmes examined in this chapter is testimony to the fact that no co-ordination of provincial fiscal transfers to local government has ever been attempted. Grants are administered by a plethora of departments, with each paying but little attention to what the others are doing, let alone to the federal impact on municipalities. During the research phase of our work we undertook a statistical exercise, whose purpose was to discover whether grant payments to municipalities bore any relation to local fiscal conditions. Did provincial grants have a detectable impact on overall local spending? Did they favour, on balance, smaller or larger municipalities, richer or poorer municipalities, optional or mandatory services? The results of the exercise showed that, taken as a group, grant payments bore little relation to anything.

Nothing has changed in two years.

Until the education costs come off property assessment, and until the chaotic patchwork of grants payable by this government to municipalities is replaced by unconditional grants, then local government and local autonomy will be meaningless.

Surely these fiscal reforms relating to the municipalities should have been undertaken before any far-reaching programmes in regional government were imposed on the municipalities by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The same lesson was surely obvious after what the Minister of Education experienced in the imposition of county boards. He would agree now—well, maybe I will give him a chance to stand up and agree now—that we should have reformed our school grant system before we used the old system in the new county board approach. Surely financing is the cornerstone of any reform, and it is here that the government opposite has failed completely and miserably. So, of the $86 million extra for education, we approve, but we say, "Hear, hear; it is not enough."

The next thing in the $125 million was $20 million to pay for the cost of centralized assessment. To call this a reform, I consider to be an insult. When we look at the results of the directions of centralized assessment, all we can see is an increase in its costs and higher taxes payable by the local landowners.

It is a manifestation of the centralizing tendencies of this government and in particular the Minister of Municipal Affairs, who sits opposite, scratching his head and wondering what he might say about it if he gets a chance in the future, when his boss will let him interject.

Many people have forgotten the provincial white paper on taxation, made public a year ago. That was where the reform plan first saw the light of day, when the Treasurer announced the intention of the government opposite to institute a separate income tax for Ontario. This has been soft-pedalled by the Premier, when he realized that it certainly was not very popular with the thinking taxpayers of this province. It is obviously inefficient; it obviously duplicates services. Yet the deputy Treasurer has warned at a recent tax meeting that it is still in the offing for this province.

The budget is not a reform budget. It postpones, once again, any meaningful approach to the changes in the provincial tax base. It postpones anything that would improve equity, anything that would improve and strengthen local autonomy and put out provincial development, both economic and as a

community, on an orderly and comprehensible footing. While saying this is a reform budget, the Treasurer merely adds a patch and a Band-Aid to the old system. While assuring his willingness to co-operate with Ottawa, he throws up a smokescreen of misleading statements and figures that seriously impedes the rational reform of our federal tax system and its agreements with the province.

That brings me to a matter of real concern. In the budget statement, the Treasurer, with the direction of the Premier, undertook on several occasions to tear strips off the federal government. This is a matter of some concern, particularly where the main bone of contention is that the government of Canada, in taxing our citizens, draws off $1.4 billion extra from Ontario over its expenditures here. This is referred to as—I forget the phrase—but as a serious drag on our economy. The implication is that this is wrong and unfair. In the absence of the Treasurer, I ask the Premier if his policies redirect the funds taken by his tax system from northern Ontario all back into northern Ontario. Of course they do not. I ask the Premier, in the absence of the Treasurer—

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Does the member want me to answer that?

Mr. Nixon: Yes, sure. Go ahead.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We know this. We have supported equalization on a national basis since the first federal-provincial conference that I attended. We have equalization within the boundaries of our own province. We collect from the more wealthy parts of Ontario and distribute that revenue to the less wealthy parts of the province. The member knows this, and he knows that that is the policy of this government.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I ask why he is complaining about what is essentially an equalization proposition.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Do you want an answer?

Mr. Nixon: This government has been living rich and crying poor for too long. Nobody believes them any longer. When you attack the federal government and say they are taking $1.4 billion out a year which should be spent in the province, this is surely the most archaic form of anti-equalization statement that the Premier could possibly make.

I would say that the Premier's statement is misleading and that the Treasurer enunciates a foolish regional complaint that fails to realize that we pay our taxes as citizens of Canada. We should seriously object if the aims of federal policy were not to bring about equality of opportunity across our nation as well as strengthening its unity.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Hear, hear!

Mr. Nixon: A fact that the Treasurer does not emphasize is that the government of Canada takes the political heat off him and the Premier and the other members of this administration by sending down cheques from Ottawa amounting to $1.8 billion in the budgetary period starting this week. Last year, it was $1.1 billion; this year it is $1.8 billion. Let me list the sums collected by the federal government and sent down here to be spent by this administration.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): They can send a cheque for that one.

Mr. Nixon: The personal income tax collections are $948 million. I am not saying we have no right to that. I am saying that the people who are paying their income tax today, going out with an envelope and dropping it into the mail box, address that letter to Ottawa. They think that Benson and the federal government are the high tax people. The money goes up there; close to $1 billion comes back in a cheque signed by the government of Canada for distribution in the programme that this government takes the political credit for.

Mr. Bullbrook: There is no heat on you.

Mr. Nixon: Now the point is this. You send out many millions of dollars to the municipalities. When I get my tax bill in the municipality of South Dumfries, you require, by law and regulation, that on the back of it it says, "This tax bill has been reduced by the payment from the provincial government—"

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: You are trying to take credit, whatever that is, for what you do in the responsibility for these transfer payments. Okay. Personal income taxes, almost $1 billion. Unconditional grants, and this was last year and not just predicted for this year, $154 million. Conditional grants, $475 million. Medicare programme, $189 million. The Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) knows there was $6 million for ARDA. The Minister of Education gets a tremendous sum since the federal government pays half the cost of post-secondary education.

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Operating only.

Mr. Nixon: Operating only, amounting to what—$185 million? A good, big chunk of money.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Would you rather not have that?

Mr. Nixon: Now the minister sounds like C. D. Howe. What is $185 million?

All right, Mr. Speaker, my time is just about up. The Conservative government in Toronto insists that its help to municipalities appear on the tax bill. But what is generally unknown is that 50 cents out of every $1 spent by this government here in Toronto is collected by the federal government. I am not apologizing for this, I am simply stating facts. When the Minister of Education goes out to open another William G. Davis school and gets all the applause, actually half the money comes from another jurisdiction. I think this should be known and understood.

Mr. Speaker, both the federal government and the government of Ontario have said that these shared cost programmes are inefficient. Now the Conservative offices get the chance to spend 50-cent dollars with all the political advantage that goes with it. They have consistently dragged their feet with the pressing needs of tax reforms in our province and have been less than completely honest in their submissions to the federal government.

I believe the time has come to accept the federal offers of complete transfers of most of the present shared cost programmes. The offer has been put in black and white for the transference of the responsibility and tax credits to go with it and still the government over there takes no action. They say they are waiting for initiatives elsewhere.

They are dragging their feet because they like this system. It is politically to their advantage. We should bring our succession duties into line with the federal programme or abandon them altogether in return for a reasonable share of the federal estate tax collection. The power is always available for us to increase our revenues, without setting up our own tax collection system, by making use of the tax collection agreement with Ottawa. As you know, five other provinces already do this more effectively than we do but, surely, the time when taxes get larger automatically year by year is at an end.

Our receipts from the present tax base this year are up $460 million simply because of the growth of our economy. Next year, I would predict that the increase would be close to $600 million of new money without any new taxes being levied to substantially underwrite growing programmes. The future must not require new taxes but reductions in taxation. This can be accomplished by the acceptance of top priorities, proper audit and accountability and a real initiative, in co-operation with the federal government, to reform the tax system and make full use of the range of shared programmes that are still available.

Mr. Speaker, I have my eye on the big clock up there and it indicates that two minutes remain of the time available to me. I hope that I have been able to put before you, sir, the fact that we are not only disappointed but aghast that the government opposite have not seen fit to use the extra funds available to them for programmes that should be rapidly expanded in our province. We believe that they have not undertaken proper use of federal funds, even for the reduction of premiums in Medicare. For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. Singer, that the Treasurer's motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means be amended by adding thereto the following words:

That this House regrets the failure of the government:

1. to use the financial resources of this province, particularly the $462 million of new tax income, to provide adequate and efficient programmes for housing, pensions, pollution control, and comprehensive medical insurance;

2. to develop programmes of equitable tax reform in financial areas under provincial jurisdiction and to co-operate with the other provinces and the government of Canada to achieve this goal on a national scale;

3. to adequately account to this Legislature for their financial transactions and the efficiency of the government's programmes and business methods.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Nixon moves, seconded by Mr. Singer, that the Treasurer's motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means be amended by adding thereto the following words:

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3. To adequately account to this Legislature for their financial transactions and the efficiency of the government's programmes and business methods.

Mr. Sopha: Pretty sound.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): To each his day, Mr. Speaker, so I move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): Hope it is better than today.

Mr. Speaker: Earlier this afternoon, we had in the east gallery, the Riverside High School students from Windsor; and in the west gallery, the Northern Secondary School students from Toronto.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, with reference to the fisheries in certain areas, I would like to mention that action is being taken now to close all fishing, commercial and sport, in the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River and in the Wabigoon River below Dryden, to and including Clay Lake. This last area is in northwestern Ontario. Fish sampled from all these waters contained mercury in excess of levels which health authorities, federal and provincial, advise us are acceptable.

This ban will be in effect until continued testing shows that the fish are no longer contaminated. This cleaning process will take some months after the input of mercury into the environment, either directly or from sediments, has ceased. There is no likelihood of this happening in the present fishing season.

Fish recently taken for inspection from Lake Erie were not shown to be a health hazard; therefore, this area will not be closed. However, Lake Erie and other waters downstream from possible sources of mercury, including the lower Wabigoon River, are under continuous study. Fish are being tested at selected sites across Ontario, on priority basis, using the facilities available to the best possible advantage. This will continue as long as any suggestion of hazard anywhere remains.

I should like to remind the hon. members that steps have already been taken, as previously announced to them, to cut off all known sources of mercury contamination. Federal authorities inform us that communications have been opened through appropriate channels with respect to sources of contamination in the United States.

The question of compensation to those people whose livelihood is affected is under active consideration between ourselves and federal authorities. A meeting of officials was held on Friday last and a further meeting of ministers will be held in Ottawa tomorrow morning.

I should like to point out that only very local mercury contamination in our waters has been shown and, Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned earlier, we, in co-operation with the federal government, are intensifying our fish sampling monitoring.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry. The hon. Minister of Social and Family Services has a point of correction.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, on Friday last in answer to a question directed to me by the leader of the NDP with respect to a baby that had been taken from the Kingston Hospital, I had said that subsequent to that action, the children's aid society of Lanark had laid charges. Actually, that information which came to us from Lanark was incorrect. The action taken was that a search warrant had been issued under the Criminal Code on the basis of the information laid, in order to start the legal proceedings which would have brought the child before the court at that time.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Attorney General. I wonder if he is prepared now to make a statement, as he promised to do on December 24, concerning the trial of Clinton Duke who was charged with threatening a woman with a gun, and the fact that his hearing was held in closed family court rather than the court of a local provincial judge?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I have had the statement ready for some time. I have not been in the House for the last week but I knew you planned a special programme today so I did not bring it with me, but I can make the statement tomorrow. It has been ready for some days.

Mr. Nixon: I have a supplementary question—I believe it is supplementary. Does the minister mean that he had it sitting all ready for someone to ask for?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No. I have been waiting for a convenient time to give it to the House.

Mr. Bullbrook: Very good.

Mr. Nixon: All right. Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Correctional Services. I wonder if he can make some report to the House on the death of Ronald James Harrow in Don Jail on Saturday, I believe, as a result of injections of drugs that were available illegally to him?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Mr. Speaker, of course there is a departmental investigation going on with respect to how any possible drugs would have entered the institution. On the other hand, there will also, of course, be an inquest, which is the usual case, according to law, when a person dies in a public institution. It would be highly improper, sir, in any case, for me to make any comments on it at this time. These facts will come out, whatever they are, during the inquest.

Mr. Nixon: So that the minister will not be asked to make a statement that would be improper, I might ask a supplementary question. He is quoted as saying that the cases of smuggling of drugs are known. Perhaps he could indicate how generally this has been found in the institutions under his direction?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Of course, Mr. Speaker, there is no penal institution in the world where there have not been occasions in which contraband has been smuggled into such institutions. It is a matter of degree.

For example, no matter how much security one arranges for in an institution, sometimes visitors, who are permitted to see an inmate, somehow or other are able sometimes to pass him drugs. Sometimes we have found this happen when a wife kisses a husband and passes it through the mouth. These things do happen. I am assured that in the Don Jail, particularly, this rarely happens. But it does happen and we do all we can to control it.

I think I did say to the reporter this morning that there are a few instances which have come to my attention of this nature and that I did not think that I could answer that at this time.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary. The minister said that there are no institutions in the world where this does not occur. Does that mean that every one of our institutions has had instances of drugs being found?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I will put it this way, Mr. Speaker. I would be surprised if, at some stage or other, in any penal institution in the world, including Ontario, contraband of some kind—I am not necessarily making this statement exclusively about drugs but contraband of some kind or another is not passed. The only possible way one could avoid this completely is to build such a maximum security institution that with such maximum security administration it would be almost, if not completely impossible. And I am sure that such an institution with such a system would not be acceptable, either to the members of this Legislature, or to the people of this province, or even this department.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a further question of the Attorney General. Is he now in a position to make a statement about the legal appeal brought by the government of British Columbia on the breathalyser test and how it affects the application of the law in this province?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not know what the hon. member means by making a statement with respect to the appeal. The appeal will go forward in British Columbia.

Mr. Nixon: It is in effect.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, and it will not change our procedure here in Ontario at the present time, insofar as the laying of information and the enforcement of the law is concerned. The decision of the British Columbia court does not bind the courts of Ontario. Perhaps one might say it has some persuasive value and I would anticipate that possibly a provincial judge, or a judge, dealing with a case under the section for contravention of the breathalyser test, the amount of alcohol in the blood, might very well reserve judgement. He might—but he might very well proceed, and our procedure will continue, I think, as before, until the matter is finally settled. I might say, too, Mr. Speaker, that we have the same point under appeal here in our courts in Ontario.

Mr. Nixon: Just for a matter of clarification or a supplementary question. Then it does have an effect in that the provincial judges would be quite proper in deciding to reserve judgement until the decision is made by the Supreme Court of Canada?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The judge would have a discretion to reserve his judgement if he saw fit to do so. If he felt that the question

was of sufficient concern not to convict, he might reserve his judgement or await the decision of the appeal, but he is not bound to do so. The decision in the British Columbia court is only of persuasive value.

Mr. Nixon: Then the minister is not advising that the emphasis in the charge should be on impairment, rather than contravening the breathalyser?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think that is what will happen, Mr. Speaker. This is always the difficulty in discussing these matters which are before the courts. I think probably what will happen is that if the enforcement personnel, the police, find a situation where the alcoholic content in the blood is such that the person might be charged under the present section with exceeding that content, they undoubtedly will lay a charge of being impaired.

As I say, if the other charge is laid, the judge might very well reserve a judgement upon it. But, if you have that proof of alcoholic content, it would go far in an evidentiary way to establish impairment. I think that is the charge that would likely be proceeded upon. It is perhaps not for me to stand here and say how the enforcement personnel should proceed; but this is what I anticipate might very well happen.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary. Is the Attorney General not giving any suggestions to his crown attorneys? What suggestions, for instance, is he giving about the refusal to take a breathalyser test, which is also challenged in this section? Surely the Attorney General cannot just let a vacuum continue.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The hon. Attorney General has a question, which he may answer if he sees fit.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We have had discussions with our crown attorneys, and our policies are generally known.

Mr. Singer: That policy certainly is not of great help to me.

Mr. Bullbrook: Will the minister tell us his policy?

Mr. Singer: Yes!

Mr. Bullbrook: May I ask a supplementary question?

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question.

Mr. Bullbrook: I am wondering if the Attorney General could elaborate on his comment that there is presently a matter before the court similar to the B.C. decision. Could he tell us what court it is before and under what jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The British Columbia court?

Mr. Bullbrook: During the course of the reply to the Leader of the Opposition, the minister mentioned that a similar appeal was going on in Ontario. Will he tell us where and in what court?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can get it for the hon. member. It is the same point, and it is before the court now on the matter of appeal. I will get the hon. member the details.

Mr. Bullbrook: One further supplementary—perhaps I am asking the same question as the member for Downsview, but perhaps I am obtuse. Has the minister answered the question as to whether he has given any guidance to police officers on the occasion of refusal to take a test?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We have not sent out a general directive, no.

Mr. Bullbrook: Has his department established any policy in this connection?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I have answered the question.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: A point of order.

Mr. Bullbrook: Sir, as one member of this House, I have not understood the answer. I wonder if the Attorney General would consider amplifying so that I might understand it?

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South has the floor. It has been my ruling—and I think the only reasonable ruling—that if a member cannot understand the answer to a question he could then rephrase the question at a later time to get an answer that would be understandable. There have been sufficient supplementary questions. The member for York South has the floor.

Mr. MacDonald: In the absence of the Minister of Trade and Development, I have two questions of the Prime Minister. With regard to the announced shutdown two months hence of the tube division of CGE on Dufferin Street, throwing another 160 men into the

ranks of the unemployed, can the Prime Minister indicate whether or not the government had any prior information of this decision? If so, what action was taken? And what action does the government propose to take with regard to the allegation of one of the top officials of the company that the complete electronics business in Canada is doomed?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I will take that question as notice. I might say I do not propose to answer all questions directed to other ministers who may not be here.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my second question is on essentially the same point, because it is a rather unclear area of government policy. In view of the growing concern in the rubber industry in Kitchener because of the duty-free import arrangement between the Canadian government and the French tire manufacturer Michelin for the establishment of two plants in Nova Scotia, is the Ontario government on top of the situation? And, if so, what is the government's view with regard to the threat to the industry in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I want to say we are aware of these things and we have made representations. I cannot give the member the details of these. I will take this question as notice as well.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Minister of Transport. Is the Minister of Transport aware that the CPR has, without publicity, interestingly enough, reversed the trend of recent years and reduced its passenger rates as of last February 15? Does the minister believe that this is a tactic by CPR to show losses so that they can get out of the passenger trade altogether?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the unpublished notice of reduction of passenger rates on CPR trains. The speculation of the member for York South is interesting. I shall look into it.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of supplementary: The minister has given a great deal of information in the House with regard to railroad changes in rates and plans. Has he any explanation as to why this rather remarkable bit of secrecy was maintained and that six or seven weeks after an announcement of a rate reduction he has not heard of it?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, as I said, I have not heard of this reduction, but it is interesting. I shall look into it.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for York South completed his questions? The member for Nipissing.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Why has the ministerial order that he said last week was issued against Johns-Manville in North Bay in regard to the use of mercury compounds never been delivered to the officials of Johns-Manville?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, it was brought to my attention last Friday that these orders apparently have been sent by ordinary mail to the local crown attorney, and this is why that particular order has been delayed reaching this plant in North Bay. However, they have been advised by telegram that the order is in the mail and will be served on them.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Mr. Speaker, according to your statement, the order was issued some two weeks ago. I am sure the mails are a little quicker than that in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I believe some of the orders were issued last Tuesday and some were issued the Thursday before Good Friday. I am not sure which category the plant in North Bay is in; however, the more serious ones—chloralkali plants—were definitely issued on the Thursday before Good Friday.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kenora.

Mr. L. Bernier (Kenora): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests with respect to the statement he made earlier this afternoon. Can the minister tell us to what degree mercury contamination is present in the Wabigoon River and Clay Lake?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: When was the member recognized by the Speaker?

Mr. Bernier: Was the minister not listening?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Was the question the member was asking about the degree of contamination? I would be pleased to send that information to the member. I have not got it with me at the present time.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I yield to the member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury East then.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Question of the Minister of Education. Can the minister indicate what the actual actuarial deficiency of the teachers' superannuation fund is?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I would be delighted to look into this. I guess one has to determine what one means by actuarial deficit. It is in the many millions of dollars if we used the terms of reference that we discussed in the committee on education last fall. I shall try to get an as up-to-date a figure as I can for the hon. member relating to the actuarial deficit of the fund applying the basic criteria that we were discussing during the education committee.

Mr. Martel: A supplementary, then. When the minister gets this information, will he be in a position to indicate what the government plans to do in order to make this fund actuarially sound?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, the government is now, because of legislation and matters of policy, allocating—I think it is $14 or $15 million per year to stabilise the fund, so that the actuarial position of the fund will not be changed. This is presently being done by the government.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East has a supplementary.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Is it true that the inflow of money into the fund each year since the establishment of the fund in 1918 has been greater than the outflow of funds each year?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I cannot comment for each year since 1918, or whatever date it was, until the present, but the influx into the fund in some years certainly exceeds the outflow. But without getting into a long dissertation, the problem with the actuarial deficit, if it is a problem, relates to that very unlikely event occurring of everybody stopping teaching at the same time, when then, obviously, there will be a deficit. I do not think any of us anticipates this happening. This is why I, from time to time, have raised the question as to really what we mean by an actuarial deficit. I do not think this is the occasion to get into that lengthy discussion.

Mr. T. Reid: There has never been more money going out than coming in?

Hon. Mr. Davis: I do not know. I will find out.

Mr. T. Reid: You know, from 1918.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member a supplementary?

The Minister of Municipal Affairs has the answer to a question from the Leader of the Opposition. Would it be satisfactory if it be given and recorded, even though the leader will probably be out during question period because of the programme?

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, on March 12, the Leader of the Opposition asked whether I would be prepared to table documents, or the exchange of information, between the improvement district of Marathon and/or the new township of Marathon, and my department on the payment of a retirement allowance to Mr. L. D. Irwin, the former chairman and secretary-treasurer of the board of trustees of the improvement district of Marathon.

I indicated on March 12 that I would look into the matter and look at the letters with a view to tabling the communications between my department and the municipality if it were thought proper to do so. I have looked at the situation, Mr. Speaker, and looked over the correspondence. The matter, we are now informed, is before the courts. It is the intention of the council of the township of Marathon to pursue the matter in the courts and I do not think that it would be in the best interests of those involved to discuss the matter further in this House, or to table the correspondence referred to by the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Hamilton East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): My question is of the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker.

In view of the establishment of some 70 off-track betting shops by Tote Investment at a high cost and the minister's assumption that he will make a statement later on in the year in regard to legalized off-track betting, will the minister soothe the anticipation of Tote Investment and the members of this House by giving his position on legalizing off-track betting in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if I might suggest to the hon. member to place that question on the order paper? It seems to be quite long and he refers to some statement that I undertook to give which I do not recall.

Mr. Speaker: I think that is all that is necessary. The minister has the right to direct a question to the order paper. The member for Essex South.

Mr. Gisborn: I have a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: No supplementary questions when it goes to the order paper.

Mr. Gisborn: My supplementary question is this—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! No supplementary question when it is directed to the order paper. The member for Essex South has the floor.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, my minister, unfortunately—the Minister of Revenue—is just leaving the House.

Mr. Gisborn: Point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Point of order.

Mr. Gisborn: My point of order is how do I then place my question? My simple question is, does the minister intend to—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has no point of order. The member for Essex South has the floor.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Revenue. Is the minister giving consideration to the removal of the five per cent sales tax on chemicals and replacement parts for pollution control centres operated by the municipalities?

Hon. Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, I am going to introduce a bill to amend The Retail Sales Tax Act today in which the details of the programme announced by the Treasurer will be explained. I think we had no intention of retroactive provisions, but certainly municipalities will be included in the five-year programme for a tax expenditure grant equal to the amount of the retail sales tax on new acquisitions.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Education. Is he prepared to make any statement in regard to the difficulties proceeding at Laurentian University, whether his department is taking any action—whether he is providing any advice, any assistance, preparing grounds for negotiation—indeed, doing anything which The Department of University Affairs might be expected to do, in view of the seriousness of the situation following the precedent of the college of art difficulties of some years ago?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, with respect, I do not think one can quite draw a parallel with the college of art situation of two or three years ago. I would only say that, as I read the press, I understand that the board of governors has agreed to meet with the senate and faculty members, I think it is on Thursday evening, and that is the position of the negotiations at the present time. I see the member for Sudbury East nodding his head in agreement. I see he is completely up to date on the situation as well.

Mr. T. Reid: A supplementary. In view of the controversy, particularly between the executives of the board of governors and the senate and students of the university, is the minister aware that two members of the seven-member executive committee of the 21-member board of governors of Laurentian University of Sudbury have, between them, a virtual monopoly over local newspaper, radio and television news coverage in Sudbury in relation to a dispute of which they are a part? And, if so, does the minister consider this a desirable state of affairs in a democratic society, and if he considers this undesirable, what action does he intend to take?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I am not, quite frankly, personally familiar with all the members of the board of governors of Laurention University. I could not even tell the hon. member, very frankly, who forms the executive committee of the board of governors. This matter is being negotiated internally within that institution, as I said to the member for Peterborough. They have arranged to meet on Thursday evening of this week and we are anxiously awaiting the results of those deliberations.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): A question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food regarding seed grain treated with mercury fungicide. What happens to the empty bags after the seed grain has been taken out?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, I can only speak from personal experience in this regard about the seed grain that is used on our farm, and I think this is generally the case now throughout Ontario. Where this mercury

treated grain is used there are paper bags and they are burned and destroyed. A few years ago jute bags were used, but I do not know of many seed processing plants that are using jute bags today. They are mostly all paper bags and are disposable.

But as I said last week on the question that was asked by the member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid), the amount of mercury that is used in the treatment of seed grain in the province of Ontario is so infinitesimal that really there is very little problem associated with it in any way.

Mr. Burr: A supplementary question. Is the minister aware that in the United States, the Food and Drug Administration back in 1967 seized and destroyed several lots of mercury contaminated potatoes and that the mercury contamination at that time resulted from the re-use of treated seed grain bags for shipment of the potatoes?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that, probably as a result of that, today we are using paper bags that can be destroyed.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Essex South.

Mr. Paterson: A question to the Minister of Lands and Forests for the purpose of clarification of his ministerial statement. Specifically, in Lake Erie is commercial angling or fishing now allowed; and is it his intent to prevent commercial fishing in the Detroit River, Lake St. Clair, and St. Clair River basins plus the northern one; and is angling allowed in that area? Unfortunately, there was noise in the House and I could not hear the minister.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, there is no ban imposed on fishing in Lake Erie; there is no ban in either commercial or sports fishing, as the hon. member is aware. However, the federal government have seized certain catches of fish as a precautionary measure and these have been inspected. The ban that we are requesting today, that I have outlined in the Legislature, concerns Lake St. Clair and the adjacent Detroit River and the St. Clair River, and this is a ban on both commercial and sport fishing.

Mr. Paterson: A supplementary to that. What type of enforcement does the minister intend to carry through with that ban?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As far as enforcement is concerned, I am not prepared at this time to say just what extraordinary steps we would take. We have, of course, our conservation officers in that area. I would think, with the publicity that the contaminated fish has received, that this by itself would be a deterrent for people who would be out fishing, and who may be consuming the fish. But at this stage, outside from our conservation officers, I am not sure. I would be pleased to look into it and inform the member what steps we will be taking.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question. The hon. member for Haldimand-Norfolk.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Speaker, as a matter of clarification, because I believe there is a great deal of doubt as to whether commercial fishing was banned in Lake Erie, it has been my understanding that it was not banned in Lake Erie, and I would be glad to have that matter clarified by the Minister of Lands and Forests.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, there has been no ban on fishing, neither commercial nor angling, in Lake Erie. Further tests are being made and additional fish samples are being taken, to determine the extent of contamination. The information I have received recently is that the additional tests have indicated that the extent of contamination is not as extensive as was originally outlined. We hope to have, within the near future, enough information to clarify our position on Lake Erie. But at the present time there is no ban on fishing in Lake Erie.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville, a supplementary.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, if I may ask of the minister. Has this ban been imposed in co-operation with the authorities in the state of Michigan?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We have been working very closely with the federal authorities. They are the ones we deal with, with reference to banning of export fish, as well as banning of fishing. As far as consultation with our counterparts in the United States is concerned, there has been very close consultation, as the hon. member knows. There was a meeting in Washington, last Thursday, I believe, and I am not aware of the results of that meeting. But I was briefly told that steps are being taken by the federal authorities and the United States authorities to co-ordinate their efforts and to ban fish in those areas where it is detrimental to people's health.

Mr. B. Newman: But to date, Mr. Minister, the ban has not been imposed by the federal authorities, in the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, or the Detroit River?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: To which side does the member refer?

Mr. B. Newman: I refer to the American side.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, as far as the Americans are concerned, I could not say, Mr. Speaker. But we have been in contact with Ottawa, and we have recommended to Ottawa a ban on fishing in those areas that I outlined earlier today.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sarnia was on his feet.

Mr. Bullbrook: I do not have a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any other supplementary questions?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Oh, that is enough questions for today.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Essex-Kent, a supplementary.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): With regards to the licensing for game fishing, have fishing licences been sold up to the present time? In other words, has the government already been selling licences for fishing, for game purposes, in Lake St. Clair and that area up until now, and now that these people will not be allowed to fish in the area, is there any refund that would be possible?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, we have sold angling licences since the beginning of the year. As I mentioned in my statement last Thursday, once the source of contamination has been removed in those areas, the fish would be edible within a matter of somewhere between 17 to 20 weeks. Also, of course, fishing is just banned in those areas that I mentioned today. So, at this stage, we have not considered giving a refund on angling licences sold.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kent, a supplementary.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary of the Minister of Lands and Forests. Is the fish that is being harvested or caught in Lake Erie and all ports, being confiscated at the present time? Also, it has been indicated by the press that some of the fish in one of the processing plants have been released. Is that released by the minister's department, or the federal authorities?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: This would be under federal authority. The fish that have been seized by the federal authorities were seized as a precautionary measure. They were analysed and it was found, as the member has just said, that some of these fish could be released and they are being released.

Mr. Speaker: All right, a new question. The hon. member for Timiskaming.

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): Could the Minister of Energy and Resources Management assure us that there is no mercury pollution from the Abitibi Paper Company at Iroquois Falls?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, that particular company is not one of our known sources of mercury pollution. I would assume that this plant has been checked and investigated. However, I will make a point of making specific reference to this plant and get that information for the hon. member.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. Would the minister tell us how many people, or what apparatus, he has for checking the mercury content in our waters in Ontario?

Mr. Speaker: I do not believe that is supplementary to the previous question. The hon. member for Sarnia with a new question.

Mr. Bullbrook: Yes, a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Can the minister tell us, since his speech of last Thursday, whether his department has been in conversation with the directors or officers of Dow Chemical of Canada Limited, to discuss the question of compensation to those people directly or indirectly affected by the alleged mercury pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we made contact with officers of the company, with the idea of having them be on hand at tomorrow's meeting in Ottawa with the federal minister. We have not had a definite or direct confirmation that they will be there. As a matter of fact, preliminary reports indicate that they would rather have such a meeting on Wednesday. However, I am working on that aspect of it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. Burr: A question of the Minister of Health, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister drawn to the attention of Ontario physicians the symptoms of mercury poisoning, both organic and inorganic?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): I could not hear the first part of the question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Burr: Has the minister drawn to the attention of the physicians in Ontario the symptoms of mercury poisoning in humans, both organic and inorganic?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, we have not done this at the present time. This whole matter is being studied by our environmental health branch; they will be looking into it. They are going to conduct certain tests among the population, and this will all be done in due course.

Mr. Burr: Well, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Is this a supplementary question?

Mr. Burr: Yes. Would it not be wise to refresh the memories of the physicians, because they have not been meeting this problem every day, and they might easily overlook a matter of this kind?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would be happy to take the member's suggestion, Mr. Speaker. I am sure that physicians are very much aware of this whole problem from the publicity that has ensued from what has gone on in the last little while, but we will be happy to take his suggestion under advisement.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: I have a question of the Attorney General. What agreement, if any, has been made between the Ontario government and the federal government or the RCMP concerning the development and implementation of a large-scale duplex computer inquiry system which will provide all police forces in Canada with immediate access to vital police information over a Canada-wide communications network?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I would direct that question to the order paper so I may answer it properly.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: A question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management; I do not like to see him rest. In view of the fact that the new agreement between Falconbridge and his department will see only a difference of some 4,800 tons a month less sulphur dioxide emission in 1975 than Trail had to clean up in 1934, will the minister consider reviewing the agreement with the intention of reducing that still further?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I am advised by members of the air management branch that this is a substantial reduction in the amount of SO_2 being emitted from that plant in Sudbury. I am also advised that the improvement in the Trail plant was not in fact necessarily with respect to SO_2, but certain other chemicals and pollutants that were pouring into the air. So we feel the programme we have directed to Falconbridge is an effective one, a most practical one, and will make a substantial difference in that area.

Mr. Martel: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware, then, that Inco will increase production by 30 per cent, and if the reduction at Inco is similar—about 55 per cent of what is accomplished at Falconbridge—that we will still have eight times as much emission from Falconbridge and Inco as Trail had to clean up back in 1934?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, that is a purely hypothetical question.

Mr. Martel: It is not hypothetical at all.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is surely hypothetical. The member is comparing the expansion of Inco with Falconbridge and vice versa. We do not know how much Falconbridge will expand. Certainly any expansion or new plants will be in a position to install any equipment or corrective measures for the treatment of SO_2 much better than existing facilities.

Mr. Martel: Well, I will not be hypothetical. A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware that at the present time the International Nickel Company emits six times more than Falconbridge?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Of what?

Mr. Martel: SO_2. And if this reduction of 55 per cent, which is going to go into effect in 1975, is carried over to Inco as well, we will still have six times as much emission as Trail had to clean up in 1934. It is very possible. Just measure it in tons.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Could the minister inform us what facilities he has for checking the mercury content in our waters in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, Mr. Speaker, we have facilities at our own OWRC laboratories; we are also using federal facilities, which are at present in Winnipeg and which are to be either partially or totally transferred to this province. It is really a matter more of staff than facilities, and we now have the necessary staff to allow us to carry out a complete programme of surveillance as far as mercury contamination is concerned.

However, I would like to mention to the hon. member that the main programme of such surveillance must be the location of sources of mercury pollution, after which we will be in a better position to analyze the fish.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Waterloo North.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. In the light of the statement in the budget that the borrowing procedures for larger municipalities will be looked at, has the minister contemplated setting up a committee of, say, municipal treasurers or leaders of the municipal employees association and his own department to look into this matter and come up with a possible solution?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: We have had a number of discussions with municipal treasurers at the staff level; I have met with some of them myself. It was discussed when the mayors and reeves, I believe, or the OMA, made their annual presentation to the cabinet. I have met with the Investment Dealers' Association on a number of occasions, and the simple answer to the member's question would be "yes".

Mr. Good: By way of a supplementary, will the matter of extendable debentures and refinancing be discussed, or is the minister considering allowing more municipalities to go into sinking fund type of financing? What avenues are being investigated?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Speaker, presumably all of this will require amendments to The Municipal Act, although I will tell my friend that we are giving some thought to a municipal finance Act, pulling those borrowing sections out of The Municipal Act. I doubt whether we would do that at this session. But presumably what is involved to implement the budget statement will be amendments to The Municipal Act, which will be forthcoming in due course.

Mr. Good: As a supplementary question, is the minister aware that many municipalities are wondering very greatly just how fast they should proceed with their present financing in the light of this, and does he realize the urgent need that these amendments be brought in very quickly?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Good: Well, get cracking then.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Is there a provincial-federal agreement that contains a clause that property taxes paid by provincially assisted universities in Ontario, which in turn would be financed 75 to 80 per cent by this government, are reimbursed to the provincial treasury by the federal treasury?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Shareable? I think the member would have to ask the Minister of University Affairs that question rather than me. But I think the question should have properly asked: "Are they a shareable expense under the agreement?" It is our understanding that they will be.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. In view of a recent statement attributed to the minister that he does not approve of special-purpose bodies, does he plan to introduce legislation to eliminate them in this coming session?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: No, Mr. Speaker. The press report—I believe the date of it was March 12—that I had made certain statements along the lines the member has mentioned was not quite correct. Let us say it was correct, but not in full. I was speaking off the cuff at a meeting of law students of Osgoode Hall at York University.

What I said then was simply that the political scientists, the people who have thought

about local government a great deal, including the present Minister of Municipal Affairs—I think it is fair to say that—and including a number of very responsible groups in the province, such as the mayors and reeves, the OMA, the counties and regions, I believe, too, have all at one point or another suggested that there is a multiplicity of special-purpose bodies or single-purpose bodies, which each unto themselves probably do a good job and were necessary when they were first set up. In total, they tend to diminish somewhat the authority of the elected council at the local level. And I would agree with that statement completely.

We have no planned programme of winding up special purpose bodies. The one which is perhaps under attack at the present time more than any other is the children's aid society. My colleague, the Minister of Social and Family Services, would be aware of this. It is a good case in point. When they were started, of course, many years ago, they were financed entirely from money they raised themselves. Today, the children's aid societies, through the generosity of the present government of Ontario, are financed completely with public funds—80 per cent put up by the province, 20 per cent by the local municipality. They have no local fund-raising effort at all, other than perhaps for a capital purpose.

The situation has changed completely. I do not think it would be fair to say that my friend, the Minister of Social and Family Services feels that they should necessarily be done away with at this point in time. I do not feel that way either. In each of the local government reviews, the commissioners have usually made comments. I am sure the member is aware of Dr. Fyfe's comment in terms of Waterloo. He attacked special-purpose bodies nearly as vigorously as he attacked the province of Ontario in his very excellent report. When we implemented these reports, as we did in Niagara and as we did in Ottawa-Carleton, we have asked the local councils to take a look at the situation and have suggested to them that, if they have some feeling that the time was right to do away with a parks and recreation commission or a water commission, that it could be incorporated into the legislation. In both cases of legislation—in fact, in all three; in Thunder Bay as well—there were a number of special-purpose bodies which were eliminated at that point. Some were retained, and I assume that this will be the pattern in the future.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East has a supplementary? The member for Waterloo North has a supplementary?

Mr. Good: In the final analysis, as regional governments are formed, the legislation is the policy of this government. How far in the special-purpose bodies will this be progressively eliminated? Specifically, would the minister expect that the PUCs will fall into this category more quickly, say, than children's aid? There must be some policy as to the swiftness with which these bodies will be eliminated.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: No, we do not have a policy. Mr. Speaker, I would not put it that way at all. What we do have is a policy of bringing this to the attention of the local people who we think are best able to determine the adequacy or otherwise of their existing local structure. We say, let us sit down together and look at this situation.

In that particular respect, I would say that in the cases of Niagara, Ottawa-Carleton and Thunder Bay, the decisions which ultimately were made in legislation as to the elimination or retention of special-purpose bodies, were by and large—in fact I would think in nearly every instance—decisions which were made by the elected council of the areas or perhaps the inter-municipal committees which were formed from them. I think our policy at this point would be simply to draw this to the attention of the councils.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary?

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, since the minister mentioned the Niagara region, the minister is acquainted with the fact that Lincoln and Welland counties have merged their children's aid societies—they are doing an excellent job and I suppose these would continue. May I ask, may they continue as they have done provided they do a good job? Is that the purpose of the minister's statement of a few minutes ago?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The policy, I think, is a continuation, or otherwise, of the children's aid society, and a change in that policy would be initiated by my colleague at the end of the row rather than by me. I use the children's aid society as an example of a single-purpose body which has been, in the last couple of years, attacked on a number of occasions, by various municipal associations when they come to see cabinet, or when they come to see me. They said, "You know, we should do away with single-purpose bodies."

I note the private bills committee had quite a discussion about parks and recreation commissions. I have used the children's aid society simply because I think there have been resolutions going the rounds. Certainly in cabinet presentations, that has been the latest example of a single-purpose body which, perhaps, might be wound up. It was suggested to us, but I am not saying we are about to do it.

Mr. Speaker: I think we have explored this sufficiently. The member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: A question of the Attorney General. Can the Attorney General give me any indication when he will be tabling the death certificates which I requested some three weeks ago?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I have been away from the province, actually, since the day on which the hon. member first asked. I have asked for the material. I will be dealing with it quite promptly.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Family and Social Services. In this document submitted to the House last week on the Indian community development projects, I notice there are no projects for the Saugeen reserve or the Cape Croker reserve in my riding. Is there any reason for this or will there be money provided for projects there?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the reason they are not listed as having projects approved is that no proposals have been placed by those reserves to the department. The initiation invariably comes from the band.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. If we submit a project for the minister's consideration, would the minister deal with it under his current estimates?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the matter is now within the jurisdiction of the provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship (Mr. Welch). But knowing that the branch intends to continue in the procedures as they have in the past I am sure that they will give complete and thorough consideration to any such proposal.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Revenue. Can business corporations in Ontario deduct from their profits the taxes they pay to support provincial schools and thus save on federal corporation tax? If so, does this government intend to cut the school taxes paid by the individuals, and increase those paid by corporations which, in effect, would be a transfer of federal funds toward education in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. White: Yes, the property taxes, including the educational component, are deductible for corporate income tax purposes, federally and provincially. It is certainly our hope that as the burden of taxation is shifted from the municipal level to the provincial level, there will be no shift from the commercial sector to the residential sector. That is our determination, and though I think no statements were made on the subject I would be very much surprised if the commercial component were diminished.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. Ruston: I have a question of the Minister of Revenue. Would the minister, through his department, for succession duties, have different valuators from the federal estate tax department's? What I am getting at, is that I have people come to me who have had problems in settling estates when the provincial assessment evaluation is much higher than the federal evaluation.

Hon. Mr. White: Yes, we have always had our own evaluations. My hon. friend will hear of those instances where the provincial assessment was higher than the federal assessment. He will never hear about those cases where the federal assessment was higher than ours.

Mr. Ruston: Never heard of any of them. Yours are all higher.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further questions?

This ends the oral question period.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introductions of bills.

THE CEMETERIES ACT

Mr. Good moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Cemeteries Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Good: Mr. Speaker, The Cemeteries Act now requires corporate owners of cemeteries and municipally owned cemeteries to provide free graves for the burial of strangers and indigents. This amendment would require that such graves be marked with a granite marker and inscribed with the name, date of birth, and date of death of the deceased, where known. The amendment would thus provide that indigents in Ontario would no longer be buried in unmarked graves.

Mr. Speaker: I presume the clerk in the legislative counsel's office will check that and make sure that the marking of the grave does not come from provincial funds. If so, then of course the bill is not in order.

THE RETAIL SALES TAX ACT, 1960-1961

Hon. Mr. White moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Retail Sales Tax Act, 1960-1961.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, a note of explanation might be in order. As announced in the budget speech on Tuesday last, manufacturers purchasing certain production tools, explosives and refractory materials will be exempt from the retail sales tax on these items. This announcement is embodied in the amendments to the Act. There are several other amendments, some of which are intended to clarify the intent of the Act and others to simplify and improve the efficiency of the administration of the Act.

THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961-1962

Hon. Mr. White moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, the bill to amend The Income Tax Act which I have now introduced and the next two bills which I will introduce, namely a bill to amend The Race Tracks Tax Act and The Tobacco Tax Act, all contain amendments to reflect the organizational changes caused by the transfer of certain responsibilities and duties from the Treasurer of Ontario to the Minister of Revenue by The Department of Revenue Act, 1968, together with certain other administrative amendments.

THE RACE TRACKS TAX ACT

Hon. Mr. White moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Race Tracks Tax Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE TOBACCO TAX ACT, 1965

Hon. Mr. White moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Tobacco Tax Act, 1965.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The seventh order, House in committee of supply, Mr. R. D. Rowe in the chair.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Let us do Correctional Services.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND INFORMATION *(continued)*

On vote 2102:

Mr. Chairman: We were at the section on tourist industry development services. Are there any further comments on this?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: I wanted to get up on this last Friday, but the debate happened to have centred around the escarpment and, as a result, I did not have the opportunity. However, as I checked through the public accounts, I noticed that the allocations or the grants made to the various development groups is approximately $5,000 each, and if I understand things correctly, the maximum is $5,000. Yet, I notice in the accounts there are certain tourist associations or regional associations that receive up to $10,000—for instance, the Muskoka tourist association.

I am just wondering if the minister has given any consideration to the suggestion I had made in previous years that the Essex-Kent tourist association be broken up into two tourist associations so that each could qualify for a grant of $5,000 and, in this way, the Essex association could spend some of its funds in an attempt to overcome a lot of the adverse publicity that has been given to

the fishing industry in Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair, the St. Clair River and the Detroit River. I would like the minister's reply to this type of suggestion, especially this year when the fishing industry and industries associated with the fishing industry are going to be so hard hit and we are going to have to do everything we possibly can to overcome the difficult days and the difficult problem that they are confronted with.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): First of all, in connection with the comments of the hon. member about associations that have received more than $5,000, I think the examples he quoted are ones where the association for one reason or another did not get its request in before the end of the current fiscal year for its calendar-year allocation. There were two or three cases where this happened; there were funds available, so we were available to pay, in effect, two years' grant in one.

In connection with the other question, the hon. member will see there is presently $180,000 in the estimates before the House at the moment for grants to regional tourist associations. We have increased the number of associations from originally 32 plus Algonquin park to 36 now, so that there are only sufficient funds in this vote to pay the maximum grant to all the associations.

We are, at the moment, giving some study to the situation that may prevail in the southwestern part of the province as far as tourism is concerned. We do not know yet whether there is going to be any major slump in tourism because of the discussions about the quality of water in Lake St. Clair and at the western end of Lake Erie. So I cannot really say to the hon. member if there appears to be an emergency situation as far as tourism is concerned and that additional promotional funds would be required to meet this. We would have to go to the Treasury Board and ask for additional funds; there are no funds in the budget at the moment that would cover this sort of thing.

Mr. B. Newman: But, Mr. Minister, you would look favourably at a request in case the situation does not improve, where the Essex-Kent Tourist Association find that they are probably going to have to overspend their budget in an attempt to overcome the adverse criticism that has been levied on the whole fishing industry in the area and the tourist industry as a result. You would look favourably for their request?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are always anxious to meet with our tourist councils and do anything we can to help.

Mr. B. Newman: But, financially, will you look favourably?

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Will you give them more money?

Mr. Chairman: Does this activity carry, then?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I cannot give them any more money than there is in the estimates without further authorization from elsewhere.

Mr. Chairman: Tourist industry and development services agreed to.

Any comments under research services? The member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Last Friday we had a great deal of discussion in connection with the Niagara Escarpment. In this matter of research, I think this part of the province plays an extremely important role. In Niagara Falls, we have in Ontario, as well as in the state of New York, an asset that is perhaps one of the greatest assets in the world. Niagara Falls is a name that is known everywhere. It is known universally, and people come to Niagara Falls as soon as they are able in order to see the falls and to spend some time there.

As far as research people are concerned, it is extremely important that they realize this fact and work upon it. But, along with Niagara Falls, the escarpment itself is an additional asset. The view from the escarpment and the total pattern of that escarpment is something we heard a great deal about last Friday. I do not think I need to dwell upon it at any great length here today, because I think the minister sees the importance of it and certainly I would hope that his advisors do as well. Whether he is doing anything practical about it or not, remains to be seen, because some doubt was expressed on Friday that this was the case.

Now some time ago there was a great deal of talk about a scenic highway along the escarpment. Whether that scenic highway is being undertaken in any realistic terms, we just do not know and land along which that highway would be built is being lost at a very rapid rate.

I am going to ask the minister this afternoon whether his research group is weighing the value of the scenic highway against the possibilities of some mode of rapid transit

along that escarpment. Rapid transit would take people from adequate parking lots at various places along it and allow them to stop along the way at certain vantage points, where they could look out across the valley and across the lake. They could spend some real time, with proper recreational facilities, perhaps spend several days, perhaps holiday, along that escarpment at the falls and perhaps up along the Bruce Trail.

This, it seems to me, is an idea which should be developed and should be given a great deal of study. Not long ago, I think in February of this year, *The Financial Post* published an article written by Clive Baxter. In that article, Baxter outlined how our transport minister, Donald Jamieson, had met his opposite number, secretary of transport John Volpe in Washington. The two of them had been conducting conversations about this whole matter of the development of transportation modes, and I want to read to the minister of couple of paragraphs:

> A concept was discussed of a high-speed aerotrain, of French design, that runs on an air cushion along a concrete track, that may be installed to run between a Canadian and a United States city. One possibility is a track between Montreal and Albany.

Of course, we are not particularly interested in that one. Another might be a service between Toronto and Buffalo around the shore of Lake Ontario. This concept is being developed. Already the United States has let the contract for the development of this air cushion train. I think this has a very great bearing upon the plan of our Department of Tourism and Information because we should be thinking seriously of what that might mean. If, indeed, an agreement is reached between our federal people and the United States' federal people in respect to the routing of an aerotrain of this kind, what part might it play in the development of a Niagara escarpment *vis-à-vis* a highway along that escarpment?

Both might be practical, I do not know; but at least this is something that is not too far away and should be studied and looked at very carefully. In addition to that there is the matter of Bill 29 which is now in process in this Legislature. Bill 29 is giving permission for a private concern to build a device for carrying people along the right of way of the Penn Central Railway.

This is not going to accomplish what ought to be accomplished as far as tourism is concerned at Niagara Falls. One of the great needs there is to get the traffic out of the immediate area of the falls. Get it away from there, get parking areas so that people can get down to the falls and view the falls easily. Some sort of rapid public transit, I think, is needed along the edge of the falls and down the escarpment. Perhaps this idea of an air cushioned train can be developed here.

Whether we are going to tie up a right of way and a whole project by a private corporation, which is going to run along the right of way of the railway rather than get the people down to the rim of the falls and solve the whole problem, is a question which I think we should face right now.

Are we going to allow Bill 29 to set a pattern and determine the direction of parking and travel for the Niagara Falls area for years to come? One matter which I expressed in the committee and which I would like to bring to the minister here is my concern that this aerial railway is going to stop on our side of the border and is not going to link up with the American side across the bridges.

In the Niagara escarpment study, we have this report that in 1965, 2.8 million non-resident vehicles crossed into the Niagara peninsula. Of these, 1.6 million entered and left on the same day. 1.1 million stayed in Canada one night or more. As an indication of growth, a doubling of traffic on the four bridges into the Peninsula in a 20-year period has been indicated by R. I. Wolf, "Recreation Travel in the Niagara Region," Department of Highways, 1962.

As living standards rise and as affluence increases in the North American continent and around the world, we are going to find more and more people jamming into that area. More and more people will cross from the United States into Canada because we have the greatest asset. We have a good view of the falls, which the Americans do not possess, so Americans in great numbers will come across the border.

It seems to me that we ought to link some sort of public transit with the American side. Committees are already set up and working across the border in that area in this whole field. I do not know whether they are specifically studying this matter of transit although I think they are. Certainly they were talking about it a couple of years ago. It seems to me that what we want to do is facilitate bringing people from the American side to our side where they can get a better view of the falls. More than that, we should be thinking in terms of piling people up a bit more so

that rapid transit can better serve their purposes. In other words, putting in the high-rises instead of spreading out the motel area farther and farther along Highway 3 and other highways so that—

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Not Highway 3, Highway 20.

Mr. Young: Highway 20, I am sorry.

So that we can get people closer in and eliminate more of the motor traffic in favour of some sort of public transportation. Certainly, in the days ahead, as I pointed out, with the tremendous increase of income, more travel is bound to take place and Niagara Falls is going to be a magnet. Add to that the location of the new airport outside Metropolitan Toronto—where that will be I do not know, but my suspicion is that it will be much closer to Hamilton than the Malton airport is today if it is going to serve a whole area adjacent to the Waterloo complex, Hamilton, Toronto.

Again in the research department, I think we should be taking a long look at what is going to happen *vis-à-vis* that airport, and the possibility of charter flights coming from all around the world specifically to see Niagara Falls and the area about the falls. I think this could be promoted, and that means charter services coming into a new airport; rapid transit down to the Niagara Falls area. It could be integrated into a package which can be sold in Tokyo or Singapore or London or New Orleans. I think there is tremendous potential here, tremendous possibilities for very great increases in the tourist traffic in the years to come.

But we are not going to get these things unless we start planning for them now, unless our research people are going to look into them and look ahead and try to integrate some of these ideas and some of these concepts, so that 10 years from now—if it is that long, it may be less—but at least a decade from now, when these new ideas see solution, we are going to be ready to handle them. We are going to be ready to meet the challenge of that day which is going to be upon us.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to know whether or not the minister's research department is actually looking into these long-term ideas and whether they are planning ahead. If they are not, then they should be getting at it immediately. If they are not, they are abrogating their responsibility to the present and to the future for the development of this particular area of Ontario and its potential for tourism.

I reiterate, Mr. Chairman, that wherever we go in the world, Niagara Falls is a drawing magnet. The only thing that prevents people from coming to see it—at least, one of the big things—is lack of income. But that is changing and, as incomes go up and as affluence increases, more and more people can be drawn to this magnet and they will spend money there—both in getting there and after they arrive. And once they are here in this province they are going to be financial assets as well as other kinds of assets to us. And so I would like a comment from the minister on this at this time.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Well said, well said!

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think, as I mentioned on Friday, two studies are being done—either by my department, or which were initiated by my department and are being done in conjunction with others—the tourist and recreation study for the whole province, which we started two years ago and which we hope to complete in 1971, and the preliminary planning concepts of the tourist development of southern Ontario. The specific points about transportation to which the hon. member referred, naturally, are involved in these things. But as we are—in the case of the latter study particularly — looking at the present recreational value of Ontario's assets, certainly highways and all kinds of transportation are involved.

I do not anticipate that the reports which we are undertaking will say specifically what kind of transportation modes should be used in an area. I do not think that is within the terms of reference. I think that that is something which will come out of, probably the overall planning which emanates eventually from the regional planning end of The Department of Economics under the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton). I do not want to get off the track because, as I have said, it is difficult to establish just what department might be involved in tourism, other than our own, because everybody is.

For instance, I suppose, we have too wide an appeal here; we can talk about highway construction itself in which we are certainly interested, but for which there are no funds in my budget. I mention that, as far as Niagara Falls is concerned, and rapid transit in that area, the hon. members want to remember that about 85 per cent of our tourists arrive in automobiles. It is not likely that they are going to leave them someplace and take public transport and not use their cars there.

Perhaps there will be a change in this field in the future and certainly as far as aircraft are concerned, which now give us about four per cent of our tourists; this will grow. I think that that answers the hon. member's question.

We are concerned about that end of it, but specifically the studies which we are doing which will go into the hopper, if I can put it that way, are related to tourist facilities and recreational aspects. We are simply cataloguing them, in the case again of the latter study that I mentioned, so that we can advise areas—chambers of commerce, municipalities, counties, regional tourist councils—of the things which in our judgement, they should emphasize—the things that they should put together in their recreational package to make it more attractive. The things that might be missing which many tourists would like to find here.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, we will come back to this in the estimates of The Department of Transport because, I think, as the minister said, these things tie together.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well they have an airport policy, yes.

Mr. Young: Yes, the airport policy! Unfortunately The Department of Highways is concerned here too in the long-term planning. These ideas are going to go into the hopper, the minister said. But out of that hopper there should come some pretty comprehensive plans which say to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) and the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme): "We think that this and this and this ought to happen." And if we are going to have a comprehensive tourism plan, I will say these other departments have got to provide some rights-of-way or facilities to make the policy of the tourism department realistic.

More than that, if they are going to be realistic and if we are going to have a good kind of programme for the future, then rights-of-way have got to be preserved right now. Vantage points have got to be preserved. Purchases of land, or the rights to land, have to be secured right now before they are lost to us.

This is the point of our discussion last Friday, that Mr. Gertler said that "our time is running out and running out very very fast." We just cannot afford the luxury of long-term planning. We want action now. And so it appears to me that the minister must say to his opposite numbers on the benches over there that we have got to have this kind of reservation—this kind of land reserve. We have to have this kind of transportation envisaged to the future.

If we are going to have a scenic highway, then let us get at it. Let us see that the land is at least reserved, even though the department must say, "Oh, we cannot afford to build it for three or four years." But the land is going and in three or four years it is going to be three, four, five, 10 times the price it is today, and add to this the problem that some of it is going to be alienated forever.

So, while the minister may not have particular terms of reference for some of these things, certainly, his concern is so great that he must be talking to the other members of the cabinet and saying: "If we are going to have a realistic programme of tourism for the next decade, then this, and this and this must happen in your department and we cannot afford lost time right now."

Mr. Stokes: Right!

Mr. Chairman: Research services? The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak about three minutes on the subject that the minister referred to very briefly the other night, the matter of the gasoline tax rebates.

I appreciate the efforts he has made in talking to the Minister of Revenue (Mr. White) in trying to have these restored. I have about four sentences from a letter I would like to read, just to give an example of the effect it has had on the Sarnia-Windsor area. A gentleman writes to me; he refers to the gasoline tax rebate for boaters:

> One could not begin to figure accurately, but the government has certainly lost a lot of sales tax revenue. As for myself, I had a steady yearly increase in gas sales—

He is a marina operator.

> —from the time I started selling gas, through and including 1968, when I sold almost 84,000 gallons. In 1969 my sales dropped to 50,400 gallons, plus the drop in non-residents' angling licences, which was more than 1,000. It is as simple as this, the large yachts are not coming to Ontario for gas and vacations.

So I would simply like to suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the minister may have been talking to the wrong minister. Perhaps he should have talked to the Treasurer, instead of to the Minister of Revenue.

Because, while the Minister of Revenue is gaining a few hundred dollars from the tax rebate—at least, from not giving the tax rebate—the Treasurer is losing thousands upon thousands of dollars, not only through the sales taxes on restaurants, motels, taxis, movies, souvenir stands, and all those other services of which the tourists avail themselves, but also from the income tax of the operators of these services. If their incomes fall, the income taxes they pay fall.

So I think that in this matter of the gas tax rebate, the government has been "cents greedy" and "dollar foolish", and I would like the minister to try speaking to the Treasurer once more before the season begins and see if he can persuade him that it would be in the interest of the government and the people of Ontario, and especially the tourist industry, to get this gas tax rebate restored.

Hon. Mr. Auld: May I ask the hon. member, just for clarification, if he proposes that the rebate be paid only to non-residents, or to residents as well as non-residents?

Mr. Burr: I had not thought about that aspect, Mr. Chairman. From the point of view of the tourist, I suppose it is just the non-resident, but I am sure that the residents would appreciate it too, because some of our residents are now going across to the United States for dinner along the shore of the Detroit River.

While they are over there they buy the gas, because it is a little bit cheaper. I think there was a two-cent differential last year on the Michigan side, which lured quite a few of the Canadian boaters across. So after thinking it over briefly, I would say it should be reduced for both the non-residents and the residents.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister if he is satisfied that there are sufficient pumping stations around the province of Ontario to pump out the holding tanks? We have an area in our section where a man collects $3 to pump out a boat's holding tank, and he dumps it back into the water again. This is standard practice in many areas where there are no authorized pumping stations. Does your research tell you, Mr. Minister, that this is being properly supervised?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I wondered how you were going to get that in this vote, Eddie.

Mr. Sargent: That is one thing. I mean it is all right to say you must have a law to say you must have a holding tank, but who is going to pump these things out if you do not have enough official pumping stations? What do you think about that one?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I think we have strayed a bit from this vote, but I will answer the hon. member because we are particularly interested in this.

The last figure that I saw from OWRC indicated that there were 90-some pump-out stations in operation and that they expected—I have forgotten how many now, perhaps an equivalent or larger number to be in operation this summer. I think that it may be perhaps another summer before the boater will feel that there is an adequate number, but I think that a great deal of progress has been made in this starting off last spring and winding up last fall. Now with the installations which I understand are taking place—

Mr. Sargent: Do you not agree, Mr. Minister, that it is ridiculous making a law that forces a boater to, first of all, install this equipment, when you have no machinery to handle it? So why do you not, in the machinery of government, have all the bases covered before you pass the law?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not want to debate for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr). I simply say, though, that either one or the other has to come first. People will not put in pump-out stations until boats have holding tanks. People will not put in holding tanks until there are pump-out stations. So I think we have gone through a phase and we will, probably, for another year or so, continue to go through a phase where it will not be ideal, but we are getting there.

Mr. Sargent: One further question, Mr. Chairman. Does the research under this vote tell you of the growing business in scuba diving and the great area we have in the Bruce Peninsula; and are you doing any promotion in your literature on the Bruce Peninsula for scuba diving? The fact that we have the Sublima up at Tobermory now and all this development for underwater ecology—are you promoting that in your literature?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, this is mentioned in our literature.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Welland South.

Mr. Haggerty: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to follow on the comments of the member for Yorkview about the co-operation that is required from the different branches of government for an overall plan

to develop the tourist industry in the Niagara Peninsula.

I think one of the main reasons advanced for this state of affairs is the failure of the government to build and to locate the proper tourist centres in the Niagara Peninsula. The member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Bukator) raised this question, I think on Friday, to the minister, but I speak particularly of the situation at the Peace Bridge in Fort Erie, Ontario. Again we come to the two-by-four building there at the entrance to the Peace Bridge at Fort Erie. This is actually an eyesore at the gateway of the second largest port of entry into Canada.

I think I can go back and repeat myself year after year, that this was an election promise back in 1967 by this government.. Today there is no inkling if this building is going to be replaced by a new building.

Highways are in the process of relocating certain roads within that vicinity and I was just wondering if the minister, with the co-operation of The Department of Highways, had given any consideration for a new location, along with a new building, for a tourist centre for this area. I think one of the main points about this tourist centre in this area is that Americans coming across the Peace Bridge must have some central location to buy their fishing licences and their hunting licences and to get the directions to other tourist attractions throughout the province.

Particularly, you have one tourist information booth or trailer established at the entrance to the tollgates at St. Catharines. Why it is there I do not know, but I think the member for Niagara Falls said that there should be a new one at Niagara Falls out in the open where everybody can see it and take advantage of it, and there should also be a new one built at Fort Erie.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, again I think we are a little off the subject there, but I can tell the hon. member that one of our priorities is Fort Erie. We propose, or we hope, that there will be funds available in the Public Works budget for us to build a new structure there when Highways have completed their realignment, or their changing traffic pattern programme, at the bridge. Because, as I mentioned in the House, I think Fort Erie is the port of entry with the largest single number of tourists that come into the province.

Last year I think I mentioned that our priority was Pigeon River where we had a trailer and that Fort Erie was about second or third at that time, but we are going ahead with Pigeon River now and with Hill Island, so it is moving up. As far as Homer is concerned—St. Catharines—the reason that that centre was there in the first place is that there was so much traffic coming in the Niagara Peninsula; this was the bottom of the funnel.

We found that even with the locations that we had at the various points of entry, in the past many people missed them and we had many complaints. So the Homer building was put together.

We fortunately have not built a permanent building there because, of course, now with the change in the Welland Canal we are not really sure where we will be and we will not know that for a while.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, I can take by your remarks that in the relocation of the roads in the Peace Bridge area by the Peace Bridge itself there will be a tourist centre.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are working with them.

Mr. Haggerty: You are working with them? You had better get moving, because I saw an announcement in the paper that they are almost ready to go ahead with their work.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And we have been in contact with them over the years.

Mr. Chairman: Research services carried? The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): On Friday morning last, Mr. Chairman, it was indicated that the Niagara Escarpment discussion we were having—

Mr. Chairman: Order, order!

We spent a lot of time out of order last Friday discussing the Niagara Escarpment.

Mr. Lawlor: I am out of order on the Niagara Escarpment?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, we do not want to repeat that process again. If it has to do with research then it would be in order. But the minister has indicated there is nothing in his budget specifically covering the Niagara Escarpment. It would be more proper to direct, probably, to the Minister of Treasury and Economics, is that not right?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would be under the regional development branch of The Department of Treasury and Economics.

Mr. Chairman: If it has to do with research—

Mr. Lawlor: Yes it has to do with research. I understood on Friday that the thrust or the weight of research in this area was centred on the minister's office. It was the orientation point for all departments, stretching the Niagara escarpment. If such is true—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could interject to say I think that is incorrect. The thrust, to use the hon. member's words, as far as the escarpment study is concerned, is in the regional development branch of The Department of Economics. We are involved, as I mentioned, as part of the study that we are doing about tourist facilities and recreational aspects. I mentioned this a few moments ago, before the hon. member came in, in reply to some comments of his colleague. The two research programmes we have that would be covered with this vote, the tourist development in southern Ontario, and the overall tourist and recreational planning survey, the TORP survey, relate to the whole problem. They would naturally cover the recreational opportunities and aspects of Algonquin park, the Niagara Escarpment and a whole host of things.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister could indicate to me, as to the reason, as indicated on Friday, there was a deferral or postponement of the anticipated results of the study from the fall, as I understood it, for a further period into the winter. This is what came up during the debate Friday morning—that you were not capable or able to come up with the plenary results or any results of your study until later than you had anticipated.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think, Mr. Chairman, I could explain that this was in connection with the TORP study, so called, and we had originally hoped that we could have it finished in 1970. We found that with the massive information required and the staff available—the staffs at the other end, in the counties for instance, and the municipal governments around the province—it just was not possible. We now hope and expect that it will be available next year.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Chairman, would the hon. minister consider that a specific discussion with reference to the Bruce Trail, as such, would fall within his department? Not necessarily in terms of an expenditure to be made, but with respect to the retention of the trail as such, as a tourist attraction.

Hon. Mr. Auld: With the greatest respect, Mr. Chairman, I would not. If I could use an analogy, it is, perhaps, in the same vein as the extension of a highway, which would be of interest to us, naturally, in promoting tourism. I do not think it would be proper in my estimates because there are no funds for such; that would come under The Department of Highways. I would like to be able to say it would relate to The Department of Lands and Forests.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Chairman, this young and vital minister, with other people somewhat more passive in this world, should seize upon these issues, which are, as far as I can see, centrally concerned with recreation. The loss of that trail is the loss of a great recreational facility. In this particular instance, why do you not take the bull by the horns and see that it is preserved? I think that you will be held to blame by the people of this province if it is lost as much as any other minister.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: I would like to ask the minister, as far as the research department of his department is concerned, where did they come up with the amount of $1 million, insofar as the renovation or upgrading of hotels and resorts is concerned? It has just been pointed out to me by a great storm of protest—once this has been made public—that you are deriving from the five per cent room tax in all these resorts, at a very conservative estimate, $32 million in revenue for the government.

From the 10 per cent meal tax, the government is deriving $64 million, so you have a total of $96 million from this field, not thinking about the restaurant or the hotel field.

You are deriving $96 million every year from this source of income, and you have the niggardly approach, as I said the other day, to put $1 million back into the hopper to upgrade these resorts to help them meet operating expenses.

I just want to point out, if your research tells you this is a fair shake, that you have $96 million in revenue from probably $10 billion in this hand. You have the audacity to return that $1 million across Ontario, to give out 20 loans of $50,000 each to an industry that services the millions of people that come into this province. This is probably stretching research a bit—but any research department that would say this is a fair shake! I would like the minister to tell me why only $1 million is available when you are receiving a return of about $96 million.

Mr. Chairman: Does the minister have an answer for that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Here again, we had some discussion about this on the first vote. I think at that time I said it would be nice if there were a great deal more, but that is all that was available and it was a good start. It is a modest start.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Minister, I hate to flog this one. I know that we are stretching the boundaries of the vote, but we are talking about research. Now someone told you, or said you could spend $1 million on upgrading motels and resorts. Now who told you that? I would like to know that. Who told you to spend only $1 million?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! The minister has nothing—

Mr. Sargent: Now, just a moment, Mr. Chairman. I think this is the time we get a chance to talk about tourism, and what does research stand for? What does it research, the industry?

Mr. Chairman: We are talking about a budgetary item here announced in the—

Mr. Sargent: You bet your boots we are.

Mr. Chairman: Order! order, please!

This is not under the research activity part of our vote and therefore it is out of order.

Mr. Sargent: What vote are you on?

Mr. Chairman: We are on research services.

Mr. Sargent: Yes, sir.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2102.

Mr. Sargent: I challenge the chair to say why I cannot talk about research under this vote.

Mr. Chairman: As was indicated by the minister, your remarks would have been more appropriate under 2101.

Mr. Sargent: The minister does not have the final say on what we talk about. The chair has that say. I suggest to you that somewhere along the line, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Vote 2101 had to do with policy and this is what you are discussing right now. There is nothing in this particular vote for that.

Mr. Sargent: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I submit to you that somewhere along the line the research people have said to someone that we will spend "x" amount of dollars in upgrading this industry.

Mr. Chairman: With the greatest respect, the chairman rules that this discussion is out of order; this policy was discussed under vote 2101. Are there any other remarks under research services?

Mr. Sargent: No, Mr. Chairman, I am not saitsfied. I want to find out—

Mr. Chairman: We are just wasting our time. There was nothing in this particular vote.

Mr. Sargent: All right. Then may I ask the chairman will the minister please tell us what this research service is. What they do for their money? How do we spend $390,000 in research? I would like to know what they do.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, the first amount, salaries of $92,000, covers the salaries of—

Mr. Sargent: What do these people do?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It covers the salary of the complement of nine in the department. In 1969, there were studies completed on the following: tourist establishment occupancy, January and July; survey of visitors to Ste. Marie-among-the-Hurons; survey of visitors to Manitoulin Island; survey of visitors to the Shaw Festival Theatre, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 1968; travel habits and expenditures of Ontario households; the U.S. tourist market penetration; and some 30 smaller projects, which were done for either individual communities which requested them or for other branches of our own department. The largest single item in the TORP study that I was referring to a few moments ago, which has been going on for two years and we expect to complete early next year.

Mr. Sargent: What will that study cost?

Hon. Mr. Auld: About $150,000.

Mr. Sargent: Who has the contract for it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Kates Peat Marwick.

Mr. Sargent: Was that a tender deal? Did they tender on that contract?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I think we had three proposals. In a sense, we had four proposals submitted to us and our own staff evaluated the proposals and the contract was given to Kates Peat Marwick. This is the sort of

thing again, Mr. Chairman, where it is very difficult to call a tender as you would for building a road.

There are other aspects that are involved, as I think the hon. member appreciates; the competence of a firm, the experience they have had in this particular type of study. There are a great many research firms. They do not all specialize in the same field; they specialize in separate fields.

Mr. Sargent: And was this a Canadian firm?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: And how many people are involved? Is it a fulltime project for this firm?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is a full-time project, but I do not think the whole firm is involved—I could not tell the hon. member how many people there would be on the staff of the firm. I am informed there are perhaps hundreds of people.

Mr. Sargent: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The firm would not have its entire payroll involved in this project, because the firm has hundreds of employees. We are satisfied that the people who are on it—and the staff they have assigned to it are assigned to it in most cases full time—are doing an adequate job.

Mr. Sargent: The firm has hundreds of employees in this field?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In the engineering and research field. Yes!

Mr. Sargent: I see. And how many students do they employ?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I could not tell the hon. member.

Mr. Sargent: Was the survey of the Manitoulin area in relation to the U.S. tourist market of any use to the minister in setting up the $1 million for renovations?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well!

Mr. Sargent: I have to find out.

Hon. Mr. Auld: All the information we get is of assistance to us in promoting programmes as far as tourism is concerned.

Mr. Sargent: To finalize this, would the minister agree that this is a disgraceful amount to set aside?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Sargent: Twenty loans across Ontario is sufficient for a minister who gets $100 million a year in revenue?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Sargent: And yet the minister believes it is not sufficient!

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Sargent: All right; will the minister try and give some more?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I said that on Wednesday.

Mr. Sargent: Will he try and give us more?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Of course, I said that on Wednesday too.

Mr. Sargent: I did not hear that one. How much more are they going to get?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I said that I wished some day it would be $10 million.

Mr. Sargent: That is still 10 per cent too low. Thank you very much.

Mr. H. Edighoffer (Perth): Mr. Chairman, I would just like to refer to an article I saw in *The Financial Post*—I think it was in November of last year—it referred to a study which was done by Acres Research and Planning Limited for the Canadian Tourist Association. I noticed that right at the end of the article it noted:

> The survey concluded with recommendations for better information and planning for the industry. It found provincial data inconsistent in definition of facilities and the way material was collected.

I just wondered if the minister had read this report and if he feels his department has in any way been inconsistent in collecting data.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would just tell the hon. member that we paid part of the cost of that study; it was done jointly between CTA, the Canadian government travel bureau and at least some of the provinces. I have read the report, and while they did not specifically single out Ontario as being deficient in this field, one of the purposes in the studies we are doing, as I mentioned some time ago, both the TORP study which is the overall one and the more restricted southern Ontario study, is to get the kind of information we need, and municipalities, counties, tourist councils need to improve their own facilities, their own attractions and to do some planning so they can attract more people.

Mr. Chairman: Research services agreed to.

Vote 2102 agreed to.

On vote 2103:

Mr. B. Newman: Yes Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister why he did not approve, or why the group involved in this vote did not approve, a historic marker for the Ford Motor Company?

Ford wanted a historic marker placed on the site of their plant, that has been dismantled now along Riverside Drive, saying that it was the first auto industry to begin operations in the Dominion of Canada, that is on a regular basis. It is the birthplace of the Canadian auto industry and it was the first Canadian enterprise granted a charter to go into the business of manufacturing automobiles. I think this in itself would lead the department, or the individuals involved, to consider it a little more seriously, with the hope of setting up a historic marker.

I do not think we can set up too many markers across the province, Mr. Chairman; I think they are a good way of attracting tourists and they add to the history of the area.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I am not aware of the details of all the applications that the archeological and historic sites advisory board receive, but I am informed that the board turned down this request because it was felt this was not the location of the first car manufacturing operation in the province.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, the minister may be right on the first car manufacturing site, but it was the first Canadian enterprise to be granted a charter to go into it. Naturally, as soon as you had cars anywhere on the face of this earth someone manufactured parts for them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I have just been informed that the board also rejected it because of its connection with a continuing commercial enterprise. In the normal course of events we do not erect plaques to commercial operations which are—

Mr. B. Newman: Well, I can buy that, but I would see nothing wrong with the use of the name "Ford" on a historic marker. Surely, Mr. Chairman, the minister realizes that with the Ford Museum in the city of Dearborn the name itself attracts. I think the name of the Ford Motor Company here, sir, may attract a few extra people to stop by the side of the road to take a look at the marker, were the department to instal a marker in this instance.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Chairman, I want to talk a little bit about the whole question of archeology as it affects—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

I believe it is 5 o'clock and we rise.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves that the committee of supply rise and report a certain resolution and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report it has come to a certain resolution and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 2 by Mr. Davison.

RESOLUTION: That in the opinion of this House, in view of serious effects of the inflationary price spiral on pensioners and the failure of the federal government to provide any significant increase in pensions, the Ontario government should immediately provide a supplement of $40 a month for all persons in receipt of old age security as an emergency measure until such time as the federal government responds to pressure from the Ontario government and the electorate generally and raises old age security payments at least to the "poverty level" identified by the Economic Council of Canada and introduces adequate escalation clauses into all government pension legislation to keep pensions in step with the cost of living.

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton Centre): Mr. J. Wilkinson of Markham writes, in letters to the editor of the Toronto *Daily Star* of February 23, a two-sentence letter. He says this:

> Needy old age pensioners have not much hope of any improvement in their struggle to make ends meet. They have two strikes against them—too few people care and they are too frail to raise hell.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Mr. Wilkinson were here today so I could reassure him that some people do care and their numbers are growing. It is a matter of public record that the Economic Council of Canada cares, the Canadian Welfare Council cares, social planning councils care, provincial and municipal welfare workers care, local labour unions and their district labour councils care, the Ontario Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress care, the New Democratic Party cares, individual politicians care. And I refer to the report brought before the Legislature by the select committee on aging, of which 13 members of this House sat and recommended provincial economic assistance to the aged. All that remains is to convince governments to care.

Our old people have many needs, but the most pressing need for many is sufficient money to enable them to obtain food, clothing and shelter. It is almost impossible for an aged person with only old age security and the guaranteed income supplement, totalling a maximum this year of $111.41 a month, to afford adequate shelter.

Perhaps I can best illustrate this by conditions in Hamilton, which would not be lower than elsewhere in Ontario. In fact, I believe Hamilton has supplied as much in the way of low-income housing for senior citizens as any other Ontario community, if not more.

Yet, you will realize it is painfully inadequate when I tell you that, although Hamilton has 803 units completed as of October 23, 1969, with another 594 under construction, we have a waiting list of 1,237 applications for bachelor apartments and a further waiting list of 306 for accommodation for couples. This is a total of known requirements of 1,534 units, and only 594 are being built to satisfy these requirements—a shortfall of nearly 1,000 units. I know of many whose applications are more than two years old. Quite frankly, I dread receiving a call for assistance to obtain accommodation in a senior citizens' apartment because I know they are almost certain to be disappointed.

Those people trying to maintain themselves on $111.41 a month are away below the poverty line as defined by the Economic Council of Canada. On April 23, 1969, in presenting this brief of the Economic Council of Canada to the special senate committee on poverty, Dr. D. L. McQueen, at that time the council's director, defined the poverty level in Canada, based on the purchasing power of the 1968 dollar, as $1,800 a year for a single person and $3,000 a year for a couple. It would be considerably higher based on the 1970 dollar; I would imagine perhaps six or seven per cent.

I ask you to bear in mind that $1,800 and $3,000 a year are poverty levels. Maximum old age security and guaranteed income security of $111.40 a month or $1,336.92 a year single or $2,673.84 married condemns these people to a level of subsistence far below the poverty line. The poverty line for Canada is an average, and their plight in the more affluent areas of Canada is even worse because, generally, living costs are higher. This was proved to be true by the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, as a result of the most extensive survey of Hamilton poor people ever undertaken. In a brief prepared for presentation on March 12, 1970, to the special senate committee on poverty, the council fixes the poverty line in Hamilton at $2,200 a year for a single person and $3,200 a year for a couple.

The pattern of Canadian family life is changing. The Canadian Welfare Council estimates that by 1980, just 10 years from now, 81 per cent of all Canadians will live in urban centres. This alone makes for higher living costs.

Those who had the good fortune to have been employed through the depression of the late '20s and '30s and who did manage to acquire some savings or some kind of a pension, find that what had seemed to be an adequate provision for their old age has dwindled to something only slightly more than pin money. For those who were unfortunate in not being able to provide anything for their old age, it is disaster, and I would like to look at their numbers for a few moments.

As of June, 1968, there were 1,367,522 Canadians receiving old age security. Of these, 735,226 received in addition some degree of the guaranteed income supplement, and of these, 436,154 received the full supplement. This means that 53.8 per cent of those receiving old age security were given some portion of the guaranteed income supplement, while 31.9 per cent received the maximum supplement.

In other words, in 1968, practically one-third of our senior citizens were required to live on $107.10 which, at that time, for a single person was 29 per cent below the poverty line in 1968. The small increases of $2.10 a month in 1969 and $2.21 in 1970 did not even keep pace with the increase in cost of living. Again our old people have fallen even further behind. Those in the federal government who were responsible for

placing a two per cent ceiling on the cost-of-living increase to old age security and guaranteed income supplement should be condemned to live on that income for the rest of their lives.

While the individual pensioner's living costs are higher in affluent Ontario, their numbers are lower than the national average. In Ontario, in June, 1968, there were 503,123 receiving old age security. Of those, 230,734 received, in addition, some degree of guaranteed income supplement, and of those, 105,034 received the full supplement. Thus, 45.9 per cent of those receiving old age security in Ontario received some portion of the guaranteed income supplement, as compared to the national average of 53.8 per cent, while 20.9 per cent received the maximum supplement in Ontario, as compared to the national average of 31.9 per cent. While these comparisons indicate the picture is brighter in Ontario than in Canada as a whole, it is small comfort to those condemned to eke out a living under the poverty line.

Appended to the brief submitted by the Canadian Welfare Council to the special Senate committee on poverty in June 19, 1969, was a statement of the personal views of Reuben C. Baetz, executive director of that organization. I want to direct the attention of the hon. members to several of his statements. He said:

> What would be new in Canadian social legislation is the concept that the minimum level of income would be provided as a matter of right. It may seem strange that this concept has never been introduced here in Canada, even though Canada has been a signatory nation to the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in which articles 22 and 25 read as follows:
>
> "Article 22—Everyone, as a member of society has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each state, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensible for his dignity and the free development of his personality."
>
> "Article 25 (1)—Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control."

Mr. Speaker, let us just think for a moment about this statement. Are they not grand words? Is it not a pity we have fallen so very far short of achieving such a fine goal? Mr. Baetz thinks so, too, for he goes on to say:

> Although the United Nations declaration of human rights speaks of the right of an adequate standard of living and does not refer particularly to the right of an adequate income in an industrial society such as Canada, an adequate income would seem to be the most obvious way to provide an adequate standard of living.

He then asks: "Can an affluent nation guarantee anything less for its poor"?

Yes, Mr. Baetz, they can guarantee less—much less—to their poor. They have seen to it that our old age and feeble poor are kept poor as the years go by. The formula is fairly simple: First establish a basic pension that is insufficient, then make sure any increases fall short of the actual advance in the cost of living by placing a ceiling on pension increases. This formula has been applied with a marked degree of success by the Liberal government at Ottawa.

Then Mr. Baetz recalled a federal-provincial conference when the hon. Mr. Trudeau, as Minister of Justice, spoke of a Canadian's rights in the fields of law, language, politics and equality. And Mr. Baetz wondered:

> Why our economic and social rights were not included. Does our federal system prevent the federal government from including social rights among the human rights to be enjoyed by Canadians? If so, what happens to such pious statements that human rights should transcend provincial and federal rights? Certainly in our monetary and marketplace society, the other rights can become but "shell and shadow" if a man lacks the right to a minimum adequate income.

The need for assistance is so obvious that failure to meet the need is a complete denial of human rights.

No Canadian should live in need. No Canadian should live below the poverty line. The federal government fails to take the action required to bring our pensioners up to anywhere near the poverty line. Unfortunately, we in this House can do nothing for the rest

of Canada, but we can look after the pensioners in Ontario.

The $10 million budgeted under The Department of Municipal Affairs for tax reform to assist our senior citizens is so ill-conceived that it is ridiculous. It appears as though the cabinet sat around late one night and said, "Perhaps we'd better do something for our old folks" and told the hon. Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), "We've got a bit of extra money; figure out some way to put $10 million in the hands of some of our old people."

It really must have come about in such a manner, because no attempt was made to provide assistance in the form where it would be matched by the federal government under The Canada Assistance Act so that $20 million would be available to help the old people.

Large numbers of pensioners receiving guaranteed income supplement were excluded from sharing in the $10 million, and even though the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) belatedly states that this was not the intention, the fact remains the government does not know how many individuals would have received assistance under their plan of property tax relief. Surely this ought to have been the first known factor on which to base the amount of money to be budgeted.

Has this government so lost touch with the citizens of Ontario that they believe every pensioner receiving guaranteed income supplement owns their own home or can afford to rent a house or an apartment? No mention has yet been made of the aged in nursing homes who so desperately need financial assistance.

This new policy, together with the stumbling efforts of the government to cover their inept approach, is the utmost in fuzzy-headed thinking I have ever witnessed. Both Liberals and Conservatives follow a policy of too little, too late.

Several other provinces have already made provision to supplement the income of their pensioners, and I urge support for this resolution in order to provide the necessities of life for our aged by a means that will protect their dignity.

I say this, Mr. Speaker, to those who seem to feel government spending must be curbed to prevent inflation: Providing money for the necessities of life cannot be considered inflationary. If it is, then to hell with worrying about inflation. Let us worry about people instead; let us look after Mr. Wilkinson and the rest of our aged in Ontario. And perhaps we can, in this manner, force the federal government to accept its responsibility to Canada's aged.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): In the battle against inflation, there is one group that government finds it unnecessary to call upon for any voluntary restraint in spending—and I mean the senior citizens of Canada. Indeed they who bore the heat of the day in the dark period of the '30s are today not only the victims of inflation, but in many respects they are being called upon to man the front line in the war against spiralling costs.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): The member is willing to support that resolution?

Mr. Carruthers: The question arises: Are all levels of government doing enough to lessen that burden? As the war against inflation is a national effort, so in large part must the effort to lighten the burden on the elderly be national in scope in order that those less affluent provinces can be, to a marked degree, financially assisted in their efforts to assist their elderly.

It is, however, a programme in which the provinces, the municipalities and, indeed, the family must be fully involved.

The federal contribution is made chiefly through the old age security in the amount of $79.56 a month plus the guaranteed income supplement of $31.85 a month for those of low incomes making a maximum of $111.41 monthly.

As we struggle through our income tax returns these days, we notice that four per cent tax of our taxable income is specifically earmarked for old age security. This tax is expected to raise in 1970-1971 a total of $1,170,000,000, or 58.5 per cent of the revenue required for old age security. Other sources for this programme are $600 million from a portion of the federal sales tax and $230 million from a three per cent levy on corporate incomes. In total, the revenues for old age security are expected to reach $2 billion federally.

Under the present programme, however, the federal treasury will be paying to our elderly people only $1,905,000,000. It is apparent, therefore, that some $95 million collected for old age security will form part of the federal surplus and be used to fight inflation. This $95 million surplus would give 785,000 of our poorest pensioners in Canada a raise of some $120 each.

May I point out that while the federal programme for old age security has an escalation clause, it is limited to two per cent. On the other hand, the cost of living has been rising

at a rate from four to five per cent. It is a sad country that puts its older citizens in the front trenches to fight inflation. Senator Croll, on March 11—

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Great fellow, too.

Mr. Carruthers: Yes, I have a great deal of respect for him. He is quoted in the *Globe and Mail* of March 11—

An hon. member: He always speaks well of you, too.

Mr. Carruthers: Yes, and he is a fine gentleman. I just want to refer to this. Senator Croll was commenting on the recommendation of the Association of Women Electors that the federal government increase old age assistance to the poverty level of $3,000 a couple, established by the Economic Council of Canada. Senator Croll was quoted as saying:

> I think we can expect that will be looked after in the budget. It is more than hope, I think we can expect it.

What a sad disappointment. It is not in the federal budget.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt) The member's government gave them $2 per week.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor Walkerville): Not to all of them, either.

Mr. Carruthers: Turning to the provincial programme, the important feature of the Ontario programme for its senior citizens is a channelling of scarce resources to those who are in most need. In addition to the two federal programmes, Ontario makes certain other services and facilities available to elderly citizens, both directly and through the co-operation of the municipalities.

First, under The General Welfare Assistance Act a municipality may provide up to $20 monthly to each person in need as supplementary aid to meet the extraordinary needs. Free medical and hospital coverage has been provided by the province to some 80,000 needy recipients of old age security. Low level housing for senior citizens in Ontario is provided through the Ontario Housing Corporation, and The Department of Social and Family Services provides capital and operating subsidies to a network of homes for the aged, of which there are 78 municipally operated homes and 78 homes privately operated as charitable institutions. I do not think any member in the opposition will contradict me when I say that we have the finest homes for the aged anywhere in the north American continent.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Carruthers: Needy recipients of old age security in Ontario have access to the following: old age security, $79.50 a month; guaranteed income supplement, $31.85; supplementary aid, $20; premium-free hospital and medical benefits, $11.40. And the extension of the Medicare programme to include chiropractors and podiatrists will be of particular assistance to the elderly people of this province. This amounts to an annual income of $1,700, which is some $200 above the $1,500-minimum guidelines of the Economic Council of Canada.

The supplementary property tax relief up to $100 for needy pensioners, announced in the budget a few days ago, will further, and to a marked degree, relieve the financial burden of senior citizens in need. And the announcement by the Prime Minister that every effort will be made to accommodate roomers within the programme, guarantees equality of assistance to old and needy pensioners.

This programme, which will affect several thousands of our elderly citizens, will cost some $10 million annually. May I, in this respect refer to an editorial that appeared in the Port Hope evening *Guide*, which is a very outstanding paper in my community. Referring to the $100 grant to senior citizens, the *Guide* is quoted in the editorial as saying:

> Mr. MacNaughton will be universally applauded for building into his budget tax relief of up to $100 for the aged and the needy. Not much, but a lot when you are poor.

Mr. Ruston: You have got to be a homeowner.

Mr. Carruthers: Oh no, oh no!

> This last is not only a gesture of humanity, but very sound politics. It shows that the Ontario government does not share the federal government's ruthlessness in its dubious battle against inflation, the battle being masterminded by a general who is prepared to fight to the last jobless man that can be mustered.

The editorial states:

> The Ontario budget is one that the ordinary voter will appreciate.

Mr. Speaker, my visits to elderly citizens in minimum housing accommodation—and I

have had many of these visits and particularly to senior citizens in apartments—have convinced me that the present prime need of senior citizens is housing and other services, and not necessarily money.

Certainly the low-cost senior citizen housing programme of this province is an important part of that service and the tax relief programme to needy pensioners is another. But, in the final analysis—certainly in my community at least—the urgency at the present time is for better accommodation. One could be very sympathetic to the proposals of the hon. member, except for a number of factors that are involved.

Mr. Speaker: I would just point out to the hon. member that he has one minute left of his time.

Mr. Carruthers: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under the proposal, $40 would be provided for all pensioners, regardless of their financial position. And I have to differ with this universal aspect of the resolution for, in my opinion, the assistance must be directed to those who are in need. Universality, although I realize it is the policy of the socialist party, would mean depriving them of the full assistance required and, at the same time, would be subsidizing those with substantial incomes.

The $40 per month supplement to all 600,000 persons in Ontario who are in receipt of old age security, would involve a cost of $24 million per month, or $288 million per year, plus the establishment of an administrative structure paralleling the federal old-age security administration. The cost, indeed, would exceed the present gross budget of The Department of Social and Family Services for all of the income, maintenance and services provided. On the basis of cost alone, Mr. Speaker, the proposal does not appear to be feasible.

It should be noted that the increased provincial assistance to the elderly is constantly under review and, in my opinion, further practical steps will be taken in the near future—and I hope particularly with respect to nursing home care—to assist our elderly citizens. Not only is Ontario a leading jurisdiction in the field of senior citizen assistance, but the taxpayers of the province in contributing over 43 per cent of the national revenue, contribute to a major degree in providing pensions—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): That is only 20 cents per day.

Mr. Carruthers —and services to elderly citizens throughout Canada.

Mr. Sargent: That is a cup of coffee a day.

Mr. Carruthers: In closing, may I congratulate the hon. member for his concern on behalf of our elderly citizens, but may I suggest—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has now exceeded his time and I think we can do without the congratulations. The hon. member for Humber.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Speaker, we fully support this resolution, and I might add that as my leader pointed out earlier this afternoon, the steps taken by the provincial Treasurer in his budget cannot come close enough to the actual needs of our citizens to even scratch the surface.

Nearly all persons who are not self-employed become unemployable at age 65, at which time they become dependent on sources of income other than wages or salaries. The benefits of annual increments in wages, frequently above the rate of increase in consumer goods prices and taxes, are discontinued on retirement. Most pensions now being received are relatively fixed and pensioners' investments are likely to be conservative and relatively inflexible also.

Because of their age and the fact that they no longer share in the rising prosperity of the country, retirees cannot take financial risks which they might otherwise take to bolster their failing incomes. In desperation, some retirees have tried changing their small investments to increase their return, with disastrous results.

If a retiree pays income tax, presumably he paid still more before he retired. Therefore, he carried his share of the load of the cost of government.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Slow down.

Mr. Ben: Not for 10 minutes.

Out of his frugality and planning he accumulated some assets and established the resources to provide a reasonable standard of living for his retirement years. He sacrificed current benefits for an achievable level of comfort upon retirement. However, in recent years the rising tide of inflation and increasing taxation threatens to make sand castles of his plans. Furthermore, because he has a taxable income, he is ineligible for

many of the benefits extended to other citizens who are making no contribution at all to the general prosperity of this country.

Some people continue at their regular employment beyond the age of 65 and, of course, are still in the position to participate in all the benefits of steadily rising incomes. Many of these are self-employed and prosperous. In general, these people are not in need of any of the kinds of assistance which we recommend.

If a retiree qualifies for the old age security pension then he has met at least the minimum residence requirements and paid his share of taxation towards the cost of government during the qualifying period.

The "Webster New World Dictionary" states: "Poverty implies a lack of resources for reasonably comfortable living." There are at least two "unreasonably, uncomfortable" standards of living in our society. One may be taken as being at or below the standard at which a recipient of full welfare lives. The other is that suffered by a retired person who is forced, by increasing costs of consumer goods and services and rising taxes, to forego the food, clothing, services or association with companions of earlier retirement years because he can no longer afford them.

Nearly all retirees suffer the second of these "unreasonable discomforts"; a large number are suffering both. This situation exists even though the retiree maintains the gross income at which he retired.

Example, and this is based on DBS figures for 1949 dollar consumer price index:

Retiring in 1950: the income dollar in 1969 was worth 65 cents, or income of $3,000 was worth $2,040;

Retiring in 1955: the income dollar in 1969 was worth 74 cents, or income of $3,000 was worth $2,280.

These figures do not take into consideration the increase in taxes.

Some persons think of poverty as represented by a standard of living below which no person should be expected to live. Well many thousands are doing so!

Canadians with no income, or only OAS and supplement, are provided with subsidies in housing, health and hospital services, drugs and other items of necessity or comfort. As the cost of living increases, the value of these subsidies increases. Hence people receiving welfare enjoy a built-in hedge against inflation of all kinds; and they also pay no taxes.

Some reasonable and well informed people estimate the cost of total welfare per single recipient at upwards of $250 per month or $3,000 per year. If this is a reasonable estimate, then presumably $4,500 would be a reasonable estimate for a couple living together.

Presumably this provides a minimum standard of living at or below which the recipient would be suffering poverty. Probably none of the agencies involved would consider the current allowances for welfare extravagant. Yet "fixed" income retirees over 65 years of age—and some over 70—receiving less than $3,000 per year—and some less than $2,000—are paying taxes to support welfare recipients at a higher standard of living than the taxpayers themselves can afford.

It should be obvious that the poverty level of income should not be subject to general taxes, other than those which can be classed as "hidden": federal sales tax, provincial sales tax, and so on. Therefore these values of $3,000 and $4,500 should be exemption levels for all retirees on incomes of up to say $10,000.

According to the DBS figures for June 30, 1969, more than 1,077,000 Canadians were living on pensions or other forms of "fixed income." Their dependents would probably bring the total number of people living on these incomes to 1.6 million. As of December, 1969, the following is a list of the population senior citizens in five-year groups in Ontario: age 65-69 total 212,400; age 70-74 total 166,400; age 75-79 total 119,600; age 80-84 total 67,600; age 85-89 total 30,900; age 90-on total 10,600. For an overall total of 607,500.

In 1967, 165,000 people in Canada 65 years of age and over with gross incomes of $3,000 or less paid income taxes, and presumably many of this group paid education taxes on their lived-in homes.

This figure of course includes those who have not retired either by choice or of necessity. Each person retires under the best conditions available to him. His judgment as to the time and conditions of retirement, if he has a choice, and as to the kind of investment into which he will put his savings, is his own, good or bad. But having retired, he has no choice but to live with his decisions up to that time.

Generally he accepts the situation. However, having made his decisions, he should be permitted to live out his days protected from the activities of other residents of the community who are in a position to drive up the

costs of consumer goods and services. The need for this protection is not unlike the protection all citizens have a right to expect from attacks by bandits.

Retirees find it particularly exasperating to hear groups of employed people, as well as those who set their own fees, greedily demanding exorbitant, and in some cases extortionate, increases in income not justified by any increase, or promise of increase, in productivity. Most of these demands have been met, to some extent, over and above the increase in cost of living, and therefore at the expense of others, including retirees who are not so well armed.

Most retired people want to remain on this planet a little longer if they can do so in a dignified manner. At all levels of income they are being stripped, in retirement, of the dignity which they strove to attain throughout their working years. They supported schools and churches, community services, paid taxes, struggled through a depression, participated directly or indirectly in two world wars and the Korean conflict. Through all this they managed to set aside some of their income towards retirement.

They knew that after retirement some adjustment would be necessary, but not all in one direction nor of such proportions. In spite of the success of their sacrifices and effort they are steadily losing ground, and generally cannot help themselves. Many have been able to hold their gross income at retirement level, but they are in trouble nevertheless due to inflation and higher taxes. In many cases they have been forced to use some of their capital. Even though they counted on a certain depletion to maintain their income especially those who have been retired 10 years or more are in very serious difficulties.

In a country in which the general standard of living is one of the highest in the world and rising, it is unreasonable and unjust that several thousands of citizens on whose shoulders much of the prosperity stands and who have the triple misfortune of being 65 years of age or older, of being retired and of having to pay general taxes should be, as described, under "poverty levels", and should have to fight merely to hold the reduced standard of living for which they planned and saved, and which they achieved when they retired.

Retirees, with their dependents, now constitute the only group of Canadians who suffer all the consequences of inflation and the consequently lower purchasing power of their "take home" dollar income, which is also steadily reduced by increasing taxation of all kinds. On the other hand, almost all employed residents in recent years have enjoyed annual income increases which more than offset both consumer price inflation and taxation increase; increases not accompanied by any significant increase in productivity.

In general, retirees do not have the same "ability to pay" as employed persons receiving the same gross incomes. They do not share in the "continuing prosperity" referred to in the white paper on taxation. Their commitments continue while the value of their incomes goes down. The employed person's income moves ahead and he has freedom as to the commitments he will make.

It has been suggested that recent action by the Ontario government in increasing the pensions of civil servants and school teachers might encourage private industry to take similar action. This kind of thinking disregards the fact that private industry lacks the power to impose a tax on the population as a whole. Most employers would be happy to increase the pensions of their former employees if they could be assured that this action would not jeopardize the employer's competitive market position. Regulated companies also would be happy to lift their pensioners out of their difficulties if they were permitted to do so. At this point it is obvious that equitable treatment of the current group of retirees throughout Canada can only be provided by the three levels of government.

Assistance to retirees should not be through welfare or charity but directly by the provincial government, in the educational field as well as the health services programme.

Mr. Speaker: This should be an appropriate time to advise the member that his time has just expired, or almost expired.

Mr. Ben: Well then, I will have to get—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Speaker, we recommend that consideration be given to retirees in regard to education taxes. As mentioned, these people paid all taxes throughout their working years, as well as educating their children to take their place in our society. Retirees would furnish proof to the municipal authorities in whose area they reside that they are retired and their income is fixed. On this basis:

1. Retirees living in their own homes would have the education portion of their taxes omitted.

2. Retirees living in rented premises receive an assessment notice from the municipality,

showing the total assessed value of the property in which they live and pay taxes through their monthly rental payments. These retirees would furnish proof, as mentioned above, to the municipality who would then refund the educational portion to the retirees. The municipalities would then claim the total education tax for retirees from the provincial government.

We recommend that retirees be given consideration in regard to health service payment as follows—these are services of the Ontario Health Service Insurance Plan and the Ontario Hospital Services Commission:

Retirees whose gross income is $3,000 for a single person and $4,500 for a married couple living together or a less amount, be released from any payment whatsoever for these services.

We also strongly recommend that the benefits under OHSIP be extended to include the following items for all retirees: drugs by prescription, vaccine, biological sera or extracts or their synthetic substitutes, eye glasses, special appliances as recommended by the doctor, oxygen, physical therapy or similar treatments, chiropractor or osteopathic treatments, 100 per cent of doctor's charges, Christian Science practitioner's charges.

Mr. Speaker: As the hon. member has now had two extra minutes, the same as the member before him, I would ask him to yield the floor to the next speaker.

Mr. Ben: Well, thank you very much for your indulgence.

An hon. member: Can you match that?

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): Mr. Speaker, I doubt that I can match that last performance. I certainly cannot in terms of speed.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): How about content?

Mr. Bolton: I accept the validity of the content offered by the last speaker as well, if I may do so without being patronizing.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support my colleague from Hamilton Centre in his motion. I do so on grounds very similar to the ones he has advanced. He referred to the serious effect of the inflationary spiral on pensioners. He also referred to the failure of the federal government to provide any significant increase in pension. Not unpredictably, the response of the hon. member for Durham was to reinforce the statement that the federal government has not done enough. This, of course, is a very regular response, but this time I think with justification, with not sufficient response from government, as I indicate later on.

In 1967 the federal government increased the standard old age pension of $75 by a supplement of up to $30 for those who were needing it. Each year since that time our old people have in fact received less and less, because the federal government pegged this increase at two per cent. The cost of living has gone up 13.9 per cent, while the two per cent mini-escalator has provided pension increases of only 6.1 per cent. In other words, the buying power of the pension dollar has dropped by 7.8 per cent.

Now what Ottawa has failed to do, Queen's Park may do and should do. We have, for example, British Columbia, where they provide a supplement of $38.59 to bring combined federal and provincial tax up to $150 per month. The member for Durham mentioned that all the possible benefits to old age pensioners—not all of them receive it—brought his total up to $1700. Yet on March 12 this year the Senate committee on poverty indicated that $2,200 was the minimum for a single person. So even the very few who receive benefits the member for Durham spoke of are still $500 below the poverty level.

Mr. Speaker, Edmund Burke—to some of you of sacred memory—said that:

> Government is a contrivance of human wisdom to provide for human wants. Men have a right that these wants should be provided by this wisdom.

A while ago I read a piece of doggerel that said of someone in the visitors' gallery:

> One thing I observe from the gallery, is one thing all members agree upon is their salary.

We managed a great deal of unanimity when we raised our own salary to a certain level. I would hope, even if we do belong to different parties, we will find the same unanimity in our desire to meet the very reasonable requests and needs of our old age pensioners.

It is rather sad to reflect that almost half of the 1,663,000 Canadians aged 65 and over are now needy pensioners. There was a time when the term "pensioner" suggested a person who had made his contribution to the country and had retired from work with adequate provision for a leisurely and dignified

old age. The word pensioner has now become a four-letter word, spelled p-o-o-r. Pensions and poverty are now the same word. We have a new poor. Michael Harrington said:

> The poor tend to become increasingly invisible; it takes an effort of the intellect and the will even to see them.

How often is that reinforced. We do not seem to recognize the fact that we have many of our elderly people who are living in miserable little flats, single rooms, on utterly inadequate provisions for food, shelter and dignity.

It is not beyond the ability of this wealthy province to meet those needs. It is our responsibility, at the very least, to do what this motion proposes—provide $40 a month until better provision is made by the joint efforts of the federal and provincial governments. It is unfortunate that there is so much disparity between the municipal benefits that are offered to those who are in need. It is therefore important that the senior governments take appropriate action.

We are far too indifferent. We ourselves are not suffering, and "there is nothing harder than the softness of indifference."

Mr. Speaker, it seems to me a very reasonable, temperate request for some assistance for those who have made their contribution to our country. Those who are now 65 years or over, even those who are close to 65, have survived one depression and two world wars. Only the most fortunate or acquisitive of them has been able to make adequate provision for his old age. What has been provided is now shrinking daily.

I support this resolution as being a matter of simple justice and concern for our people. Old age is supposed to be the crown of life —"our play's last act." Let us see to it that our older citizens do not act out their last act in resentment about injustice. There are those of us in this House, Mr. Speaker, who lived during the depression. Poverty shared is almost tolerable but poverty in the midst of unlimited affluence is intolerable and, Mr. Speaker, utterly unnecessary.

Mr. L. Bernier (Kenora): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak to this resolution I welcome the opportunity to publicly support higher old age security payments. Certainly a lot that I am going to say has already been said but I think it is worthy of repetition. As the cost of living continues to spiral upward, there is no doubt that increasing the old age security pensions is of immediate urgency and a measure which is long overdue. I am genuinely sympathetic to the resolution and commend the member for it. However, in a practical vein, it is easy to propose but how are we to fund such a programme?

Would the member agree to an increase in sales tax and does he think the people of Ontario would agree? I would suggest to the member for Hamilton Centre that, praiseworthy as his resolution is, it is misdirected to the wrong level of government. I would further suggest that he mail a copy of the resolution to one of his fellow party members in Ottawa. I think the member for Middlesex South was hitting on this note very, very closely.

I cannot endorse the contention that the government of Ontario should be called upon to sponsor an emergency measures programme to fill the void created by the federal government. The responsibility is clearly theirs and it is unfair to expect the people of Ontario to shoulder the burden which has been sloughed off by Ottawa again.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bernier: My colleague, the member for Durham, certainly brought up some very interesting points. Mr. Speaker, there are approximately 600,000 persons in Ontario who receive old age security pensions and the adoption of this proposal as presented would involve a cost to this government, as has been pointed out earlier, of some $24 million per month or $288 million per year.

To put the figure in perspective, it would be necessary to raise the retail sales tax by three points to generate the amount of revenue required. Furthermore, of course, an administrative structure parallel to that existing in the federal government would certainly be required, but be unnecessary.

It is indeed somewhat startling to note that the annual cost of this proposal by the hon. member, this programme alone, would exceed the present gross budget of The Department of Social and Family Services in this province for all the income maintenance services that that department provides.

Mr. Speaker, approximately 250,000 persons in Ontario now receive the guaranteed income supplement, either the full amount of $31.85 or a portion of the supplement, in addition to the basic $79.56 provided by old age security. While the two federal programmes provide a maximum of $111.41 a month, the elderly persons are in need. Ontario makes other services available to these

citizens. Under The General Welfare Assistance Act, the municipality may provide up to $20 monthly to each person in need as supplementary aid to meet extraordinary needs. If particular needs go beyond this provision, special assistance may also be made by that municipality.

Under The Family Benefits Act, Ontario also provides free medical and hospital coverage to approximately 87,000 needy recipients of old age security. Low rental housing, as has been pointed out, for our senior citizens has been made available through the OHC for a total of some 7,600 units at various stages of development at the beginning of March, 1970.

The Department of Social and Family Services provides capital and operating subsidies to an outstanding network of homes for the aged, as my friend, the hon. member for Durham, has pointed out.

The recent budget statement by the Treasurer contains some new provisions which further illustrate our continued concern for the state of our pensioners. The Ontario government will grant up to $100 a year for an estimated 155,000 needy pensioners—

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Twenty-eight cents a day.

Mr. Bernier: —to help them pay their property taxes, costing the provincial government an estimated $10 million a year.

The programme will provide supplementary assistance to that already available to homeowners and tenants as per the basic shelter grant system, and will be available to all owners or tenants who receive the federal guaranteed income supplement. Combined with the basic shelter grant, this will eliminate the property tax burden of many pensioners and will significantly reduce it for others.

As the Treasurer noted, this new programme recognizes the pensioners with little or no outside income, because these are among the ones who have been hardest hit by inflation and are least able to pay rising property taxes and rising rents.

The Prime Minister has also made it clear that qualifications for the partial relief programme would be adjusted to prevent the exclusion of those pensioners living in single rooms.

The additional insured health services being made available beginning July 1, 1970 will also be of special benefit to our senior citizens. The extension of coverage for certain services provided by chiropractors and osteopaths, will be a particular boon to pensioners since they constitute a large proportion of those seeking these services.

The resolution of the member for Hamilton Centre refers to the poverty level identified by the Economic Council of Canada. If one accepts the minimum guideline of the council as set forth in its fifth annual review, $1,500 for a single person—

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Wait till you get the sixth one.

Mr. Bernier: One can see that the various services outlined above—

Mr. Martel: The fifth is outdated.

Mr. Bernier: —amount to more than this sum. In Ontario, needy recipients of old age security have access to the basic payment of $79.56, the guaranteed income supplement of $31.85, supplementary aid, $20 per month and premium-free medical and hospital benefits worth $11.40, for a total income of $1,700 annually.

Mr. Martel: You do not believe that? You have to choke to get welfare out of them.

Mr. Bernier: Those are facts. They are right there.

Mr. Stokes: Could you live on it?

Mr. Pilkey: For the first month.

Mr. Stokes: Could you live on it?

Mr. Bernier: They miss my point, Mr. Speaker. Pensioners' hopes were raised briefly last month by suggestions that the old age pensions might be increased. Senator David Croll, chairman for the Senate committee on poverty, indicated very strongly that Ottawa might be taking some action in this direction. But the federal budget has come down and gone, and the maximum pension with the supplements remains at $111 per month. I concur with the provincial Treasurer's indictment of the federal government's budget as showing an almost cruel indifference to the victims of inflation and federal policies—the pensioners and the unemployed.

Mr. Martel: What would you do with all this government's abrogation?

Mr. Pilkey: Circulate that speech in Kenora!

Mr. Bernier: I will, I will.

Mr. Stokes: It is all right. I will do it.

Mr. Bernier: Wait a minute. Just wait a minute.

Mr. Pilkey: No, just mail it out.

Mr. Bernier: There are many factors that aggravate the plight of the elderly. They live on fixed incomes and have no bargaining power to demand more. Unlike the young, they cannot move to new jobs, acquire more education or take on after-hours jobs to increase income. The continual demands by already-prosperous younger groups force living costs higher and higher, and the situation faced by many of our senior citizens steadily worsens.

Mr. Martel: The same way you handled the Indians.

Mr. Bernier: Pensions should be geared to the real cost of living. The Canadian Welfare Council last year called for a complete overhaul of Canada's social policies and specifically suggested that pensions be increased to match the full consumer price increase, rather than the meagre and totally inadequate two per cent now available under The Old Age Security Act. In view of the fact that the cost of living has been double that amount during most of the last decade, I fully endorse the council's pension recommendation.

Most of today's senior citizens struggled to raise families during the depression years and worked through World War I and II. They were wage earners before company contributory pension plans became widespread, and now the Canada Pension Plan is too recent to affect them.

I cannot emphasize too strongly that the federal government's new white paper on social security, due for publication in June, must contain provisions for new and generous old age assistance that are truly tied to the cost of living and truly fitted to individual need. Otherwise, pretensions to a just society are hollow and cynical.

Mr. Speaker: I rather doubt if the hon. member can, in two minutes, express his views, but I will give him the opportunity to try. But at 6 o'clock we adjourn, because we started on time.

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): Very well, Mr. Speaker.

I am pleased to rise to support this resolution. It regrets the failure of the federal government to provide this increase in pension, which we all hoped for and which we all regret. The federal Minister of Finance needs to be reminded of this failure, and in this he needs to be properly and clearly admonished. In 1970-1971, he plans to collect $2 billion in old age security revenues and he plans to pay out only $1,905 million. In plain words, he had $95 million here that becomes part of his anticipated surplus of $250 million. As the *Globe and Mail* states in an editorial on March 17, it is simply cruelty.

We are dealing—or, really, failing to deal—with 785,000 of our poorest pensioner citizens. The Ontario figures were given this afternoon by my leader in his contribution to the present budget debate. Not only has the federal government failed our pensioners by omission, the provincial government has failed them by commission. We have, this week, seen a sum of money promised of $10 million, but is there a programme to match it? No, clearly there is not. First of all, this amount could have been doubled by a federal matching grant if it were a shared-cost programme.

What went wrong? Is the budget to be only a series of generalities on which moneys are spent? Are attractive programmes not based on facts? Those eligible appear to number 190,000. But the real hangup in the continuation of the problems is set out by the provincial Treasurer when he suggests that these persons will be able to maintain independent households while receiving $111.41 a month. Well, the Premier had not thought about that, and surely neither had the rest of the members in this House.

A headline has been obtained, but the people of Ontario will realize that a government by headline is a costly, inadequate replacement for sound programmes economically worked out.

I hope that the members will support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker: That is a delightful conclusion to today's private members' hour.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, may I indicate that tomorrow we will have the contribution of the leader of the New Democratic Party to the budget debate, following which—

Mr. Speaker: On the same schedule as today?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Yes, that is my understanding. Then we will go back to estimates. There will be an evening session tomorrow night and Thursday evening as well, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock, p.m.

No. 30

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Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, April 7, 1970

Afternoon Session

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Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, April 7, 1970

Resumption of the debate on the budget, Mr. MacDonald 1183

Motion to adjourn debate till Provincial Treasurer tables programme to combat rising unemployment, Mr. MacDonald 1192

Regina against George Clinton Duke, statement by Mr. Wishart 1200

Sales tax on chemicals and replacement parts for pollution control centres, statement by Mr. White 1201

Regina against George Clinton Duke, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 1202

Material for representatives to provincial-municipal conference, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 1203

Request from Centre for Forensic Science for information on testing of mercury in fish, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 1203

Sale of Dunlop plant property on Queen Street East, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 1203

Letter from James Karswick re Bird-Stevens assault case, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Lewis 1204

Dumping of mercury effluent at Dow Chemical, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. MacDonald 1204

Ontario case where breathalyser section was involved, question to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Bullbrook 1205

Request by OWRC for legal opinion re proposed Canada Water Act, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 1205

Purpose of meeting to be held simultaneously with provincial-municipal conference, questions to Mr. A. F. Lawrence, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Jackson 1206

New detention centre in Niagara region to replace two county jails, question to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Haggerty 1206

Upgrading and extension of facilities at Fort William industrial farm, questions to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Stokes 1207

Charges against Indian health service re permitting lay people to dispense pills and prescription drugs, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Martel 1207

New process re drug addicts on withdrawal, questions to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Sargent .. 1207

Payment of fines on instalment plan, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Sargent 1208

Possible closing of Denison Mines at Elliot Lake, questions to Mr. A. F. Lawrence, Mr. Farquhar, Mr. Lewis 1209

Plans to institute courses in vocational training in correctional institutions, questions to Mr. Grossman, Mr. Sargent 1210

Sixth report, standing private bills committee, Mr. Winkler 1211

Estimates, Department of Tourism and Information, Mr. Auld, continued 1211

Recess, 6.00 o'clock 1220

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and that the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

ON THE BUDGET

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, in discussing any budget there are certain major topics that require comment. For that reason my remarks today will deal with many of the same topics which the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) raised yesterday. But I have to deal with them in a different and more fundamental context.

What we were treated to yesterday was something of a political "Punch and Judy" show. Nobody could believe, even for a fleeting moment, that there was anything fundamentally different at stake between the Liberals and the government. The Liberals were engaged in their usual parrying with this government and their defence of the government of Ottawa. Significantly, the Leader of the Opposition made no mention of the relation between the public and the private sector of our economy or of the role of government in meeting the urgent unmet needs of the people of the province of Ontario. Significantly, little was said about the growing problem of unemployment and inflation. These are questions in which the Liberals and the Tories have no real difference. But we, in the New Democratic Party, have. So while I shall be dealing with many of the same topics that the Leader of the Opposition raised yesterday, it is going to be in the context of a more fundamental challenge to both the philosophy and the record of the Robarts government.

In its own way, this year's budget is one of the most remarkable that has ever been presented to this Legislature. Budgets can be one of two kinds. A budget can hold the line, contenting itself with the same level of services and taxes; or a budget can make a bold new thrust forward, with new services and tax changes, or even better, tax reform. This year's budget pretends to do both and fails on both accounts.

The provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) spent the first half hour of an hour-and-a-half address decrying excessive government expenditures as the main reason for our present inflationary crisis. Now let us recognize very clearly the essentially Tory game that the provincial Treasurer is up to.

He knows that the majority of families today are driven to distraction with the simple problem of making ends meet. No matter what increases in family income there are, they are eaten up by rising prices so that it becomes more and more difficult to stretch the family budget to be able to meet family needs.

Why? Everyone is looking for a scapegoat. The business world, aided and abetted by the press, deluges the public with an answer. In fact, there are two reasons for inflation, they say: first, the extravagance of government and, secondly, the exorbitant wage demands of the workers.

Of course, that is the line the business world would like you to believe. What they want to do is district public attention from the fact that the major contribution to inflation is the exorbitant price increases, or managed prices, which are made by those who control the business world. Only in recent months have governments faced the fact that if they want to control price increases, they must place some kind of a check on management, which has the unilateral right to increase prices. That is the exercise the prices and incomes commission is engaged in at Ottawa and any sophisticated observer is not particularly impressed with their achievements.

It is bad enough for the provincial Treasurer to pander to the image built up by the chamber of commerce and by the Bullochs and Browns of the so-called "fair taxation" lobby. That may please the government's friends in the business world, whose chief

concern is to protect their own selfish interests. But, I say to you, Mr. Speaker, it is cheap and dangerous propaganda when a top government spokesman like the provincial Treasurer lends his support to undermining public confidence in democratic government by the exaggerated claim that government extravagance is the main reason for rising prices.

It simply it not true. But, in addition, as far as the Robarts government is concerned, it is sheer doubletalk.

Imagine the provincial Treasurer having the colossal effrontery to spend so much of his budget address decrying the excesses of government expenditure and then, in the next breath, tell us that the budget this year is going to be $700 million more than it was last year.

The budget that the provincial Treasurer presented last year, exactly a year ago, was $2998 million—just under $3 billion. This year's budget is $3739 million—an increase of over $700 million, an increase of 25 per cent in one year. Now I know the provincial Treasurer—if he were here, which he is not—would correct me and say that last year's budget was not just $2998 million. By the end of the fiscal year, it had grown to $3292 million. He is right; by the end of the fiscal year, the government had spent an extra $300 million. The reason for it is simple. The phony balance of the budget he presented with such propaganda trumpeting here in the Legislature a year ago blew up in his face within a matter of weeks. He had to restore some of the services he had cut back. He had to face a storm of protest over the increased taxes under the new county school boards, which were rushed into operation by the Robarts government. A revolt took place in the Tory caucus and it had to be quieted with emergency grants, which we found out some six or eight months later added up to $50 million more. And so on with many other things.

But, Mr. Speaker, the same thing is going to happen this year. Do not think for one moment that the budget is going to stick at $3739 million. In fact, the government has smartened up to this point. It is rather interesting to note this. They have already conceded that there will be additional expenditures, for example, for increased welfare and assistance payments. "And in other areas as well we are prepared to be flexible," to quote the provincial Treasurer. So there will be other increases.

What we are faced with is a budget on the instalment plan. Bits and pieces are going to be added throughout the year. Perhaps the provincial Treasurer is going to copy his fellow Tories in Quebec with what might be described as "press conference" budgets.

But, in face of this massive increase in government spending, imagine a provincial Treasurer preaching to the people of Ontario that government excesses are the root cause of the rising prices that plague every family across this province!

Do you realize, Mr. Speaker, that in 1965-66, just five years ago, the budget of the province of Ontario was less than a $1.5 billion—to be exact, $1.456 billion. In other words, in the last five years the provincial budget has more than doubled under the Robarts administration; in fact, it has increased 150 per cent.

In face of the government's own record, it is beyond belief that a provincial Treasurer should engage in the cheap propaganda of a government extravagance being the root of all our troubles. The mind boggles in the face of such brazen effrontery.

However, let us go back to this year's budget. I want to make one point clear before going any further. The New Democratic Party does not object to some of the increases in this year's budget. We have no intention of trying to deceive the people of Ontario by indulging in the Tory hypocrisy and preaching restraint and practising massive expansions in the same budget. I want to take a few moments to explain why, because it represents a basic difference between the approach of the Robarts government and the New Democratic Party.

In advocating the basic Tory philosophy that the root cause of rising prices is the excess in government expenditure, the provincial Treasurer even went so far as to talk about "the public sector encroaching on the economy." I want us to pause for a moment to try to grasp what in heaven's name he is talking about. "The public sector encroaching on the economy." One would assume that the public sector is an integral part of the economy. Here again is the provincial Treasurer bolstering this chamber of commerce image that anything spent by private enterprise is an investment: it is good for the economy; the people benefit. But anything that is spent by the government, well, it is just spent; it is lost. It is not good for the economy, and the people do not benefit.

Mr. Speaker, this idea, to put it kindly, is pre-Keynesian. It is as antiquated as Aunt

Minnie's hoopskirt. Any provincial Treasurer who lends weight to such an outmoded philosophy is simply out of touch with the reality of any modern economy. He is not worthy of the highest financial post in the richest province of this country.

Why, 10 years ago, that Canadian-born American economist, John Kenneth Galbraith, in his classic work, "The Affluent Society", exploded that outmoded theory to the high heavens. He made the unchallengeable point, which apparently this government has not yet grasped, that the North American continent, including Canada, has an overabundance of production in the private sector, much of it of questionable worth, certainly of lower priority in terms of social needs. But, at the same time, ours is a society that is starved for adequate schools, hospitals and university facilities; starved for enough parks, playgrounds, conservation projects; starved for an expanding road system and regeneration of our renewable natural resources; starved for services to our people—housing for those in low-income groups, treatment centres for emotionally disturbed children and adults, and so on.

These are the things that we need. These are the things which create that "quality of life" which this government talks so much about, but does so little to achieve.

But the point is: most of these urgent needs will never be met by the private sector. They are not profit-making. They are services to people. If we are ever going to get these services, it will only be through an expansion of the public sector of the economy. For the most part, the government—federally, provincially or municipally – must provide them. Private enterprise will not.

But this, Mr. Speaker, is precisely where the Robarts government opts out. In principle—in basic philosophy—it is opposed to any expansion of government spending, because it says any such increase represents—and now back to this—an undesirable encroachment on the economy.

What economic nonsense! What it is, in the Tory view, is an unwarranted challenge to the divine right to private enterprise to preempt the whole field of economic activity.

Of course, the government cannot withstand bowing to some of the pressures to meet some of these unmet needs, but they do so reluctantly precisely because they are in philosophic disagreement with them. That is why we have the spectacle of the provincial Treasurer decrying "the excesses of public spending" in the very same budget where he is announcing an increase of over $700 million in expenditure. Because the government provides these new services so reluctantly they do them piecemeal, in an unplanned fashion. In short almost invariably, they do them badly.

The government has not only lost the will to govern; philosophically it is unable to grapple with the problems of the 1970s because the solution of these problems lies increasingly in the public, rather than in the private, sector of the economy.

The function of government is to meet these urgent needs of our people; to do so, not reluctantly, but with zest and imagination and plain common sense. That is what a New Democratic government will do after 1971. Ontario has the wealth if it is used wisely, if the tax burden is shared equitably, to meet the needs of our people more fully than is being done at the present time.

But to provide these services to the people this government refuses to raise the necessary money from the great wealth of Ontario through an equitable tax structure. All of which brings me, Mr. Speaker, to another key part of this year's budget, namely, tax reform, or to put it more accurately, an absence of tax reform. Here again, the Robarts government is proving unwilling and unable to cope with the basic needs of the 1970s.

The decade of the 1960s, as all members will recall, was devoted to studying our tax systems in Canada, in order to document what everybody knew to be the case—that the tax burden bears more heavily on those who have the least capacity to pay. The Carter report federally, the Smith report provincially, provided us with that documentation.

When the Benson white paper, representing a watered down version of the Carter report, was announced last November, the provincial Treasurer of Ontario—this is a little difficult to believe but it is true—the provincial Treasurer of Ontario welcomed it. He stated that Ontario agreed with many of the Benson white paper proposals. More important, he endorsed its underlying philosophy—that is the whole underlying philosophy—because he said it was in agreement with the underlying philosophy of Ontario's tax reform programme.

The provincial Treasurer asserts now, some four or five months later, that they are in "fundamental disagreement with the federal government approach to tax reform." What has happened in those four or five months? Government spokesmen have not only joined, they have given leadership to the hysterical

crusade against the federal tax reform proposals.

I acknowledge that some of the Benson white paper proposals deserve to be opposed, but in its all-out opposition this government is in the process—and let the people not miss this—this government is in the process of repudiating its own tax reform programme, because, as the provincial Treasurer told us last fall, it has the same underlying philosophy as the federal tax proposal.

If tax reform is to be implemented—in other words, Mr. Speaker, if taxes are to be reduced for those who have the least capacity to pay —then it follows inevitably that taxes will have to be raised for those who have a greater capacity to pay. Now that the crunch has come the Robarts government is really opposed to this. They have joined in the outcry of those who seek to maintain the favoured tax position which they have enjoyed down through the years.

A year ago, with a great propaganda flourish, the provincial Treasurer announced Ontario's tax reform programme to be initiated in 1970, this year. During the course of the past year the government began to backtrack. One minister after another indicated that the programme was going to have to be postponed—and one of them clearly let the cat out of the bag—until after the next provincial election.

Now the budget has confirmed this, but then it indulges in a few gestures to maintain the illusion that the government's tax reform programme has not been scuttled.

Any tax reform programme worthy of the name must do something to relieve the regressive property tax. Let us examine the tinkering with the *status quo*, which this government is engaged in on this vital issue.

At long last, the government is moving to assume a greater share of education costs. It has set as its objective moving from the present 45 per cent of the overall cost of education being shared by the provincial government, to 60 per cent over the next three years. If there ever was a case of too little, and too late, this is it. A New Democratic government would have moved to 80 per cent of the over-all cost of education during the current Legislature. That is the figure that the Ontario Association of Mayors and Reeves has fixed for some years. That was our pledge in the last election campaign.

But this year, the government stresses, they are going to move up from 46 per cent to 51 per cent of the overall cost of education. Are we supposed to be grateful for this belated action? Do you know what it means? The House was reminded yesterday of what it means.

It means that in the year 1970, this Tory administration is finally going to fulfill a key election promise on which George Drew began this Conservative administration back in 1943—the provincial assumption of at least 50 per cent of the overall cost of elementary and secondary education in the province of Ontario. I suppose we should not complain about the Tories taking 27 years to fulfill an election promise. I suppose we should just be grateful that they have finally done so. But I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the people of Ontario cannot wait that long for their urgent needs to be met.

Another example: the provincial Treasurer points with great pride to $125 million more that is going to be made available in municipal grants this year. This is construed as tax reform. But may I remind every municipal taxpayer in the province of Ontario, that two years ago, in 1967, municipal expenditures in Ontario went up, not just $125 million, but $243 million. In 1968 they went up, not just $125 million, but $164 million. We do not know exactly, as yet, how much they went up in 1969, but hon. members can be dead certain it is much more than the $125 million increase in municipal grants, which the provincial Treasurer has announced.

So, when the provincial Treasurer boasts about increasing municipal grants $125 million this year, we can be equally certain that that will be less than the increase in municipal expenditures this year.

In short, the government's increase in grants will not even cover the municipalities' rising expenditures. The already oppressive property tax will become more, not less this year, and the provincial Treasurer asks you to accept this as tax reform—well it is Tory tax reform. I do not think the taxpayers of the province of Ontario are going to be fooled.

Another example of this government's tax reform. The offer of $100 a year tax credit to the 240,000 senior citizens who are so poor as to be eligible for a guaranteed income supplement to their old age pension. No group, Mr. Speaker, is more cruelly hit in this period of rising prices than these people, so the government had to show some compassion.

You may recall that the last time this government was overcome with compassion for this worthy group of citizens, relief was given to them in the way of up to $150 a year on their local taxes. But, Scrooge-like, this government took a lien on their homes to re-

claim the money from their estate when the old folks died. That was such an affront to the dignity of older people who have no other worldly goods than the home they had paid for throughout their working lives, that most of them simply refused the tax relief and suffered on with the tax burden. So much so that there were only 5,000 pensioners —only 5,000 out of over 600,000 pensioners all across the province of Ontario—who even accepted this $150. You can see what a phony relief was the government's last exercise in Tory compassion.

How about this latest exercise? Well, at least it is going to replace the old one that was too phony to be tolerated any longer. It is going to be quietly buried.

But the new plan, take note, is available only to those pensioners who are in receipt of the guaranteed income supplement. In other words, the 372,000 old age pensioners in Ontario who receive a pension without a supplement, are guaranteed no help at all by this government. They represent two-thirds of our old age pensioners and they are not eligible at all for any assistance from the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and his administrators.

But what about the 240,000 old age pensioners who do receive a guaranteed income supplement because of their poverty and who presumably are eligible? But all of them, Mr. Speaker, are not eligible. We have not reached the end of the taxes and the exclusions. All those who happen to rent or own a home or apartment are eligible, but those who live in rooms will be excluded, so we were told when the budget came down.

Just to show you how poorly planned and researched this new government programme was—how ignorant the government was of the actual conditions under which our senior citizens live—it is now discovered that in Metropolitan Toronto, according to the social agencies, that very few old age pensioners who own their homes are in receipt of a guaranteed income supplement. So, as the plan was originally announced by the provincial Treasurer, even most of the 240,000 pensioners in receipt of GIS would have been excluded because they do not own or rent the home in which they live.

The Prime Minister rushed in to bail the government out of this embarrassing situation. He has assured us that the $10 million allocated will be made available, somehow, to the old age pensioners, even those living in rooms. How the government is going to do it, we do not know. And at this point, neither does the government.

Like the basic shelter exemption which this government offered as an election plum in 1967, the announcement is made with great headlines, and then the administrative details are faced up to afterwards. I venture to predict that there is going to be as much of an administrative nightmare with this plan as we have had with the residential tax rebate.

Well, so much for the government's tax reform programme. For the most part it is an illusion, and where it is not an illusion, it is a shambles.

Let me turn now to another important aspect of the budget statement—its warning that the federal Liberals' anti-inflation programme has slowed our economy to a halt, that unemployment is rising rapidly, that in fact we are faced with the danger of a recession.

For a moment, Mr. Speaker, on this issue we share some common ground with the Robarts government. We in the New Democratic Party agree that any anti-inflationary programme which throws over six per cent of Canadian workers into the ranks of the unemployed, some 136,000 of them in the province of Ontario, is sheer folly. There is something fundamentally wrong with an economic system which seeks to correct rising prices by high interest rates that penalize everybody, and with the economic and social waste of deliberately throwing one out of every 16 people in the work force into the ranks of the unemployed. The cure has become worse than the disease—to the point where it is time for the patient to change doctors.

While the Robarts government laments the consequences of the federal government policies, it does precious little to counter them. Once again, the government's will to act is no match for its willingness or its capacity to complain.

If this government were really serious about checking the downtrend in the Ontario economy, let me suggest a few areas where it could move, and where it should move.

First is housing. Do you realize, Mr. Speaker, that in spite of the great housing crisis in our history, housing starts in January were down 55 per cent over last year; in February they dropped a drastic 79 per cent. This spells heavy unemployment in the construction industry and further pressure on high rents. Yet the budget contains only a marginal increase in funds available for OHC

public and student housing. Listen to this: a three per cent increase, from $40.2 million to $41.6 million. It is a shame.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Tired looking group over there right now!

Mr. MacDonald: There is an additional $50 million earmarked for first and second mortgages for private housing, a programme of ludicrously small proportions. The government itself admits that it will represent about 3,000 mortgages.

Mr. Speaker, last year there were 69,000 new homes built in the province of Ontario, so we are contemplating assistance to less than five per cent of the prospective new homeowners. So we have a three per cent increase in public housing and a five per cent increase in private housing. It would be laughable if it were not so serious, Mr. Speaker.

Furthermore, on private home building, the mortgages are going to be made available at the going CMHC rates which are 9.5 to 9.75 per cent. Obviously, only those in the middle and upper income brackets can shoulder this kind of burden. The minister responsible for housing admits that these mortgages will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. What it adds up to is a little more assistance to those who need it least, in the province of Ontario.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Right!

Mr. MacDonald: The chief cause of the housing slowdown is a lack of mortgage money at reasonable rates. This could be remedied by requiring all provincially incorporated financial companies, as well as pension funds, to invest a specific proportion of their funds in housing mortgages. This kind of obligation is accepted during wartime for the purposes of national survival. Why should it not be done for such a desperate peacetime need such as housing?

If this government were serious about solving our housing crisis, instead of dwelling on each and every excuse as to why it cannot be done, we could build more houses in this province and at the same time put some of the unemployed back to work.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): They have not thought of it yet.

Mr. MacDonald: Pollution is another area where, in spite of any propaganda image to the contrary, this government is toying with the problem at the financial level. These figures, Mr. Speaker, are so small that I will forgive you if you laugh. Only $1.5 million extra money is provided for OWRC, of which less than $1 million is grants to municipalities to assist them in improving water and sewage facilities. Now, does this sound as though the government is serious?

Mr. Gisborn: Pretty tired over there!

Mr. MacDonald: Capital advances for provincial and municipal projects are up by only $4 million to $35 million this year. Does that sound as though the government is serious—either in helping municipalities to solve the pollution problem or, at the same time, in stimulating the economy to check the rising unemployment? Then there is the whole question of capital aid to municipalities, apart from the specialized area of housing and anti-pollution.

Since the forecasts of the federal-provincial tax structure committee that the Prime Minister refers to so frequently showed a continuing deficit at the municipal level along with increasing needs, more provincial help to reduce municipal borrowing costs would have the same stimulating effect as the now defunct winter works programme.

The budget's offer of a $10 million fund for capital borrowing for municipalities with under 10,000 population is another ludicrously small gesture in this direction. Furthermore, the budget adds insult with its promise, and I quote, "that the province intends to review the borrowing situation of the larger municipalities." Well, promises and reviews, Mr. Speaker, do not do anything to cut interest rates, which are the real burden for local governments.

What is needed in the province of Ontario is a provincially operated municipal finance corporation of a different nature than the present ineffective Ontario Municipal Finance Improvement Corporation. If its contribution to the municipalities were as big as its name it would be much better than it is at the present time. We have to bring more borrowing capacity to the municipalities.

Housing, pollution, capital aid to municipalities—these are three vital areas where a step-up in provincial spending, or in opening municipal channels to new capital sources, would stimulate both provincial and municipal activities, and also have a significant effect on unemployment.

Why should this government give consideration to this kind of a programme and move with positive action to check unemployment

in the province of Ontario? There is the humanitarian reason—to prevent the loss of production and the waste in human lives, the sense of rejection and hopelessness suffered by those out of work. But there is another reason, Mr. Speaker, and I say this to the provincial Treasurer, the money-bags of Ontario: Lost production means lost revenues.

Experience has shown that for each one per cent of the unemployed who are returned to work, there is an increase of at least two per cent, or as high as four per cent in the wealth produced, the so-called gross national product. If our wealth in Ontario were increased by, say—and I take the middle figures —three per cent, by a return to work of the more than one per cent increase in unemployed over the last year, that would add $1,038,000,000 to our wealth in the province of Ontario, our so-called gross provincial product. And since our revenues represent, on the basis of past experience, about 11 per cent of our gross provincial product, that would increase our revenue by $114 million.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, by tolerating an unemployed increase from three to four per cent in Ontario over the past year, and by doing virtually nothing to check it other than to complain about Ottawa's policy, the Robarts government is losing $114 million in revenue.

Instead of complaining so much about the consequences of federal Liberal policies which create this unemployment, this government should take positive action along with the municipalities, to reduce our unemployed ranks.

A little more will to govern, and get out and do the job instead of feuding with Ottawa —that is what Ontario needs. But Ontario does not get it, for the simple reason that this government has run out of steam. Once again, one is driven to this inevitable conclusion.

In the remainder of my comments, I want to pick one of the many important topics raised in the budget and take a closer look at it. I refer to the question of OHSIP which illustrates so magnificently the attitude and inadequacies of the Robarts government's policies as a whole. Seldom, if ever, in the history of this province, has there been such a prolonged and intense public furor over a single piece of legislation as the Tory brand of Medicare known as OHSIP. Storms of protest have reverberated across this province and swept in on Queen's Park, and yet this government stubbornly, boneheadedly, refuses to do anything about it.

In the budget, all the government has done is to extend OHSIP coverage to include some paramedical services, such as chiropractic. I emphasize, the budget states that only some of these services will be covered because the government has put a ceiling of $7 million on them. We have yet to be told how the government proposes to pay for some of the services, and not all. We may be in for still another of these administrative nightmares which are the favourite creation of this government when it finally accepts something to which it is basically opposed.

More important, there is no suggestion that the government is seriously moving beyond Medicare to a full health coverage in the province of Ontario—no mention of drug coverage, no mention of nursing home coverage for which the press and members of this Legislature, including Tory backbenchers, have been demanding some extension. Once again, Mr. Speaker, the mind boggles at the audacity of a government in thinking that this kind of minor extension of the services of OHSIP to cover a few paramedical services is going to be enough to satisfy the people of the province of Ontario.

What about a reduction in premiums from the highest level in Canada? Is the government holding this juicy little morsel until we are a little closer to a provincial election in the hope that the people are going to forgive and forget? Well, they will not this time. The people know that they are paying more and getting less and they are enraged at the government's "like it or lump it" kind of attitude.

The provincial Treasurer feuds with Ottawa about unco-ordinated policies which he says ultimately victimize the taxpayer. Well, he ought to know because this government is responsible for the classic example of unco-ordinated taxes which victimize the taxpayer.

When the federal government provides $176 million a year in grants for Medicare, raised through a social development tax, the provincial government refuses to use any of that money to reduce premiums, but instead it imposes a second tax, a premium tax for OHSIP in the province of Ontario at the highest levels in the whole of Canada. This government laments in principle the results of unco-ordinated tax policies and it decries regressive taxation, but in practice, it produces veritable masterpieces of unco-ordination and regressivity, for which the Ontario taxpayer is victimized—not ultimately, but right now.

And what of the simple proposition of amending the OHSIP legislation to make 90 per cent of the payment of the OMA schedule of fees a complete payment of the bill, and thereby getting rid of this irksome practice of double billing? Other provinces have done it. Why not the province of Ontario? Is this government completely under the thumb of the medical association?

The medical profession is the highest paid profession in the province. The doctors unilaterally increased their schedule of fees a year ago, and defied the government in doing so. When is this government going to screw up enough courage to stand up for the people's rights instead of the vested interests of the medical profession and the insurance companies?

What is more, Mr. Speaker, an analysis of the budget indicates that this government is playing games with the people's money and misrepresenting the situation to the public in the process.

It is impossible to deal with the complexities of analyzing the budget while speaking in the Legislature here, so I have made available to the public an analysis of background papers which solidly document the hocus-pocus of this government's calculations. In brief, these are the conclusions that come from that analysis. It reveals that instead of balanced budgets—the mythology which the government boasts about—last year it actually had a surplus of $160 million. I suppose most of the members of the cabinet are not even aware of this themselves.

Mr. Gisborn: Sure they know. They are not surprised.

Mr. MacDonald: How did they dispose of it? Well some $100 million was stacked away in the hospital premium stabilization fund in order to be able to postpone any increases in hospital premiums until after the next election. It is always after, not before the election. Secondly, $34 million of it was used as advance payments on this year's grants to the county boards—a little bit of a sweetener now; you give them the money earlier and you hope that the pain will ease a little. What the government was left with was an official nominal surplus of $26 million which the provincial Treasurer announced in his budget.

Furthermore, in specific reference to OHSIP, the public will recall that last year the government contended that the $176 million in federal Medicare grants were not available to reduce premiums because they were going to be used for other health services. Now the mystery is solved. At last we have found out how the government went about this budgetary juggling.

Mr. Gisborn: Skulduggery!

Mr. MacDonald: Last year, the government appropriated $89 million for health resources and OMSIP subsidies. We passed these appropriations in the Legislature, but the government did not spend them. They spent only $3 million of the $89 million and they pilfered the rest of the federal money for other purposes. The remaining $86 million of that appropriation went into last year's secret surplus and it is going to be used to cover some of this year's greater expenditures. No wonder the government has the highest Medicare premiums across this whole country when there is only $3 million of the general revenue going into health insurance.

Furthermore, the government is playing the same game this year. The next provincial outlay for Medicare, or health resources, will only be $36 million this year, about 40 per cent of the $89 million which the government budgeted for last year and then siphoned off elsewhere.

The government's record, and I just go to one other point, Mr. Speaker, is equally indefensible on the vital issue of pollution. In face of the cleanup job created by years of neglect, the provincial Treasurer asked us to believe that the administration is serious when it offers increases in grants and loans for pollution abatement of only $12 million. Before the cleanup is completed it is going to cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

It was pointed out so many times in the emergency debate last week, that what this government is failing to do is to catch the lawbreakers, the people whom the minister responsible for pollution now chooses to describe as "the thieves," and whom he, "the policeman," is seeking to get after. What is their record? The "policeman" stands idly by, and in many instances lets private citizens get the evidence and take it into court to try to catch the "thieves." Even worse is the inference in the KVP case in Espanola some years ago, when a private citizen did get a court injunction to stop the thief. The "policeman" had the law changed to permit the pollution to continue and it still continues today 15 years later.

More recently, when a citizen—as my friend from the Peterborough area pointed out to the House—sought to get a conviction against a polluter, the case was dismissed. Why? Be-

cause the surveys did not provide evidence of continued pollution. And the very day after the case was dismissed, the OWRC revealed their own surveys which confirmed continuous pollution. So not only does the policeman stand idly by, but he withholds the evidence with which it is possible to get a conviction.

In spite of all the display of vigorous activity recently, the government's record remains essentially the same down through the years, Mr. Speaker. But is the policeman not aware, nor able, nor free to adequately protect the public interest—free, that is, from the powerful vested interests who manifest a callous disregard for the public welfare?

Let me sum up. It is a great game, Mr. Speaker, as long as you can keep the people fooled. But the people are not going to be fooled any longer. They caught up with this government in Middlesex South last fall, and on precisely such issues as OHSIP and pollution. And they are going to catch up with this government completely in 1971 and throw them out.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: Oh the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) will bounce nicely; and he will smile even more when he gets thrown out, because there are dozens of other examples of government policies which point to the same conclusion. And what is that conclusion, Mr. Speaker? The government is mentally incapable of meeting the challenge of the 1970s. This challenge lies basically in an extension of the public sector, through government provision of services which the private sector cannot, and will not, meet. In the Tory view, any extension of government services is an undesirable encroachment on the economy.

Of course, such an expansion of government services will require more money. I am confident that our people are willing to provide the money if it is raised in accordance with their capacity to pay. If many of the long-neglected and the urgent needs of our people were being met, there would not be such an outcry against taxes today. The current outcry arises from the growing conviction that taxpayers are not getting full value for their tax dollar, and they are right. They pay more and get less, as OHSIP so convincingly illustrates.

Furthermore, after 10 years of study and talk about tax reform, we have now reached the time for action. The budget proves that the government is not willing to act. It does no more than tinker with the *status quo*, and that is not good enough. The tax burden cannot be lessened for those who have been paying too much without increasing it for those who have been paying too little, relative to their capacity to pay. So the government makes gestures towards those in need. The main thrust of its propaganda is to protect the interests of those who have enjoyed a favourable tax position all down through the years.

This year's budget drives one to an inevitable conclusion. A Tory government is incapable of genuine tax reform. Genuine tax reform involves a redistribution of the tax burden, a redistribution of income but that, the Prime Minister contends, would change the social face of the nation and that is undesirable because that is socialism, he said. Well, the situation is too serious and tax reform already too long delayed for that kind of simplistic sloganeering.

With 20 per cent of our people living below the poverty line, so that they pay no taxes at all, with a quarter of those who are filing income tax returns living below the level of $3,000, is it not time we changed the social face of the nation in Canada?

Once again this government deplores poverty in our midst, and hypocritically opposes policies to eliminate it.

After 27 years in office, the outer-reaches of the Tory philosophy have been exhausted. They have reached the end of the line. They are drifting. Any attempt to take effective action is paralyzed by the powerful vested interests which control them and, for practical purposes, shape their policies.

Ontario has exciting possibilities. We have the wealth to meet the people's needs. We dare not neglect those needs any longer, or we risk a social explosion. What Ontario needs is a new government which is in tune with the second half of the 20th century, which will have the will to grapple with the people's problems and solve them. Yes, we need a new government — a New Democratic government.

That the New Democratic Party can provide, in personnel and policies, and the will to do the job.

I say this to the government — move over, get out; history has passed you by. Let somebody take over who is willing to stop making excuses and get on with the job. This budget proves that, for practical purposes, the Robarts government has given up, other than to make headlines and try to kid the people that they are still doing something. At best, it is engaged in a holding operation, and that is not good enough and the people know it.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we have an amendment before the House. Once again, there is no reason why the antiquated rules of this House should deny the third party the right to move a sub-amendment to the budget debate, just as is made possible in the throne debate. Our rules, like the government policies, are in conflict with the realities of this Legislature today.

Since we can not move a sub-amendment, I have an alternative, which is strictly within the rules of the House. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. J. Renwick), that this debate be adjourned until such time as the provincial Treasurer tables in this House, a comprehensive programme to combat the rising unemployment that has been induced by the misguided policies of the Liberal government in Ottawa, and permitted to continue by the lack of action by this government in Ontario. This programme to combat unemployment should include:

1. A massive increase in funds available for housing starts;

2. Capital expenditure for pollution control projects;

3. Increased aid to municipalities for needed capital expenditures; and

4. Legislation to require adequate notice of plant shut-downs and lay-offs, so that remedial government action that would prevent the subsequent disruption of lives and the loss of production and the loss of revenue and the waste of human resources, can be planned and undertaken.

Mr. Speaker, I draw to your attention, on page 111 of Lewis' rules, rule 38 (c), which states

> When a motion is made for the adjournment of a debate or of the House during any debate, or that the chairman of the committee do report or do leave the chair, the debate shall be confined to the matter of such motion; and no member, having moved or seconded any such motion, shall be entitled to move or second any similar motion during the same debate.

In short, Mr. Speaker, the motion is within the four corners of the rules of this House and the substance of that motion is now open for debate.

Mr. Speaker:

We now have before the House a motion which the Clerk advises me — and his memory is unusual — which patently falls within the rules of the House, as mentioned by the member. Therefore it would appear that the proper procedure for Mr. Speaker to follow is to put this particular motion — which is a motion to adjourn a debate, and which of course is required to be dealt with without debate — before the House. I therefore will read the motion:

Mr. Macdonald moved, seconded by Mr. Renwick:

> That this debate be adjourned until such time as the Provincial Treasurer tables in this House a comprehensive programme to combat the rising unemployment that has been induced by the misguided policies of the Liberal government in Ottawa and permitted to continue by the lack of action by this government in Ontario. This programme to combat unemployment should include:
>
> 1. A massive increase in funds available for housing starts.
>
> 2. Capital expenditures for pollution control projects.
>
> 3. Increased aid to municipalities for needed capital expenditures.
>
> 4. Legislation to require adequate notice of plant shutdowns and lay-offs, so that remedial government action that would prevent the subsequent disruption of livelihood, the loss of production, the loss of tax revenue, and the waste of human resources, can be planned and undertaken.

Now as I have mentioned, this is a motion to adjourn the debate.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, if you will permit me.

You have already indicated that you will not permit debate on the motion that is before you, since it is essentially a motion for adjournment. But it is your custom, sir, to permit party leaders, at least, to indicate briefly how they intend their group to vote under these circumstances.

Now I see the motion put forward by the hon. member for York South as a motion for adjournment. It is, in fact, a no-confidence motion in the government itself. But one clause, of course, puts the main blame for the problems that he lists in his no-confidence motion—or his motion to adjournment—puts the responsibility on the government at Ottawa. Well, we course, are elected here to deal with the problems of this province, and I have moved my own no-confidence motion in the government opposite; and I wish only that the Treasurer were here to respond to the charges that have been made.

We cannot support the motion for adjournment, since obviously we are dealing with the problem in this House and the House should be kept in session for that purpose; it must be kept in session.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The procedure which we have followed and which does not allow a debate, does not allow another member—even the seconder of the motion—to speak to this, but if the House leader of the government wishes to speak before I put the motion—

Mr. Lewis: Oh, you have the mini-Tories over here.

Mr. Speaker: —I will be glad to allow that to be done.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I can only say we will, of course, oppose it.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

The leader of this party, when he introduced the motion, drew the attention of the Speaker and of the House to the provisions of the rules which provide, specifically, that when a motion is made for the adjournment of a debate, the debate thereupon shall be confined to the matter of such motion.

Mr. MacDonald: Right; a debate is possible!

Mr. J. Renwick: We believe, Mr. Speaker, that within the rules of the House there should be a debate on the motion which has been put; and that debate should be strictly confined to the matter of such motion.

Mr. Speaker: I have said that I will not allow a debate on this particular motion.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Why? Why?

Mr. Lewis: On what basis?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! I have said that. I will ask the House to rest a moment while I discuss further with the Clerk, but so far as I am concerned, this is not a proper time, or a proper manner, to have this matter debated before the House. Might I see the Clerk?

Mr. Gisborn: Closure! Scuttled!

Mr. MacDonald: The rules are clear that debate is possible.

Mr. Speaker: The Clerk of the House has pointed out to me—and I was last night working on it—that the motion to adjourn a debate without debate is contained in the interim report of the committee that has been considering this matter. Therefore, when I did rule that was what I had in mind, although I believe that the hon. member did read the current rule. Obviously, under the new procedures, if they are adopted by the House, there would be no debate; but the hon. members are quite correct, there can be a debate. The debate, of course, must be limited to the motion itself not the ancillary matters which are set out as numbers, one, two, three and four in the motion.

I shall, therefore, be very careful to confine the debate to the motion itself, which is that the debate be adjourned until the provincial Treasurer tables certain matters. With that, if the hon. member for Riverdale wishes to have the floor, as he was up on his feet sometime ago, he has the first opportunity.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, my remarks will be very brief and confined entirely to the motion that is before you. What we are saying is that time passed the government by during the period in which they were engaged in lengthy preparation of the budget. Events passed them by—economic events—people began to get hurt in the process. They brought in—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: This is out of order and—

Mr. MacDonald: It is not out of order.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is not directed to the motion which is to adjourn the debate. That is the only matter that can be debated, the question of adjournment.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, the rule states explicitly, "the debate thereon shall be confined to the matter of such motion". I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the matter of such motion is not, as the Speaker has arbitrarily decided, only a preamble. It is the whole thing, because the four points are an illustration of the substance of the preamble, namely, the government has provided no such programme.

Mr. Speaker: I have ruled that the debate will not be extended to discuss the matters that are listed one, two, three and four. If the hon. members wish to appeal it, they may do so, but that is the ruling upon which I will deal with this debate.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I challenge your ruling because it is obviously a restriction of the rules under which we are operating.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, since your ruling has been challenged, I want to make it clear that I agree with you that on a motion for adjournment the only thing that is debatable is why the adjournment should take place now. For that reason, sir, we support your ruling.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I will support your ruling, of course. This is just another subterfuge to disrupt the orderly process of this House . . .

Mr. MacDonald: To smoke out the government.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: So I will support your ruling.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Mr. Speaker has ruled that the debate will be confined to the matter of adjournment and . . .

Mr. Lewis: The television might get a little of the life of the House.

An hon. member: Members opposite have all got a nice tan over there now.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I have ruled that the debate will be confined to the motion for adjournment which is contained in the first part of the document presented to the House by the member for York South, and not the ancillary matters which are numbered one, two, three and four in that same document. That ruling has been appealed.

The vote is on the Speaker's ruling with respect to the subject matter of the debate on the motion to adjourn the debate on the budget, placed by Mr. MacDonald and seconded by Mr. J. Renwick.

The House divided on the Speaker's ruling, which was upheld on the following vote:

Ayes	Nays
Allan	Bolton
Apps	Davison
Auld	Deans
Ben	Ferrier
Bernier	Gisborn
Boyer	Jackson
Braithwaite	Lawlor
Breithaupt	Lewis
Bukator	MacDonald
Carruthers	Martel
Carton	Peacock
Connell	Pilkey
Davis	Pitman
Deacon	Renwick (Riverdale)
De Monte	Shulman
Downer	Stokes
Dymond	Young—17.
Edighoffer	
Evans	
Farquhar	
Gaunt	
Gilbertson	
Good	
Grossman	
Guindon	
Haggerty	
Hamilton	
Haskett	
Henderson	
Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton)	
Hodgson (York North)	
Johnston (Parry Sound)	
Johnston (St. Catharines)	
Kennedy	
Lawrence (Carleton East)	
Lawrence (St. George)	
MacKenzie	
Meen	
Morin	
Morningstar	
McKeough	
McNeil	
Newman (Windsor-Walkerville)	
Newman (Ontario South)	
Nixon	
Randall	
Reuter	
Robarts	
Rollins	
Root	
Rowe	
Rowntree	
Sargent	
Simonett	
Smith (Simcoe East)	
Smith (Hamilton Mountain)	
Smith (Nipissing)	
Spence	

AYES

Trotter
Villeneuve
Welch
Wells
White
Whitney
Winkler
Wishart
Worton
Yakabuski—68.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 68, the "nays" 17.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the ruling upheld. The debate on the adjournment of the debate will now proceed under the terms set out by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. H. L. Rowntree (York West): Question!

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, referring to May on page 403, which discusses the modes of superseding questions, it states:

> The modes of evading or superseding a question are:
>
> (1) by moving the adjournment of the House or of the debate (the so-called "dilatory" motions);
>
> (2) by moving the previous question; and
>
> (3) by amendment.

We are dealing here with the first principle, and this is what May has to say on it:

> (1) By adjournment of the House or debate: In the midst of the debate upon a question any member may move, "That this House do now adjourn," or "That the debate be now adjourned," not by way of amendment to the original question but as a distinct question, which interrupts and supersedes that already under consideration, the use of the motion for the adjournment of the House to supersede another question must be distinguished from its use as a substantive motion, i.e. before or between the orders of the day, when it can only be moved by a member of the government—

And so on.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you to consult May's and read pages 403 and 404. I would suggest it would fortify your decision to hold that this is in fact a motion to adjourn and it is not debatable at all. I would ask you to consider May's on that particular point. But you can only move that this House do adjourn. You can add all you like, if the Speaker permits, but the motion itself is either that this House do now adjourn or the debate be now adjourned and those are non-debatable motions.

An hon. member: Where does it say they are non-debatable?

Mr. Speaker: I think perhaps the hon. member has a very good point. But there is very little point in the House adjourning or being suspended while Mr. Speaker considers the submission, which I believe is a very sound one. And I would think with the Speaker's ruling, which has now been upheld by the House, it will be possible to confine this debate to the elements of adjournment and not the elements of reasons, as set out in the motion which was proffered by the member for York South.

The hon. member for Riverdale has the floor.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, as I was saying when I was so rudely interrupted by the Prime Minister's intervention on the question of whether or not what I was saying was in order, I was confining myself to the matter of the substance of the motion. I had not referred to any of the specific, itemized matters that have now been ruled out of order.

I want now to return to the main thrust of the argument I was making, and it is that time passed the government by when they were making up their budget address. The result, of course, has been to find the Tory government and the Liberal Party joined together for entirely ill-assorted reasons in order to—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I must really make a point of order. This is completely and absolutely out of order. I think that is just what we voted on. It must be limited to whether we adjourn or we do not; nothing else.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Shulman: On the point of order—come on boys; it is your last chance. You will not be here much longer.

On the point of order raised by the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer to the ruling that you, yourself, made, before we took this vote, which has been upheld. It was that this debate must be restricted to the motion itself and that points one, two, three and four are excluded. If you will read the motion itself, it begins with "I move" and it finishes with the word "Ontario" and that is purely and simply what we, the members of this party, wish to debate.

Mr. Speaker: It is all very simple if we will endeavour to abide in good faith with what is a reasonable view of the motion that has been placed. The motion is that the debate should be adjourned until the provincial Treasurer tables in this House a comprehensive programme and so on. Now that is what we are dealing with, and that is what I shall endeavour to confine the debate to.

Members of all sides of the House undoubtedly will not agree with me, but the problem is that I will have to do my best to keep it within the bounds of what I consider the actual meaning of this motion. And as far as I am concerned, it should be possible to debate this particular motion, which has to do with the actual adjournment of the debate and not with the programme of any government.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, once again let me try to confine my remarks, as I believe I have done, to the matter of the motion.

The matter of the motion is that we have asked that the debate be adjourned until an event occurs. That event is the return of the Treasurer with a comprehensive programme to combat rising unemployment. That is the substance of what we are talking about. What we are saying is the government in fact has not got a comprehensive programme which deals with unemployment because events passed the government by.

I particularly appeal to the Leader of the Opposition and those who follow him in this House to reconsider the very hasty interjection when he announced that they were going to vote against this particular motion to debate.

Mr. Nixon: Nothing hasty about it at all. We are opposed to the member's position in this and we intend to show by our vote that we are.

Mr. J. Renwick: Oh fine! Then I apologize to the Leader of the Opposition. I understood his first interjection to be that they would not support this motion.

The reasons why we must adjourn the debate until the Treasurer has the opportunity to bring in the programme requires me to refer very briefly to three of the specific statements made by the Treasurer—I believe very pertinent to the point which we are making about this budget—to illustrate that in fact the government did not give the kind of pre-eminence to the question of the rising unemployment in the province which economic events require.

I refer, Mr. Speaker, to the remarks of the Treasurer on page 943 of *Hansard* in which he said that:

> The challenge to public policy in the 1970s, therefore is the restoration of balance and stability in the economy and in the federal system. The achievement of these goals will require long-run strategies to deflate expectations and combat latent inflationary tendencies, to keep the economy operating at full potential, to contain growth in the public sector within the bounds of present taxes, and to achieve a closer matching between the responsibilities of and resources available to each level of government.

Now in those remarks, which are part of his introductory statement of objectives, that is "the challenge to public policy," presented in placing the budget before the assembly, he refers specifically to "to keep the economy operating at full potential, to contain growth in the public sector within the bounds of present taxes." And somewhere further on in his remarks, Mr. Speaker, on page 944 of *Hansard*, the Treasurer goes on and refers to the dire results which have followed from the deflationary policies followed by the government at Ottawa. He goes on:

> Growth in production and sales is levelling off corporate profits are dropping, housing starts are down sharply and unemployment is rising. Prices, however, are reacting very slowly to this deceleration in economic activity. Consequently, I anticipate that our gross provincial product will rise by only seven per cent in 1970, about three per cent in volume of output . . . By comparison, our output rose by more than five per cent in 1969 and gross provincial product advanced by 9.6 per cent. The prospects for 1970 therefore, Mr. Speaker, add up to a below-potential performance for the Ontario economy.
>
> This retreat from the buoyant economic advances of the preceding decade is largely the result of stringent monetary and fiscal policies designed to combat inflation . . . The government of Ontario agrees that price stability must be restored. However the cost of present federal policies is already very high—fewer new jobs, higher unemployment, lower real growth and reduced productivity.

The conclusion, Mr. Speaker, that we drew from the Treasurer's remarks in his budget was that he did in fact recognize the serious economic letdown which was occurring within the province, but he had already gone so far within the restrictions laid upon him by the Treasury benches that, in fact, in the course of his budget, as my leader has pointed out in his remarks on the budget, there has been no specific detailed programme put forward by this government to recognize the deep seriousness and the very important consequences which are going to flow from the economic letdown in the province of Ontario. The government did not provide for the kind of traditional public works programmes at all levels that are required to stimulate employment and industrial activity within the province and so counteract what has become

very evident to those who observe the economic scene: that, whether you call it a rationalization, a shake-out or some other sophisticated term of economic jargon, when translated in terms of men and women and their jobs—

Mr. Nixon: So why should we adjourn now?

Mr. J. Renwick: —an increasing number of of men—

Mr. Lewis: The government has no policy.

Mr. J. Renwick: —and women are losing their positions in this society.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member is out of order.

Mr. J. Renwick: What we are asking, therefore—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. J. Renwick: —is for the government members, the members of the parties supporting the government, the members of the Liberal Party to support us in the motion for adjournment in order to give the Treasurer an opportunity to recuperate from the very arduous work which he had undergone in presenting the budget in the first place and in order to allow him, with renewed vigour, to come back into this assembly with a supplementary budget that will contain a comprehensive programme to combat the rising unemployment that has been induced by the misguided policies of the Liberal government in Ottawa.

We urge your support for this motion to adjourn the debate.

Mr. Speaker: The minister from St. George.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, in the belief that one of the few legitimate avenues for all of the members of this Legislature to bring to the bar of public opinion in this province and to bring before this House is the traditional budget debate; in the belief that in the budget debate the members of this Legislature can bring any subject before this House and legitimately speak to it, and on it, and in the belief that—

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Oh, sit down.

Mr. J. Renwick: On a point of order.

Mr. Lewis: The minister is going to call for the question, is he not?

Mr. J. Renwick: My point of order, Mr. Speaker, is that the Minister of Mines is not confining himself to the matter of the motion before the House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Riverdale did not confine himself, as closely as I would have wished, to the matter before the House. The hon. Minister from St. George is quite in order and will carry on.

Mr. Lewis: Sir, you are going to impose closure!

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Sir, nothing illustrates my point better than the interjection of the hon. member for Riverdale, because this is a very confining and restrictive motion that is before this House. It unduly restricts the debate on something that has been one of the—

Mr. Lewis: We will debate it.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: —traditional safeguards in any known British parliamentary system. In the belief that at least two of the members of that party within this House have spoken on it, sir, I would move that the question be now put.

Mr. Martel: Closure, closure!

Mr. Shulman: Remember what happened to the Liberals?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

The hon. members will recognize that this is the question which requires now to be put at once and without any debate.

Mr. Lewis: Not at all; the Prime Minister is too embarrassed.

Mr. Shulman: A point of order, sir. If you recall in the life of this Legislature last year, I rose and moved that a question be put and you refused to put the question. You said it was the custom of this House not to put the question. I ask you to be consistent, sir, and not rule one way for the masters of this House and the other way for the servants.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member perhaps will recall, if my memory is correct, that the time he called for the question to be put was in private members' hour, where, by agreement among the party whips, there is no vote placed.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The motion before the House—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! If the hon. members would wish to observe the rules of this House, we would be able to make some progress. The motion before the House is by Mr. MacDonald, seconded by Mr. J. Renwick, that this debate be adjourned, and so on.

I now put the motion. As many as are in favour—

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, if you will permit me. It is your custom I know, as I have said already this afternoon, to permit leaders to express their views before a vote is taken. We cannot support the motion that has been put on the government side that the motion be now put. There is no reason.

Mr. Gisborn: The question is not debatable.

Mr. Nixon: There are no reasons given by any member who chooses to do so why or why not we should adjourn should not be perfectly in order. We are certainly going to waste the afternoon anyway, and for that reason we cannot support the motion that has been moved by the Minister of Mines.

Mr. Speaker: May I interrupt the hon. leader to say that this is not a usual motion. I have not had one before and I have therefore not allowed any debate on it. I would not propose to allow any debate on putting the previous question and, therefore, that is what the rules call for . . .

Mr. Lewis: Come on now! Just because this revolving door of a Liberal to our right . . .

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, the motion that is going to be put, after we ascertain whether it shall be put or not, is a motion by Mr. MacDonald.

The motion before the House is shall the motion by Mr. MacDonald and Mr. J. Renwick, be now put.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I will ask the Clerk to stop taking the count until we can hear the members' names being called. Now, if the House will give silence for that purpose, the Clerk will please continue with the count. Mr. Connell was the last one heard by the Speaker.

The House divided on the motion, which was agreed to on the following vote:

Ayes	Nays
Allan	Ben
Apps	Bolton
Auld	Braithwaite
Bernier	Breithaupt
Boyer	Bukator
Carruthers	Burr
Carton	Davison
Connell	Deacon
Davis	Deans
Downer	De Monte
Dymond	Edighoffer
Evans	Farquhar
Gilbertson	Ferrier
Gomme	Gaunt
Grossman	Gisborn
Guindon	Good
Hamilton	Haggerty
Haskett	Jackson
Henderson	Knight
Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton)	Lawlor
	Lewis
	MacDonald
Hodgson (York North)	MacKenzie
	Martel
Jessiman	Newman (Windsor-Walkerville)
Johnston (Parry Sound)	
	Nixon
Johnston (St. Catharines)	Paterson
	Peacock
Kennedy	Pilkey
Lawrence (Carleton East)	Pitman
	Renwick (Riverdale)
Lawrence (St. George)	
	Ruston
Meen	Sargent
Morin	Shulman
Morningstar	Smith (Nipissing)
Morrow	
McKeough	Spence
McNeil	Stokes
Newman (Ontario South)	Trotter
	Worton—39.
Potter	
Randall	
Reuter	
Robarts	
Rollins	
Root	
Rowe	
Rowntree	
Simonett	
Smith (Simcoe East)	

AYES

Smith (Hamilton Mountain)
Villeneuve
Welch
Wells
White
Whitney
Winkler
Wishart
Yakabuski—53.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 53, the "nays" 39.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the motion, that the question be now put, carried.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: We will now vote on the question, which is the motion by Mr. MacDonald, seconded by Mr. J. Renwick, that the budget debate be adjourned, and so on.

As many as are in favour of the motion to adjourn will please say "aye".

As many as are opposed, will please say "nay".

In my opinion, the "nays" have it.

Call in the members. Are the members all in? Are the whips agreed? Agreed?

The members will understand that on the division to adjourn, numbers only are counted.

As many as are in favour of the motion by Mr. MacDonald and seconded by Mr. J. Renwick will please rise.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Pretty shaggy-looking group.

Mr. Speaker: As many as are opposed, will please rise.

Mr. Lewis: Well, no wonder the Premier is confident. He has more members than he thought.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Why do you not get them all into the party?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We will get them eventually.

Mr. Lewis: Sort of an expendable resource.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 17, the "nays" 75.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the amendment lost.

Mr. Carruthers moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: We will now, I believe, by agreement, go back to the normal business of the House. I would like to advise the House that earlier today, we did have students in the east gallery from Wilson Heights Junior High School in Downsview and in the west gallery from Winchester Public School in Toronto. Tonight we will be having in the east gallery the York West Provincial Liberal Association.

Mr. Martel: All three of them?

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) gave us to understand that he would make a statement today on the matter in the Oakville court. I wonder if he is prepared to do this?

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member that the Attorney General has advised me that he has the answer to a question, which might be on this matter, which he wished to give in the question period.

Mr. Nixon: On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker, since it does affect the time for questions, I understood the Attorney General to say he had a statement ready in his desk and would give it today.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I did advise the House yesterday that I had a statement which was an answer to a question. Earlier in this session today I sent a note to the Speaker telling him that I had it and would look for an opportunity to give it, so I am very glad to have the Leader of the Opposition support me in what I am prepared to do now.

Mr. Nixon: Under ministerial statements?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: No, in answer to the member's question.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, in answer to the member's question.

Mr. Nixon: Well, is it in reply to my question or an earlier question?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, the member's question was the question about the Duke matter.

Mr. Nixon: Well, perhaps we have to spend a moment to get this straight. Mr. Speaker, on a point of order —

Mr. Speaker: I have not called the oral question period yet, so it is quite allowable for the hon. leader to discuss the matter now without affecting the oral question time.

Mr. Nixon: Oh, well, I just want to make the point that in reply to my question yesterday, the Attorney General, who had not been in the House for a week, said that he had a statement prepared —

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Oh stop being so nit-picking.

Mr. Nixon: —so why should he not make the statement under ministerial statements?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Stop crying all the time. Really!

Mr. MacDonald: This is a ministerial statement?

Mr. Nixon: No, he said it was not.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, this is the statement which has been on my file for some two weeks. I have not touched it.

Mr. MacDonald: Let us hear the statement.

Mr. Nixon: He undertook to give the statement, but he was not going to give it unless I asked. Is that right?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, that is right; I should like to give it if I have the opportunity.

This is a statement, Mr. Speaker, respecting the matter of Regina against George Clinton Duke. The matter arises out of a complaint which was laid by Mrs. Elizabeth Citron on October 23, 1969.

It must be noted at the outset that the complaint was against the actions of Duke and that the request was that Duke be bound over to keep the peace and to be of good behaviour toward Mrs. Citron, and that appropriate sureties be provided to ensure the recognition of this obligation. The subsequent order of the court provided this protection and ordered Duke to be of good behaviour, to stay away from Mrs. Citron and required him to post security in the cash sum of $2,000 to ensure compliance with the order of the court. Duke was also forbidden to carry a gun for six months, and as a matter for the records, I may now advise that his permit to carry a gun expired on December 31, 1969, and has not been renewed.

Allegations have been made on various aspects of the case, and have suggested among other things that a secret file was held, that Duke received some type of special treatment, that the complainant's actual request was denied, and that the proceedings for these and other reasons was completely improper.

I wish to state emphatically, Mr. Speaker, that I have reviewed the matter most thoroughly and in substantial detail and that these allegations and innuendoes are without foundation.

The facts which led up to this matter related to Duke's obstreperous and rude conduct toward Mrs. Citron at her home on approximately September 1, 1969. In the written statement which Mrs. Citron provided to the crown attorney, and which I have read, she recites in substantial detail, all of the things that were said, both by herself and Duke on that occasion. This included the threatening of Mrs. Citron by Duke with his revolver.

However, toward the end of this dispute on September 1, Mrs. Citron states that Duke quietened down considerably and blames his obstreperous actions upon the fact that cortisone and alcohol did not mix. As a result of his quietening down, Mrs. Citron went back into her home. She did not tell her husband of the incident until the next afternoon when he returned from work, and at that time she told her husband about the incident and they decided to call Mr. Duke's eldest son and inform him about the circumstances. This was done. Later on the same day, I understand, Mr. Duke and his son attended at the Citron home and discussed the matter further. I think it is important to note that according to Mrs. Citron's statement, her husband, at that meeting on September 2, 1969, told Duke he must stop driving his car up and down in front of the Citron home and that he must stop phoning and frightening his wife. Upon this, Mr. Duke giving such an undertaking, it would seem that the matter was left.

On October 13—and I would ask the House to note this was some 43 days later after the incidents of the alleged threatening with the gun—on October 13, the Citrons received a phone call at 2.15 a.m. and this abuse by Mr. Duke subsequently led Mrs. Citron to lay the charge with respect to the keeping of the peace on October 23, 1969. The alleged threat, I point out again, was placed on September 1.

In the presentation of the statement to the crown attorney, and the discussions which were attendant thereon, it seemed perfectly obvious to the crown attorney that Mrs. Citron's primary concern was to preserve both herself, and her husband, from further abuse or interference by Mr. Duke.

Another lawyer was present during the discussion which Mrs. Citron had with the crown attorney, and he has since confirmed

to me his view of the situation that the attitude of the complainant was that she did not wish to expose everyone involved to general publicity, but that she did insist upon an order being made which would bind the man over to keep the peace because she would not accept any verbal assurance from him with respect to his future conduct.

As a result of the family dispute, which had generated Duke's conduct, and as a result of Mrs. Citron's concern for her own reputation, and for her own family relationship, all of which is evidenced by both the transcript of the evidence at the hearing, Mrs. Citron's statement, and Mrs. Citron's subsequent correspondence with me, it does seem clear that in laying this particular charge, and in having the matter heard in family court, both the crown attorney and the judge were attempting to meet the wishes of the complainant and at the same time prevent the publicity which might prejudice the possible resolution of any matrimonial dispute that had generated the conduct complained of by Mrs. Citron.

The proceedings in the family division of the provincial court are open to the public, although publishing the proceedings may be prohibited by the judge. There was no attempt to have the matter heard in secret as has been alleged by various people, nor was there any private hearing.

The charge was heard by the same judge who would have heard the matter in the criminal division of the court and the order was based upon the same evidence as would have been adduced in the criminal court.

The difficulty arises out of sincere attempts by the crown attorney and the judge to meet what they felt was the complainant's desire to avoid undue publicity.

Mrs. Citron, in giving her evidence before the court, made her position exceedingly clear and I believe it was completely consistent with the disposition made by the court and with the approach taken by the crown attorney.

Similarly, the evidence which she gave was completely consistent with the statement which she wrote out in her own hand, and which she provided to the crown attorney before the trial. This led him to the conclusion, along with her personal interview, that she did wish to have the matter dealt with in a legal and proper manner consistent with the preservation of her own peace of mind and with due regard for her family.

Mr. Speaker: Statements by the ministry.

Hon. J. White (Minister of Revenue): It is not a statement sir, it is an elaboration of a question.

Mr. Lewis: He has not called the question period yet.

Mr. Speaker: Is it an elaboration for the purpose of correction?

Hon. Mr. White: It is not a correction, sir, because the reply given was not incorrect. But it might be misleading.

Mr. MacDonald: It is a statement.

Mr. Speaker: Then the hon. minister has the floor and we will deal with this. Let him deal with it.

Mr. MacDonald: We are getting picayune.

Hon. Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Essex South (Mr. Paterson) asked me a question, to which I provided an answer. I thought afterwards that I had not dealt with the specifics of his question, and I would like to do so now. The question was "Is the minister giving consideration to the removal of the 5 per cent sales tax on chemicals and replacement parts for pollution control centres operated by the municipalities?"

I would like to inform the House that chemicals going into water purification plants are now and have been tax-exempt. Equipment going into municipally-owned sewage disposal plants has not been taxable and repair parts have not been taxable. From April 1, such equipment and repair parts will qualify for tax expenditure grants in all likelihood, although the final details of the repair parts have not been decided upon, and will not be known until the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) makes the announcement when he introduces the first reading of his bill.

Similarly, the chemicals going into sewage disposal plants may or may not be eligible for tax expenditure grants. In the past they have been taxable for retail sales tax purposes.

Mr. Speaker: That was quite properly a statement and the minister did give it in the proper time.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, yesterday a question was asked—

Mr. Speaker: If this is an answer to a question, it should come in the question period. I

will give the hon. minister an opportunity at the appropriate time to answer it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to ask something further, based on the statement that the Minister of Justice has just presented to the House. Was there any attempt by the judge of the family court to keep the proceedings secret which the minister said were public proceedings?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think not. I have made a very complete review of this whole matter, including the transcript of the evidence which was a complete record of it. There was the full statement by Mrs. Citron; I had a report from the crown attorney; I had a letter from Mrs. Citron outlining it fully to me, apart from her statement. There was nothing in any of that material indicating that there was any effort by the judge or anyone else to have the matter secret or closed in any way.

I might add, perhaps, Mr. Speaker, since we are still dealing with this matter, that in response to Mrs. Citron's request for a review of the matter, I did review it most thoroughly back in the early part of this year. I wrote to her, at very considerable length, a three-page letter on February 10 of this year. So that I felt it had been very thoroughly reviewed. There was no indication that anyone sought to make this an *in camera* or secret hearing.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary. Will the minister explain why it was held in the family court rather than the regular court, when apparently there was no reason for convening the court in that way? Secondly, was there any further reason given by anyone that the Attorney General questioned in this matter, other than an attempt to ease the pressures on the matrimonial situation, as the Attorney General described them here?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There was, in reviewing the matter, a family situation, Mr. Speaker, as came out in my statement. The alleged threat took place on September 1, or thereabouts, 1969. The matter which brought it to a head was a telephone call in the wee small hours of the morning from Mr. Duke to the Citron home, complaining of the relationship between his wife and Mr. Citron. We are now giving the publicity which Mrs. Citron sought to avoid.

It was a family matter—it was a matter of family relationship. All she wanted, as I tried to make clear in the statement, was for herself and her husband not to be bothered, and not to have these threats and suggestions. She went back to the threat of September 1, and used that procedure. It was a family court matter in the fact that there were two families, two family relationships, involved. That is why it was held in the family court. But it was not a secret hearing; it was not *in camera*.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: can the minister assure us that the allegations made in the local community, that this procedure was used not for the reasons that he has expressed but to protect the good name of the man charged, are groundless?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: They are completely without foundation. They are completely groundless. I think they are contemptible.

Mr. Nixon: I have a question of the Premier, Mr. Speaker. Is he aware of the attempts being made by the Education Association of West Nipissing to have a French secondary school established in Sturgeon Falls? Is he further aware that the students in some of the schools of the area are not attending classes today in support of this attempt? Does he intend to take any action to assist in the resolution of the problem?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am not aware of this, Mr. Speaker. There has been nothing drawn to my attention; I know nothing about it. However, I will be quite prepared to check it out with the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis). I feel he will know something.

Mr. Martel: Supplementary question of the Prime Minister. Is the minister aware that the students could get to the French secondary school, if the highway conditions between Noelville and St. Charles were not so deplorable? This is the real reason for keeping them out.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am unaware of that.

An hon. member: That has nothing to do with it.

Mr. Martel: Sure it has.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Leader of the Opposition have a further question?

Mr. Nixon: I have another question. I am sorry the Minister of Education is not here; he was here for the votes just a moment ago.

But this leads me to ask a question that I have been wondering whether I should, because in the debates in the last two days, after opening the debate on the budget, the Treasurer has been absent. The Prime Minister has indicated he is not prepared to answer for absent ministers. Yet can he explain why the Treasurer has not been here to participate in these discussions?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, the Treasurer is on a holiday. He spent the holiday period—that you spent holidaying, or doing whatever you wished to do—preparing the budget; it is that simple. There will be lots of time in the debate later on.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Prime Minister if, in fact, he has set up a formal committee to examine the use of the $10 million in the budget that is supposed to be directed toward the assistance of pensioners? How is this committee established and when does he expect to be able to report their findings to the House?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, this will be dealt with when the regulations are drawn. These will have to be drawn, of course, to administer the $10 million.

Mr. Nixon: Yes. A further question of the Premier. Has he under preparation specific papers that will be sent to those people representing municipalities who will be attending the conference later this month? If so, are they available; will they be available soon; and can we get copies of them in the House?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: There are certain preparations being made. I am not aware of what stage they are in exactly, but certainly the agenda has been discussed. I would be happy to make available to the Leader of the Opposition any papers that we are making available to those who are going to attend the conference.

Mr. Nixon: I have a question for the Attorney General. Did anyone from any other department in government request the Centre for Forensic Science for information on the testing of mercury in fish? Would they have the facilities there to make such a test that could have been done, rather than sending the fish down to California?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Was the first part of the question . . ?

Mr. Nixon: Was he approached by any other . . .

Hon. Mr. Wishart: . . . anyone making a request?

Mr. Nixon: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I cannot answer. If it was made it did not come to my personal attention.

As to the second part of the question I would not be certain that we would be able to test to the degree of accuracy or to the degree required, but I would have to check that to find out.

Mr. Nixon: Well then, let me ask a question. Is it true that in recent years the forensic centre has been upgraded tremendously in their analytical facilities and procedures, and it might well be that they could have carried out these tests for the OWRC or the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells)?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is possible, and certainly their facilities are available to any department of government.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: My first question is to the Prime Minister.

I wonder if he is in a position to reply to the two questions I raised yesterday with regard to definite prospective unemployment and possible prospective unemployment through rationalization of industry in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I drew these matters to the attention of the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall), and I would hope he will be in a position to make a statement to the House tomorrow.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a second question for the Prime Minister. I understand that his office has been informed that the Dunlop plant property on Queen Street East has been sold. Can he confirm this and indicate to whom it has been sold?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I cannot. This information has not been given to me. I have no knowledge of it being sold nor to whom it has been sold. I know nothing about it.

Mr. MacDonald: The Premier cannot confirm that it has been sold?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I cannot. I never heard of it until this minute.

Mr. MacDonald: I understand that Dr. Reynolds was so informed yesterday. Is the government investigating whether or not this

plant has been sold and, if so, to whom? Is it not a relevant part of the whole examination of the dismantling of an industry and the enforced unemployment of 600 people?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I presume that the company is free to sell its property as it wishes, but certainly it has not been brought to my attention.

Mr. MacDonald: But my question to the Prime Minister is will he investigate it to find out whether it is the case so that this House and the public can be so informed?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I can ask, but I do not propose to phone the company and ask them if they have sold their property. I would not do it with anybody else. There are property transactions going on at all times all over the province.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a question of the Attorney General.

Is the Attorney General in a position to comment on the letter of April 2 to him by James Karswick challenging his account of what happened in the Bird-Stevens assault case?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, in the last discussion we had about this matter referred to by the hon. member for York South, he stated I had not answered the last correspondence to Mr.. . .

Mr. MacDonald: April 2.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, he was referring then to a letter of December, and I did not have my file in front of me. When I checked my file I found that the letter had been answered very promptly — within four or five days, I think.

I have not read the letter of April 2 yet. I returned to my office yesterday. I presume the letter may have arrived, but it has not been brought to my attention yet.

Mr. MacDonald: When the minister reads it, I wonder if I might ask him by way of a supplementary question whether or not he would be willing to refer this issue to a standing committee of the Legislature to resolve the growing conflict in the accounts given by those involved and that which he has given to the House?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I would not contemplate any such thing. The statements I have made to the House are true and correct. If there is any conflict, it is not on my side of the case.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker. If that is so, would the Attorney General agree to table in the House the report the human rights commission officer who investigated the case initially? It is part of the minister's file, sir; the report has never been tabled in this Legislature.

Mr. MacDonald: I have asked the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) to table it and he refused.

Mr. Lewis: If the minister is confident of his position, will he table it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I will take it under consideration. I want to examine it to see what it contains. If one of my colleagues has already examined it and found reason not to table it, he may have good and sufficient reason.

Mr. MacDonald: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. When I put the question to the Minister of Labour, he said that the Minister of Justice, would be replying, as he did on March 19, and the Minister of Labour used that as the reason for his not tabling it. But earlier, the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) tabled the report of the community development officer, and I submit this House is entitled to the original report of the human rights officer, so we can come to our own conclusions as to whether the Attorney General's account is an accurate one.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have stated that I will look at it; I will take it under consideration. I will make a decision and answer to it.

Mr. MacDonald: I have a final question to the Prime Minister.

In view of the letter to him dated March 30, from Paul Larson of Sarnia, indicating that workers in Dow Chemical were asked not to dump mercury effluent while the river was being monitored and, secondly, that in the last week of March at least one large dump of mercury was deliberately washed into the sewers, would the Prime Minister establish any committee that he wishes, including a standing committee of the Legislature, so that Ivan Hillier, a 20-year employee of Dow and a respected citizen in Sarnia, can testify as to the validity of this?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The member has abused the rules enough today.

Mr. Martel: Why does the minister not go home? He is nothing but an obstructionist.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, that letter came into my office, as do many other letters, and the contents of it are being investigated.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my question to the Prime Minister is, will he establish a committee so that Mr. Hillier can provide the evidence he has indicated he is willing to provide, that this is the case, including that OWRC notifies the industry before they make inspections?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I have answered the question. I will give no commitment that I will establish any such committee to attempt to establish the veracity of facts presented in the form of a question by the hon. member. His question is completely out of order. How do I know that what he is saying is correct? He is presenting facts here about which I know nothing.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): The member is editorializing!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I said I have got the letter, and I will investigate its contents.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: The Premier is very testy!

Mr. MacDonald: Probably the fact is that the Premier is scared to have the documents made public.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh, come off it.

Mr. Lewis: The Premier is very testy!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member is the testy one.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South has further questions?

The hon. Attorney General has the answer to a previous question, if he might give that answer now. Order!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, yesterday . . .

Mr. MacDonald: I would have thought . . .

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It was the member for Sarnia (Mr. Bullbrook), I believe, who asked about the name of the Ontario case where the breathalyser section was involved. I did not have the name at the time, and I undertook to get it.

The case was the case of Regina against Alexander Stewart Craig; it was a Toronto case. The court appealed from was the provincial judge's criminal court; the name of the judge was His Honour Donald F. Graham. The case has been appealed by way of a stated case to a judge of the Supreme Court of Ontario, and the point of issue is the question of the validity of the proclamation of sections 223, 224 and 224 (a) of the Criminal Code.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General.

Has he been asked by the OWRC through his colleague, the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, for a legal opinion as to the validity of the proposed Canada Water Act and whether or not Ontario ought to take some steps in this connection?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am asked a good many questions from time to time. I cannot say categorically that we have not been asked to give an opinion on this. I know we have had discussions and studies about The Canada Water Act, but I cannot answer the hon. member at this moment, standing here without checking my office files.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary: in view of the importance of the statement made by the chairman of OWRC that he had been advised the proposed Act would infringe on the rights of this province under The British North America Act, I would think the Attorney General, if he had not asked to be concerned, might concern himself with it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I believe, Mr. Speaker, I did not want to be too positive—I believe we have had this question. I believe we have given a very thorough study and I believe we have expressed an opinion that in our view there are certain areas of provincial jurisdiction being encroached upon, or sought to be encroached upon—but when one is asked a question without warning or without notice on a matter so technical and exact I like to be as exact as possible. I could assure the hon. member that I know I have a file on the matter and I believe we have furnished that opinion.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary: would it be possible for the Attorney General to make available to the House the opinions of himself and his advisers in this connection? I would think it might be useful public knowledge.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would think this might be proper for public knowledge, Mr. Speaker, and I will check my files and see what I may be able to do in this respect.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): I have a question for the Minister of Mines, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister of Mines indicate to the House the purpose of the meeting that will be held simultaneously with the provincial-municipal conferences that are to be held in the science centre, where he has invited all representatives from northern Ontario? Could he tell me what the purpose of the meeting is and what the agenda will be and what he hopes to achieve by this meeting?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, it really is not a meeting. As you are aware, the government has issued an invitation to representatives of the various municipal organizations and municipalities across the province to discuss fiscal matters at a two-and-a-half day meeting at the science centre, April 22, 23 and 24, I believe.

It occurred to me there will be representatives from various northern municipalities and northern municipal associations at that meeting and noticing that at least during one of the lunch hours there are no other activities involved, I have asked the northerners who will be delegates at that meeting to break off and have lunch with members of the cabinet to discuss matters of mutual concern in the north. There is no more devious plot or Machiavellian purpose in it than merely to get northerners together to discuss northern purposes.

Mr. Lewis: Then why is the minister there?

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary?

Mr. Stokes: I have a supplementary. Is it a formal meeting or very informal? Who will be allowed to speak or what will be dealt with?

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Will the member for Thunder Bay be invited?

Mr. Stokes: I have already been invited but I want to know if there is a formal agenda.

Mr. Pitman: Invited to speak, I mean.

Mr. Martel: The minister does not know.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, it is all very tenuous at the moment, and it is nothing more than an attempt to get northerners together which usually is not a very hard job.

Mr. Stokes: We are together, make no mistake about that.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Welland South.

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to that.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry. If the hon. member would say, supplementary, immediately. I did not hear him say that.

Mr. Jackson: Would the Minister of Mines and Northern Development tell us what his duties are going to be so that we will know what questions to take to that conference?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Well, my understanding of the purpose of that conference is to discuss fiscal problems in relation to municipalities. I had thought that the hon. member and the House were aware of that. If the member is not, then obviously he has not been reading the things that have been passing across his desk.

Mr. Lewis: The minister is not aware of the things of the north.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Welland South.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question to the Minister of Correctional Services: since tabling of the budget by the provincial Treasurer in this Legislature, and with the proposed increase in government expenditure, is the minister now in a position to recommend to the cabinet the need and urgent necessity for a new detention centre within the regional municipality of Niagara to replace the two obsolete county jails now in use? Is the minister in a position to inform the members as to when the construction will commence for this centre?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I am not just too sure what the hon. member means by, "in view of the budget"; because I think if he will take a look at the figures there is nothing there to encourage him to think we have a lot of money to spend on a lot of new regional detention centres.

However, as far as the Niagara Regional Detention Centre is concerned, the hon. member knows it is one of the five I mentioned as having top priority, and at this particular time I am not in a position to tell the hon. member whether it is, in fact, going to be the next one started. The first one, as I announced to the House some time ago, was the

Ottawa regional detention centre, and so far we have had some problems up in Ottawa and we have not been able to get started on the Ottawa regional detention centre.

Problems beyond our control, I should tell the hon. member. Certainly we shall have to get under way with that—which I hope will be shortly before we proceed with the next priority, and it may very well be that Niagara may be the next one but I cannot guarantee that at this particular time.

Mr. Haggerty: The minister has already land acquired.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Yes, we know that.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. Stokes: Supplementary to the same minister: what effect will this have, the remark that he has just made, on the proposed extension of facilities or upgrading of facilities at the industrial farm at Fort William?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: None at all, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Stokes: Well as a further supplementary: could the minister indicate when the proposed development will start at the industrial farm?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: No, Mr. Speaker, I could not give the hon. member any particular period of time for starting.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: Question to the Attorney General: Is the minister aware that on April 6, 1968, information was provided to a Sergeant Holmes of the Red Lake detachment and a Corporal Gaudree from the Kenora detachment asking, from this information, that charges be laid against the Indian health service for permitting lay people to dispense birth control pills and prescription drugs to the Indian residents at Kassabonika Lake and despite this information being given the charges have not been laid?

Will the Attorney General look into this matter to find out why these charges, when all this information was given, have not been laid?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, did I understand the hon. member to say the information was given on April 6?

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: April 6, 1968?

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Some two years ago; two years and one day. Well I would be quite prepared to look into the matter, Mr. Speaker, as alleged by the hon. member. I am not certain here that what he has recited is in effect, but I shall look into it and see.

Mr. Martel: Well a further supplementary because of the comment over from this part. Was this information not given a year later by Mr. Paul St. Jacques to the Attorney General himself requesting charges be laid against the lay dispensers for issuing prescription drugs and birth control pills to the Indians by lay people?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, it is very curious that the hon. member should stand up—he apparently has a letter from Mr. Paul St. Jacques who is given to writing long letters and making speeches, and who, I believe, was a federal employee. Now, I do not know whether he made this information available to anybody or not. He did not make it available to me, as far as I am aware.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

The hon. member for Grey South.

Mr. Sargent: Grey-Bruce!

Mr. Speaker: Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: That is an awful thing, is Grey South.

Mr. Speaker: I apologize.

Mr. Sargent: He is a bad guy!

A question for the Minister of Correctional Services.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member has to hit the ministers who are here.

Mr. Sargent: Pretty lean pickings!

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: We think so too.

Mr. Sargent: Could the minister advise if he is aware of the new process involved in correctional institutes in New York City with regard to drug addicts on withdrawal? They are using methadrone withdrawal reduction systems down there.

Can the minister advise if he plans to institute that here in, say Don Jail; and also how many drug addicts would he have on withdrawal in Don Jail?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, the latter part of the question I could not answer. In any case, we do not treat drug addicts at any of the jails. If we treat them, they would be at the clinics.

On the matter of treating them with methadone, quite frankly at this particular moment I cannot recall whether this was discussed for treatment or whether in fact it is being used or whether it was turned down for treatment.

I am not unfamiliar with the process of treatment. We in the department discussed it some time ago, and I am sorry that my memory does not serve me well enough to be able to answer the hon. member. I do not think we are using it, and I cannot really tell the hon. member why. There is probably a very good reason, and if the hon. member would like some more information on it, I will get it for him.

Mr. Sargent: A supplementary: this is supposed to be quite a breakthrough in New York. The minister says that he does not keep drug addicts in penitentiaries or in jails, but it is common practice in the States. Why is his system better?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I am not too sure the hon. member is correct when he suggests they treat them in jails. The hon. member must appreciate the fact that various jurisdictions have different systems whereby there are different terms served in different kinds of institutions: i.e., there are jurisdictions in which a man may serve two or three years in a local jail. We do not have that here. They serve only very short periods of time in a local jail here. We attempt to get them out of the local jail, and if it looks as if they are going to stay there more than a month—that is, if they are sentenced for more than a month—and anyone who needs treatment for drugs would go to our Alex G. Brown Memorial Clinic.

Incidentally, while I am on my feet, if I recall correctly—and this is subject to a correction—the treatment with methadone is under some criticism in some quarters. I think the system is that you put them on methadone because this is the lesser of two evils; they become addicted to the methadone rather than strong drugs. And if I recall what I read about it, there is a great deal of difference of opinion as to whether this is a good thing or not. However, as I said, I will get further information.

Mr. Lewis: There is a difference of opinion as to whether methadone is addictive.

Mr. Sargent: A question for the Attorney General, Mr. Speaker.

With regard to the widespread practice in Grey and Bruce counties in the fines being levied by judges in that area, which I wrote the minister about the other day, would the Attorney General advise why we cannot place an advertising programme in the papers of Ontario to let the people of this province know that they can pay their fines on the instalment plan? Then, if the minister is sincere in the fact . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: All right, I am wrong there. Would the Attorney General advise why we could not let the people know their rights, that they do have time to pay their fines?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Speaker, this is the same as any other law. It is stated in the Criminal Code, which lays down the procedures for our criminal courts, and the presiding judge or magistrate, as they were known, may make that provision for payment of fine over a period of time.

Mr. Sargent: May I interrupt for a second?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: To advertise that provision might have some merit, but it would lead us into the precedent of perhaps having to advertise many of our laws to make them known to the people. I think this sort of debate in this House will perhaps result in that publicity being given, that this is the law, and I think that should be sufficient. All the courts, from time to time, make it known to persons who are convicted and fined that they have time to pay, and I think there is—

Mr. Sargent: The minister is making statements that are not true.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There is a general awareness in the public that this right does exist.

Mr. Sargent: A supplementary: We have been over this so many times before, but in the two cases that came to my attention in the past 10 days, people are going to jail because they cannot pay their fines, because they do not have the money nor the time payment plan.

Mr. Speaker: What is the member's question?

Mr. Sargent: So I would like the minister —I do not know what the question is—to go along and let people know their rights. Why can he not do an advertising programme to say that if you cannot pay your fine, you do not have to go to jail; you have time to pay it? As I wrote you this week, a man was put in jail over the weekend because he did not have $53.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is asking exactly the same question he asked before and which the Attorney General answered. I would rule that the matter is completed. Further questions?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, on a supplementary matter: The Attorney General. . . .

Mr. Speaker: No, I have ruled that the matter is now closed. The member for Algoma-Manitoulin has the floor.

Mr. S. Farquahar (Algoma-Manitoulin): A question for the Minister of Mines, Mr. Speaker.

Is the minister aware that Mr. Roman of Denison Mines Limited has suggested that consideration will have to be given to the closing of Denison Mines in Elliot Lake, which would throw some 900 miners out of work and work a real hardship on that town, in which the residents have had more than their share of hardship? If he is aware of the situation, and since such action would mean a swamping of the welfare rolls and incidentally write finis to the possibility of the town managing a $9 million debenture debt, would the minister, through his department, offer the co-operation of the government in any efforts that might be necessary and participate in any federal plans that might take this shape and might be necessary to assure that this mine does not close?

Mr. Speaker: I would point out, before the minister answers, that that question was quite improper. The question itself was loaded with so many "whereases" and "sinces", it should not have been allowed. But I believe the minister knows the question: Will the department assist in this instance or what will they do?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Basically, Mr. Speaker, I think the question is a hypothetical one. It is, if the mine closes or if there is a real threat of Denison Mines closing, what is this government going to do to either alleviate the condition or to keep it open?

May I say, when the member for Humber (Mr. Ben) asked me the day after the very surprising and abrupt statement was made by the Prime Minister of Canada in the House of Commons at Ottawa respecting the foreign control of Denison Mines, I indicated that the implications of the policy statement then made by the Prime Minister of Canada were extremely extensive. For that reason, the Prime Minister of Ontario made a very brief statement in this House a day or so later. My views have not changed. The implications of the federal policy in this respect are immense. I am not at all satisfied in my own mind that the federal government realizes the implications of some of the things they are now stating.

We have no objection at all with their overall objectives, but the closing of the Denison mine, the future of all of the mineral development that has been taking place over the past year and a half in the entire Blind River area and northward has been thrown into jeopardy by these statements. I think all that we can do as a government, even if the worst comes to the worst in that area, we will be the ones again who will have to pick up the tab and clean up the mess.

A great many things have been thrown into jeopardy because of these statements, and all we can do is sit back, I think, and simply wait for the actual determination of federal policy and see either their regulations or their intended statutes on the matter.

They have not approached us for any information, any statistics, any help, any co-operation, any advice, any counsel whatsoever, even though the Prime Minister of Ontario has telephoned the Prime Minister of Canada about it. Under the circumstances, all we can do, along with the industry and along with the people of Blind River and the Elliot Lake area, is wait with bated breath and see what can be done.

Certainly we do not want that mine to close. Certainly we do not want the increasing prosperity and development that had looked so rosy on the economic horizon for that area to disappear. Under the circumstances we are caught in the middle and we are extremely concerned about it and extremely disturbed about it, but under the circumstances I do not think we can do anything until we see the actual mechanics of what the federal government intends to bring down in relation to this extremely complex situation.

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker: Is the minister saying that he disagrees with

the assertion of a percentage of Canadian control in industries of this kind?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: The hon. member again is not listening to what I said. I said we agreed with the overall objective regarding foreign ownership.

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary. If the minister is in favour of the overall objective, then what precisely he is concerned about? What is frightening him?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Did the member not hear the question of the hon. member for the area?

Mr. Lewis: Well, what is in this by way of supplementary? Why is the minister not endeavouring to make some plans if there should be any contingency, since he agrees with the overall objective of Canadian control of the industry?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: This is not the time to debate the matter, but I certainly did not indicate—and I am sorry if there is any misinterpretation of my remarks—that we are not laying plans. There are a number of alternatives in this extremely grave and troubled area right now that we think the federal government may be moving toward. Obviously we have to have plans because they concern us more than they concern any other governmental jurisdiction in this country. We are aware of our duties and we are concerned about it, but until we know exactly how and where and in what way the federal people are moving, then obviously we cannot announce what our alternative plans or our plans may be on the matter.

Mr. Lews: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister as concerned about the reckless irresponsibility in the statements of Denison Mines as he is about Canadian control of the industry?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: Obviously, by our actions and by our policies, we are concerned respecting the control and the measure of return to the citizens of this country of the profits of the resources industries. We have been concerned, obviously, in this field for a longer period than the federal people have, because we have attempted to be doing something about it over the last couple of years. But in any event, until we know exactly how they are going about meeting what they believe is their solution to the problem, we can't very well bring our plans out into the open in respect to it. We have to wait and see what the federal people are going to be doing.

Mr. Lewis: The minister need not be a shrinking violet about it.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary.

Mr. Farquhar: The minister agrees that my question has reverted now to the international implications that caused this situation, but does he agree that the fact remains that any minute individual action can close the mine?

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: I have the assurance of Mr. Roman, with whom I had an interview just before his threats became public, that we would be given warning of any termination there of the operation of Denison Mines. I must say there is an argument in relation to this whole matter on behalf of Denison Mines which, for some reason, has not been made public, but in any event, there is a thread of an argument on that side as well. It is not completely a black and white matter, no matter what the hon. member may feel about it.

Mr. Lewis: There is a thread is there? There is a thread of an argument?

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further questions?

Mr. Sargent: A question of the Minister of Correctional Services, Mr. Speaker: would the minister advise if he has any plans to institute courses such as computer courses, auto repairs, television, and so on, as training in our jails, as it is being done in the reforms programme now in Illinois?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: No, there are no such plans at the moment, Mr. Speaker. There are other plans being formulated in respect of vocational training and industrial operations and so on, but I do not think television repairs is one of them.

Mr. Sargent: A supplementary: does the minister have any plans to give them training so that they can get work on the outside when they are released?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, we always have had such programmes.

Mr. Sargent: Finally, Mr. Speaker, when is the minister going to have a reform programme in reform institutions?

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member that they are now correctional institutions.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further questions? If not, this ends the oral question period.

Presenting reports.

Mr. Winkler, from the standing private bills committee, presented the committee's sixth report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr21, An Act respecting Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company Limited.

Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the town of Brampton.

Bill Pr33, An Act respecting the Excelsior Life Insurance Company.

Your committee begs to report the following bills with certain amendments:

Bill Pr5, An Act respecting the city of Hamilton.

Bill Pr17, An Act respecting the Canadian National Exhibition Association.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The 11th order; House in committee of supply, Mr. A. E. Reuter in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND INFORMATION
(continued)

On vote 2103:

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to discuss with the minister a little this afternoon the question of the role of the province in preserving the archaeological background of this province. I am constrained to do so because I notice that under this particular vote something like $1,000 is provided to the Ontario Archaeological Society. I am sure that the minister would agree, and this House would agree, that $1,000 would scarcely pay postage for an organization, at least since Mr. Kierans has taken over the post office. It is totally inadequate for the kind of problem which we face in this province.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Chairman, I imagine the hon. member is aware of what that is for?

Mr. Pitman: Perhaps the minister would like to indicate what it is for.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is for the very limited archaeological research that is sometimes necessary in validating the plaques for the plaque programme. That $1,000 is for the Ontario Archaeological Society—a grant—for their publication.

Mr. Pitman: I have a suggestion for the minister that if it is the role of his department to support archaeology in Ontario, to be concerned about archaeology in Ontario, then this is a totally inadequate grant in view of the kind of problems which we face in this area. I think that we are very close to what could be called an archaeological disaster; this may very well be an archaeological disaster area, because I think we in this province have lost a great deal of our past as a result of the inadequate action over the past number of years.

I am going to suggest to the minister that this probably should not even be under his department. I suspect that archaeology in the Ontario context, is totally inappropriate to a department of tourism. I say this because we tend to think of tourism as an operation to attract tourists, and I suggest to the minister that archaeology in the province of Ontario is not that kind of thing. We do not find great temples and valuable graven goods and golden urns in the archaeology of Ontario.

We find the very dull, rather hard work of scraping away little five-foot squares to discover what little bits of potsherd or carving which can be attributed to the early inhabitants of this province and that is not really very exciting. It certainly does not "turn on" tourists, and that is why I question, really, the relevance of this department being concerned with archaeology in any sense whatsoever. I suggest to the minister that we have 13,000 years of occupation in this area by humans and we know very little about it.

One of the tragedies of this province is that in order to understand ourselves in this province, we have to go to the museums and the universities in the northern United States, to New York City and to Rochester, because if there has been anything that has happened, it has been the "Americanization" of Canadian archaeology. It is always one of the great, and I think rather cruel jokes about

Ontario, that the Royal Ontario Museum has one excellent collection of Chinese remains, Chinese artifacts, but when one looks at the Canadian Indian section, one must cringe in horror. I can remember seeing the same material displayed when I was a child being trotted down to the Royal Ontario Museum. Some of the displays are still there and they look worn and beaten, and I would suggest pretty unexciting.

That is aside. I realize the minister is not concerned with the Royal Ontario Museum, but I do suggest that this grant does place upon him some responsibility for the problems that we are facing. I want to say that it is very easy for us in this Legislature to regard archaeology as some kind of weird, peripheral activity which really is not very important, to think that it really does not matter, and so we lose, day by day, week by week, some of the materials by which we can understand ourselves.

But I think it is very important, and perhaps just two examples will show the minister just why I think we need to have this kind of understanding, this kind of information. I suppose there is nothing that we spent more time on in this Legislature in the last year or so than talking about the plight of the Indian peoples and the whole problem of pollution.

If you look at the plight of the Indian peoples, it really resolves itself in this context: We still do not have any appreciation of the role which the aboriginal peoples have had upon the background of this country. We still have very little appreciation of that whole 13,000 years during which these people controlled this continent, and we have only been here for a very short time in this context.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Would the member like to answer a question? Did we not really louse it up in that short period?

Mr. Pitman: Well I was going to come to that; I say to the hon. member for Niagara Falls, I will come to that in just a moment. In the last 200 years we have done more damage than they have done in the whole 13,000. But the point I am making is that the position that essentially we view the Indian peoples are in, in a context to ourselves, is that they really did not exist in North America until we got here. The idea is that until we land and begin to really ravage their lifestyle, the Indians scarcely have any impact at all upon our history, they have little impact upon our understanding of ourselves in this part of the continent.

For that reason, it is very easy for us to treat the Indian peoples the way we do in Ontario. Just going to the various Indian settlements, it is very easy to see how we do treat them because we simply have no appreciation of their role. The only way you can gain this kind of appreciation is through an understanding of the tremendous contribution which they have made through these 13,000 years. And I say this will not be done by granting $1,000 to the Ontario Archaeological Society.

The second area, and one that the member for Niagara Falls brings up, is how much damage we have done in the last 50 years. How strange it is that at this point in time we are trying to draw the Indian peoples into our society. We are trying to make them more competitive. We are trying to make them a part of our technological world when we have proved that we do not even know how to control that technology—when technology really means worship of growth, and as well, the destruction of our own environment. How strange it is that we are trying to draw them into that syndrome when what we really should be doing is trying to understand them and how they learned to live with the environment and to conserve that environment.

If we had a little more interest and concern over archaeology in this province, we might be able to make that kind of an intellectual jump. But I suggest to the House that what we are doing now is watching our archaeological artifacts disappear, and disappear at a rate which is terrifying. You see, the great problem is that the Indian peoples, to a large extent, live in the areas where we want to live in today. They live in river valleys and on river plains, and of course these are the areas where we have urban centres being constructed, where we have subdivisions going in, where the bulldozer is at work, where highways are being constructed.

We simply have no effective structure, except by the merest chance, for saving our artifacts under those circumstances, as well as those, of course, that we have already lost. One can scarcely total the value of these kinds of artifacts because they are not valuable in terms of gold and silver; they are valuable in terms of our understanding, but they have been lost already by the hydroelectric projects which have gone on in this province.

I think the Ontario Archaeological Society knows of some 800 sites in the whole of

Ontario, which they know about now, and of those 800 sites, something like 80 are protected in any way. The rest could disappear tomorrow; it just means that a bulldozer moves in and everything that we would like to know about those Indian peoples disappears with the onslaught of that bulldozer.

A year ago, Mr. J. V. Wright read a paper which he called "The Destruction of Canada's Prehistory," and I want to read just a few sentences from that paper. He states:

> The still unwritten pages of Canada's prehistory are disintegrating under an onslaught of flood waters, earth-moving machinery, and ignorance unparalleled for its intensity, efficiency, and inevitability. And how are the less than 40 professional archaeologists in Canada with their limited financial resources to meet this crisis?

And he turns to the various provinces and he turns to the province of Ontario and he says:

> Urban expansion does not simply mean urban spread and suburbs; it means highway and road construction, gravel pit operations, cottage construction, and all the other innumerable earth-moving activities that accompany a large and expanding affluent population.

He states categorically:

> Unless we do something almost immediately, there will not be anything to save. It will not matter. It really will not matter.

He states:

> The only way in which the destruction of Canada's prehistory can be met is through an effective salvage archaeology programme. Such a salvage archaeology programme will of necessity expand with the problem, and therefore will require increasing funds and personnel. The problem itself can never be solved and the best that can be hoped for is to increase archaeology's capability to recover data that would otherwise be lost.

He turns to the federal government and he suggests an archaeological survey of Canada. And he turns to the provincial authorities, and if this minister, with this grab-bag department with all these various activities going on could grasp this nettle, we might be able to do something very quickly in this country. But I will go on to say that I have decreasing hope in that area.

> From provincial archaeological surveys that will have a reciprocal working arrangement with the federal surveys, perhaps all the archaeologists in each province could organize into a body using the provincial archaeologist and/or the Council for Canadian Archaeology representative as their spokesman on archaeological matters of provincial concern.

And he goes on to say that we need legislation. He suggests that:

> —the provincial antiquities Act be applied to provincial parks and crown lands, and that an attempt be made to arrive at a workable arrangement between authorities responsible for antiquities and private land owners.

Much of the archaeological wealth of this province is in private hands, on private lands, and we have no way of getting at this material. I am not going to belabour this point, but I am going to suggest that, as I say, I can see little hope, really, in this kind of department coming out with a total thrust which is necessary, because I do not think this is really tourism.

What happens, of course, is—and I think one only has to read the minister's report here—you tend to put your money and your interest in those things which will draw people from the United States or draw other people from Ontario and other parts of Canada. And that is only proper; he is Minister of Tourism.

But I suggest that is not the kind of archaeology that is necessary if we are to understand ourselves. Tourists will not be drawn to watch people sitting scraping with trowels on five-foot squares; it will not be done.

Therefore, I would suggest that certainly the minister can look after Midland, Huronia and all the exciting things that are going on in that particular type of archaeological reconstruction. But I suggest that probably the real work of searching out meaning in archaeology should be done, perhaps, in The Department of Education; perhaps associated with the Canadian studies project, which is making some headway with the council of ministers at the federal level.

I am at a loss to know how we can take the steps which are necessary in the next few years, because as the minister well knows, the development of urbanization which is going on has destroyed one site after another. I think that soon we will have to have the right legislation and most certainly will have to have the right kind of a survey done.

I hope perhaps the minister might be able to indicate what he sees in this area. I want to say, before I sit down, I am impressed

by the work which has been done by this committee. He has been able to attract first-rate historians in terms of putting up plaques across this province. But I come back to the basic point that archaeology is not tourist material. It is essentially the hard and difficult task of understanding our past so that we can understand ourselves. And until we understand our past and our native people, we will treat them in the same shabby, unjust way we have done in the past. That is what it is really all about.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, first of all I should say without repeating the explanation I gave last year that we are technically dealing with The Department of Public Records and Archives, even though it is not shown that way in the estimates this year on account of the programme budgeting system. But there is a department of public records and archives, and these programmes are under that department.

I might say, too, that we have never purported to be doing major archaeological work in the province. As I mentioned a moment ago, the funds in this vote are for the archaeological work required for validating information in the historic plaques programme which is involved. It took a modest sum, I think about $4,000; sometimes we spend it all and sometimes we have to get an addition. It is really a guess.

Then we have done other work in special fields emanating from the archaeological, historic sites advisory board. I think of Moosonee, where we had Professor Dawson working to establish where the original Moose Factory Hudson Bay post was. As a consequence, we did some work, at least the ONR did some work, in a centennial project to restore the old blacksmith shop and the magazine and another structure. We have been doing some work at Fort William to establish the layout of the original fort at Fort William, the original fort of the Northwest Company. That is the purpose of our work.

I believe — and I am not an expert on this — The Department of Education makes a grant to the ROM via the University of Toronto for certain archaeological work which they do. I know that the ROM has a very extensive collection of Indian artifacts established here and I believe that Western also has a large collection. There may be others. I am not an expert in this field.

But as far as the whole question of the archaeological resources — if I can put it that way — in Canada is concerned, this has been studied. The problems related to it, which the hon. member touched on, have been studied by the Canadian conference on historical resources. We are represented on that council and it is my understanding that they are working to put together a national provincial programme which will then be considered by all the governments involved.

I do not know. I would say there might well be an argument if we got into that programme — if this Legislature votes the funds. When we know what the programme is at some future time it should well be in The Department of Public Records and Archives. But this will be a decision that will be made when we see what the programme is and how far we are going to go in it.

Mr. Pitman: I thank the minister for his comments. I think this points up what I see here as a degree of diffusion. The department makes a grant to the Ontario Archaeological Society for the job of substantiating the —

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. The purpose of that grant, Mr. Chairman, is for them to disseminate the information that we get —

Mr. Pitman: Through their periodical.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, through their periodical.

Mr. Pitman: Then you make another grant, $4,000 to substantiate —

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, we do not make a grant. We have those funds and we use them to pay consulting archaeologists such as Professor Dawson, Professor Henrikson, any one of a number of people — we have no archaeologists on our staff. I may say that one of the problems we have had in the past is finding archaeologists. There are not a lot of them around and when you want them, when you need an archaeologist to look into something, it is sometimes not too easy to get one.

I think on one occasion we got some people from the University of Buffalo. We could not find a Canadian at the time who was available for looking into a find of bones, as I recall, in Fort Erie. In some of these things that are brought to our attention, you cannot wait for six months. It is a question of getting right at it.

Mr. Pitman: If I might just follow up on that, I think that is a chicken-and-the-egg problem. In many cases young people are very reluctant to go into archaeology because there is absolutely no continuing role for an archaeologist in Canada. You cannot expect our young people to take four years and then

go on to secure a graduate degree in archaeology, in the hope that they might get a call from the minister to go out and look for an Indian grave somewhere in Scarborough.

I think this is the very point. We have to have some kind of continuing effort, one which would involve, I would think, having archaeologists on the staff of the Ontario government. As I say, I am not sure whether it should be under tourism, because I really do not think this relates to tourist activities; it should be associated with the Royal Ontario Museum, I think, as the central core of this activity. I think we will not get the survey done and, as I said to the minister, we are losing daily materials which will be necessary for us to reconstruct our past.

We have already lost tons of it. It has gone across the border. I would just say to the minister — I realize this is a very small and peripheral part of his department, perhaps he does not spend two hours a year worrying about archaeology in Ontario — but somebody over there has to start worrying about it. Unfortunately, we seem to have a propensity for doing things too late and archaeology is one of those things. You cannot even restore archaeological finds because they are gone.

You may be able to restore a river or try and restore Lake Erie, but you will never be able to do anything once you have allowed a bulldozer to plough up the remains of an Indian village. It has just gone and that is it, game over, and Canadian history loses as a result.

Mr. Chairman: The member for York Centre.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Chairman, there is an area under archives and history — I think perhaps it comes under this programme — that I would ask the minister to consider and give his views on.

The town of Niagara is a town which has a normal commercial life and residential life, but there is a lot of character in the buildings there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Niagara or Niagara-on-the-Lake?

Mr. Deacon: Niagara-on-the-Lake!

It has had a lot of difficulty in preserving or having any control about what type of building has developed; or the tearing down of old buildings. Although there has been a great attempt made by the citizens to really control the situation, they have found great difficulty. The department has encouraged such developments as Upper Canada Village and Black Creek Village where, artificially, we have people living. It is not really an ongoing concern, they are like the Williamsburg type of operation. But in the United States, in Grafton, Vermont, they have developed a method for preserving the character of the past in a very successful way by attracting people to make successful commercial ventures through providing legislation under which there is definite control of the exterior of buildings in that community. And as a result the character of the past, the preservation of history, an attractive tourist facility has been developed.

I would ask the minister if any research has been done under this programme as to methods we can adopt in Ontario, by introducing in Ontario, similar legislation which would permit control in Niagara-on-the-Lake, or Unionville or Kleinberg, or some of these other communities which have movements to try to preserve their character; that would give them control over the development that goes on so the past will not be destroyed, so the people have an attractive place for visitors to come and see some of the past of Ontario in other than an Upper Canada Village or some other artificially created type of environment.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, as a matter of fact we have had, and are continuing to have, discussions with The Department of Municipal Affairs, to produce probably an amendment to The Municipal Act or perhaps The Planning Act—I am not sure at this stage, this is in the other minister's hands—legislation that would permit the community to deal with this kind of thing.

The hon. member may recall several years ago the city of Kingston attempted to delay, to provide a built-in delay, of the destruction of any specified building. Under the provisions of The Planning Act, the municipal board threw out the bylaws that they proposed and said that it was not within the ambit of The Planning Act and since that time there has been considerable discussion about this very thing. I do not think it relates specifically to this vote; my own view is that they are going to achieve this kind of legislation. This, in concert with the heritage foundation of Ontario, which we now have, is an effective vehicle. As soon as we get more money to preserve and maintain buildings of historic importance, I think that we are going to be able to deal with this.

I think the hon. members are aware that The Department of Public Records and Archives, again through a grant and in concert

with the University of Toronto and the architectural conservancy and, I think, the junior league, did quite a programme of inventory of buildings which are important, historically and architecturally. This work is continuing.

Mr. Deacon: Mr. Chairman, I thought that this would be the appropriate vote for this type of thing to be discussed. It was archives and history and trying to preserve it, and that is why I brought it up here. The discussions have been going on a long time. We are losing these little pockets of history very rapidly.

I heard of these discussions going on at least two years ago, maybe more than that, in the Kingston case. How long before you believe you will have something to introduce in co-operation with The Department of Municipal Affairs to solve the problem? Niagara, certainly, I know, has been frustrated there in its efforts to preserve and control the community and not have its character destroyed by some person coming in and building; or destroying a property that may not have unusual significance but could start deterioration of a very attractive community.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Wentworth.

Mr. Deacon: Are there any time limits on this?

Hon. Mr. Auld: All I can say, Mr. Chairman, is that I hope that, maybe, in this current year. The Minister of Municipal Affairs told me as recently as last week that he was having problems finding staff to put on this project. He has had them on and had to take them off for other more urgent matters, in his judgement. All I can say is that we are anxious to see it as soon as possible.

Mr. Deacon: I would suggest to the minister that messages sent to The Department of Highways with regard to road-widening and bypass plans would indicate his interest in having these historical places preserved and not destroyed by the actions of another department or other departments of this government. It would be very helpful at this time.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Chairman, I want to speak to the minister for a brief moment about one area that I know traditionally falls within the jurisdiction of Municipal Affairs. It falls into the preservation of historical sites in Ontario and that is the need to preserve some of the old, historically valued cemeteries in some of the areas throughout Ontario. I am going to be very brief with it. I realize that there is an Act covering some of it but I need your help, quite frankly. I need your help to try and convince your colleagues that there is a value in the province of Ontario in preserving some of these areas that provide some link with the past. In my riding at the present moment—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to cut the hon. member off, but the only department that has statutory authority over cemeteries is The Department of Health. We have no programme or no funds that relate to cemeteries. So I do not want to—

Mr. Deans: No. All right, let me just try to relate the two, very briefly. It will be very brief.

I believe there is a great historical value in some of these particular locations, and I think with your responsibility in trying to preserve for future generations the historical points of interest and the relationship with the past—and I say that kindly—that you ought to have an interest. You should be taking a look at whether or not the present legislation, although it is under the jurisdiction of The Department of Health, is adequate to ensure the preservation of these locations. As I say, I will be about two minutes in trying to outline what is happening and then you can decide for yourself whether or not the time has come for you to make the approach to cabinet to put that particular responsibility within your jurisdiction.

There are, as I was about to say, five very old cemeteries in my riding—small but old. They have been there since before the United Empire Loyalists, which makes them exceedingly old. They are about to be uprooted, as I understand it, because of the actions of the Ontario Housing Corporation, as they are going to develop a housing project in the area. Now I do not care how you relocate these things or where you relocate them; they will have lost their historic significance the moment they are moved. And it seems to me that if we are going to maintain this traditional tie, and if we are going to try to encourage people to look back into time to gather the resources to go forward, they have got to be able to relate themselves directly to events and occurrences and people, and this is where the historical tie-in comes. In one particular instance an entire family has been laid to rest in this location. The location was provided by the family in the first place from

their own estate. The location has historical significance for the area and ought to be preserved. But it obviously will not be preserved.

I think the minister ought to enter into some dialogue with his colleagues in the cabinet benches to determine whether or not he might exercise some jurisdiction over those things and preserve them for future reference —really, I cannot say also for future pleasure, in this case—but at least for the historical significance.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2103; the hon. member for Sudbury.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): It seems very apposite to raise a matter in respect of this vote that has been bothering me the past few days. It is, you will note, that we are asked to vote the not immodest sum of $125,000 for what is called maintenance. The provincial auditor has been much in the news of late, but of course nothing has been said about him that has not been said in respect of his pre-audit perennially and over a long period of years. But it is always in this political life as if Columbus discovers America once again. The fascinating thing about it is how these things keep cropping up. I have looked up the word "maintenance" in the dictionary; the verb "maintain" is defined, and it says: "keep up, keep going, keep in repair, provide with subsistence, support, back up," and "maintenance," of course, would have a corresponding meaning.

If the provincial auditor came into the offices of The Department of Tourism and Information, or if he sent a lesser functionary, I would like to know how a grant to the University of Toronto in the not immodest sum of $15,000 could be fitted into that definition of the verb maintain that I have read. In what sense could the grant be said to "keep up, keep going, keep in repair, provide with subsistence, support, back up"? The truth is, of course, if you will permit me, Mr. Chairman, throughout these estimates, from the first to the last page in this book there are tens of millions of dollars that are voted under the label of that one word "maintenance". Because I have a streak of naïveté, I should like to ask how the provincial auditor, in his pre-aduit—and he signs the cheques; you cannot cash them or get them certified unless the name of George H. Spence is on them—knows whether the member for Sudbury has given his fiat for the 80,000 people that he represents? There is a good illustration. Last year this minister gave the University of Toronto $15,000 under this heading.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, last year it was $10,500.

Mr. Sopha: Well I am looking at 1968-1969; that is two years ago. That is how far behind the figures are that we have.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Last year it was $10,500.

Mr. Sopha: All right. We are not even told in the public accounts what the $15,000 was for, and of course that is illustrative of the fact that throughout these estimates, from beginning to end, reposed in every minister of the Crown, there is this flexibility for largesse. I do not want to descend into the vernacular, but this Legislature in the $3.7 million we give this elite group that occupies the two first rows, this flexibility to decide at their own discretion whether this university or that organization is going to become the recipient of some benefaction represented in coin of the realm from the public moneys of the province.

The Minister of Education (Mr. Davis)—we do not get value for our money from him. I say, just by way of illustration, that he has $300,000, maybe it is more, that he can dispense.

He gives some of it to the Stratford festival. All right, I do not want to stray, but I believe we would like to know and because this is in the public prints, I would like to hear from the minister how George Spence knows. Under the heading maintenance, as I have defined it from this dictionary, the pocket Oxford—it has good antecedents though, the Oxford. How he knows?

Well, I will provide the answer, if he asks a rhetorical question. He does not know and he is not interested in finding out. He takes the word of the minister. The truth is that there is no pre-audit at all; there really is not. We vote the money and the minister determines how it is going to be spent. George Spence accepts the snow job that he gets. That is one of Eddie's phrases. He accepts it.

Mr. Bukator: It is a good one.

Mr. Sopha: Whether it is a pre-audit or, as the editorial writers are complaining these days, it is a post-audit, it ends up that there is really no audit in regard to a great proportion of provincial expenditures.

Now look at the others. Under this one, he managed to spend two years ago $168,-387.28. At least we must pause and admire the self-imposed restraint that is exhibited. He only wants $125,000 this year. He spent some $40-odd thousand more two years ago.

H.M. Records Services Limited $52,019.10; Klassen Bronze Limited, $16,969.86; Triple-A Manufacturing Company Limited, $24,708.27.

How do those, I would like to hear, fit in the definition of maintenance? What is being maintained? Of course, in the ordinary sense of the word, one can understand the vote of a few dollars to buy a 2x4, to to get a new lock on the door, or perhaps a new Dictaphone machine, or something like that. For many years I have viewed the use of this word, and throughout these estimates, it occurs in every vote.

All right, I am ready to sit down and courteously ask for an answer under the word "maintenance." How does the University of Toronto get $15,000 and what did it get it for? When I hear that, we will be off on the road to some enlightenment about the efficacy of our pre-audit.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, that was for the architectural inventory programme that I mentioned a few moments ago. In 1968-1969 it was $15,000; in 1969-1970 it was $10,500; and, in this maintenance item that we are now discussing, is the amount of $5,500, which is the amount proposed for this year.

The other three items that the hon. member mentioned, H.M. Records Services, would now be in the records management part of these estimates, which is in government services as part of the programme budgeting. They were the people who, I think I explained at the time of the estimates, we had employed as consultants to set up the records management programme.

Klassen Bronze would be the plaques that are used in the historical marking programme and Triple-A is the other firm, some $24,000 was for the shelving that we purchased to use in the records centre at Cooksville—I was going to say stagnant, but that is not it—the inactive records storage centre.

Mr. Sopha: What is being maintained?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Beg your pardon?

Mr. Sopha: I have asked you what the word maintenance—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It includes all those expenses, other than salaries, travelling expenses and grants.

The hon. member will recall that some years ago, all the departments had only the three categories. As part of the continuing programme of the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), with the recommendations of the public accounts committee, there is an attempt to get more information of a standard nature throughout the estimates. Now grants are included and certain other things, but I can give the hon. member the detail of this $125,000.

Of that $52,000 this year is for historical research; $44,000 is for the purchase of historical documents; $3,000 is for museums; $25,000 for special studies—this has to do with Fort William again and Moose Factory —and $1,000 for the Heritage foundation.

Mr. Sopha: It immediately becomes apparent, of course, that rather than coalesce the whole expenditure under an amorphous word like maintenance, we could be given more information about the nature of the expenditure.

But the point I make is that the efficacy of the pre-audit stops at the point where the minister or his officials gives the opinion that it is in some way connected with public archives and history.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It has to be within the boundaries of the programme which is shown.

Mr. Sopha: That is right. That is the limit of the effectiveness of the pre-audit. The moment he becomes persuaded that it somehow fits within the umbrella, or touches two of the four corners, then the expenditure is legitimate.

As far as I am concerned if the University of Toronto is to get $15,000 it would be much more preferable if that grant could be voted by the Legislature rather than the governors of the University of Toronto singing, "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" when the minister comes over there.

For all we know we may pick up the paper and read that he is the next candidate for an honorary degree, but on the serious side I think it most improper that this Legislature should vote, or the minister should presume to give a grant to an institution of higher education on its own hook, because it leaves it open to too many sinister influences.

Why should Toronto get it as opposed to Trent? Why should Trent get it as opposed to the Lakehead? Why should any of them get it in preference to Laurentian? Those are the things that I complain about.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I would disagree with the hon. member. This was not a grant in that sense, it was a payment for services which we purchased from the university and certain members of their staff.

Mr. Sopha: Well, there is something wrong with public accounts then because that is how it is described. It is called a grant under this heading—"Grant, University of Toronto, $15,000."

There is another feature of it, of course, that ought not to be overlooked and if you will permit me, Mr. Chairman, to say once again as I said for many years, that as far as I am concerned in this department under the statute, the enabling statute—and look here, all these things about the audit have been said over a period of many years, none of it is new discovery—under the enabling statute of this department they have authority to spend money to attract tourists and that is it, and as far as I am personally concerned, if they had a profit on it—this department—most of the expenditures would be declared *ultra vires*, and especially the expenditure that has to do with the dissemination of information that is not connected with the tourist indusry.

I invite you to look at the statute and to show me where the statute gives any enabling authority to make any expenditures to support the dissemination of information which is intended entirely for internal consumption, that is to say, propaganda. I was never able to persuade the auditor of that, of the nascent illegality of them.

Now that he is in the public eye there might be a focus in that regard, but it is very apposite to point out now, to express the opinion—I do express the opinion, because I am being asked to vote the money—that under this vague umbrella of maintenance, to set up a cornucopia of $125 entirely disables the auditor from saying that it is a proper expenditure or not.

He would not know, and the fact is that the minister could tell him that it is connected in the vaguest way with archives and history. Anything might be connected with history, if you start with yesterday or this morning, and the auditor, of course, is forced to accept it. Well, I am wanting in an explanation; I have not got one from the minister. It is another example of the arrogance of this government that he passes a serious question over without giving a proper explanation of it.

I can merely register my protest against that practice and hope that, as so often happens, that in future years a more effective way will be found to control the expenditure of the public money in this province. They can talk about their pre-audit all they want and write editorials a yard long, but you are never going to have an effective pre-audit unless some—I hate to use the word—some guidelines are set out to indicate, in fairly comprehensible terms, the limits under which this Legislature imposed on voting the money. So that the comprehensible can be ascertained. The auditor can walk in and say: "This either fits those conditions and characteristics the Legislature laid down or you do not spend the money. I do not put my signature on the cheque."

There is no way that a grant to the University of Toronto—and I challenge the minister and anyone else to persuade me that a grant to the University of Toronto can fit in under the definition of the word "maintenance." That is, the University of Toronto is not being maintained, within the limits of rational meaning of that word.

So, as I sit down, I put it to the minister, I challenge him, and I say to the minister that, in the expenditure of public money, he put it over on the auditor when he spent that money. The auditor ought to have been there when the minister tried to sign the cheque and send it out to the University of Toronto.

And let it be said, within the framework of what I say, I have no axe to grind in criticizing the University of Toronto. It just happens. They were the recipient. But he ought to have been there and said, "I am sorry, but you have got to show me that, under this umbrella, this is related in some way to the word maintenance." The minister cannot do it. The minister could not do it.

But it is with sadness that I sum up what I say—having, I hope, illustrated that the whole bunch of them over there, the whole 24 or 27, have been getting away with the sloppiest kind of activity and almost the ultimate in lack of restraint upon them in enabling them to spend money according to their own discretion under vague headings such as this.

It is about time that it stopped. It is about time that that stopped and, if they want $3.7 million, they come in here and, if they have to, publish a book four times as thick as this. I do not care; I would find the time to read it. They publish a book and they set out within that book, in a specific way, the manner in which they are going to spend the money.

Heavens to Betsy, we are in the dark ages in Ontario compared to a state like California —my friend from Victoria-Haliburton (Mr. R. G. Hodgson) will suport me—the controls that they exercise on the spending of public money; the elaborate, sophisticated and, indeed, expensive controls.

But we are bush-leaguers in Ontario in that we have been derelict to some extent over the years, in letting the government get away with it. So they can give the University of Toronto $25,000 next year if they want, but Sopha is saying to them here, in giving it they never got the power from this Legislature to do it. And, if they cool on Toronto and want to give it to Queen's, or some place else, then the same thing applies—*mutatis mutandis*.

They did not get the power from this Legislature to do it. They did it because the Minister of Tourism and Information is a good fellow—he is susceptible to arguments and pleas for the money and they did it because George H. Spence was not there to tell them they did not have the power, as he should have been.

But I am too much of a lawyer to be asked to vote $125,000 under the loose heading "maintenance" and expected to accept that kind of—if I may borrow Eddie's expression, again—that kind of a "snow job." I hope that my words might have some effect, because I am an optimist, that next year, that these words "maintenance" will go out of these estimates altogether. I hope they will put in some comprehensible terms so that we will know just what the nature of the expenditure is.

After all, when all is said and done, that is our responsibility. That is what we are paid for. That is why we are here, to police those expenditures and $125,000 was just too much for my gullet today to allow it to go through in that form without drawing these matters to public attention.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2103 carried? Is there more on 2103?

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: There will be further discussion on 2103.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.

No. 31

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, April 7, 1970

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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5

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CONTENTS

Tuesday, April 7, 1970

Estimates, Department of Tourism and Information, Mr. Auld, continued 1223

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 1252

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1970

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND INFORMATION
(continued)

On vote 2103:

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Essex-Kent was on his feet when we recessed.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Chairman, I notice in here under "research" about acquiring and managing buildings of historical value, and I wonder if the minister could tell me, with the assistance of some of his deputies there, if the council of Tilbury North has ever made an application for assistance to revitalize the lighthouse at the mouth of the Thames River.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Chairman, I am not sure, but it seems to me I have letters from either an individual or individuals on behalf of the group about preserving this lighthouse which is owned by the Canada Department of Transport. I wrote to The Department of Transport and it seems to me I was told the lighthouse was not going to be destroyed. I cannot specifically answer the hon. member's question. I am afraid that I just do not remember the details, and I am not sure that it is the same one. There have been a number of letters about lighthouses being taken down as the federal Department of Transport has improved its aids to navigation. Perhaps the hon. member can give me a little more detail about it.

Mr. Ruston: All I know is that The Department of Transport—the federal government, I suppose—owns the land where it is situated and may have built, I think, a newer one closer to the water. I know it has been abandoned to that degree and now the township would probably like to take it over and preserve it, and it does need repairs.

I tried to get hold of the reeve, I believe he is in the city right now, but I could not get hold of him in the last hour or two to verify this. I was wondering, if the municipality was to make arrangements to acquire this from the federal government, is there any assistance available through this department on this particular vote here?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There could be assistance if the municipality established it as a museum. The museum grants are not capital, but maintenance, grants on a matching basis if a museum is open for more than 60 days per year. We will match up to $1,000 for their expenditures for curators and this sort of thing. But there are no capital grants and no grants for acquiring artifacts and so on.

Mr. Ruston: Capital grants, in other words we are talking about rebuilding it, or if there had to be certain repairs done to it, this department does not then cover capital grants?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Peterborough.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): I wonder if I could ask the minister—following up what we discussed this afternoon—is there a provincial antiquities Act? Is there any protection for Indian or very early pioneer materials? How does the province protect them? I imagine the administration is under this present minister's direction.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The member knows there is The Archaeological and Historic Sites Protection Act.

Mr. Pitman: How much does it protect?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well the minister can designate the site. Then people cannot alter it, dig in it, excavate it, without the permission of the minister. I think we have about seven sites presently under regulations of the department. I think six, and I think there is one in process.

In my time as minister, there has been just one—presently being designated. With one exception in the history of the Act, all the designations have been made at the request of the owner of the property. There are no funds in these estimates to pay compensation if the designation is made which interferes with some project.

Mr. Pitman: By assuming that all the designations are on crown land, or lands which are owned by the province.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. But if they are not on crown lands, the designations have been made at the request of the owner of the land.

Mr. Pitman: Does the minister regard this as sufficient to protect the 800 sites known by the archaeological society, which represent a massive amount of archaeological material? Does the minister intend to introduce any kind of legislation, which will protect this material? How does the minister intend to deal with the great deal of material which is on private lands? Does the minister intend to put more money into the budget to cope with that kind of a problem?

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): The member is confusing him; just ask one question at a time.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2103.

Mr. Pitman: Well, I would like an answer of the minister if I could.

Mr. Chairman: I think the hon. minister was—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I was trying to hear the conversation.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): The member was advised to ask one question at a time. We are aware of the minister's capabilities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: However, the only answer I can give the hon. member is basically what I said before the supper recess, that with the National Historic Conference going on I am anxious to see the recommendations that flow from that—

Mr. Pitman: When will that conference be finished?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed it meets again in June, hopefully—

Mr. Pitman: Is it a yearly meeting?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Pardon?

Mr. Pitman: Is it a yearly meeting?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, it is a yearly meeting.

Mr. Pitman: And they are intending to bring forward specific information from that conference to help the archaeological people?

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I mentioned this afternoon, they will cover the whole field of financing of archaeological research and digs and so on—and hopefully offer a suggestion as to those fields which would be done by the dominion government, and those which would be done by the provinces and how this would be correlated.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Kent.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman, under this vote, at the present time, according to the Chatham *Daily News*, the farmer who owns the property where the battle of Moraviantown was fought in the year of 1813, has put it up for sale. It is about 30 acres. This is a very historic spot in the county of Kent, where Tecumseh was killed in this Moraviantown battle, and of course this land is available now for a great historic site.

Of course at Windsor we have one of the greatest ports of entry for tourists in the province of Ontario. And of course we, in the county of Kent, wish to stop some of those tourists from going right through the province of Ontario and into Quebec and back into the United States, to stop and look at some of our historic sites.

Now this historic site is something that is of great interest to a great many in the United States. A number of Americans lost their lives at the battle of Moraviantown and we have a curator there, who operates the Fairfield Museum, by the name of Mr. Ernest Root. This is something that would draw many tourists from the United States to stop and have a look at that great historic spot where the battle of Moraviantown was fought on the River Thames. I would say it would be a great attraction for American tourists to come to.

Now, the curator of this Fairfield Museum, Mr. Root, has many, many tourists from the United States in to visit this museum. If this became an historic site, where the battle of Moraviantown was fought, I think it would add greatly to the tourist industry in the county of Kent and in southwestern Ontario. They could stop and look at the monument of Tecumseh.

I would like to ask the minister to have a look at this. This is a great tourist attraction. There is a great history to this and I would say it would be of great benefit to the province of Ontario and to get American dollars into Ontario.

I do not know, Mr. Minister, for sure whether you have money set aside. I have been told that there is no money set aside,

to buy up this historic site, or to assist in buying up this historic site. But I would say to southwestern Ontario this is a historic site that would create, or would benefit, or would help the tourist industry in southwestern Ontario.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Are you going to buy any of it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would simply say this. The National Historic Sites and Monuments Board has a plaque there.

Mr. Spence: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Root and his museum are certainly an addition to the attraction itself. At the battlefield itself, unless you were there at the time of the battle, there is not much happening. But Mr. Root does a good deal of promotion; in fact, he was at the meeting of the tourism committee a few weeks ago talking about this programme. He has met with us and we have assisted him, I think, in his promotion.

I do not know there is very much at the moment that we can do. As I say, you cannot rebuild the battlefield. We are always interested in assisting people to promote these things.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2103. The hon. member for Thunder Bay.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I noticed the leader of this party has raised on several occasions in the past the subject of erecting a plaque commemorating the birthplace of the founder of this party over here —

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin): He does, eh?

Mr. Stokes: —the hon. J. S. Woodsworth. Could the minister indicate whether there are any plans to erect a plaque commemorating the birthplace of that great man?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, Mr. Chairman, I suppose I would repeat basically what I recall I said last year on this occasion when the member for York South (Mr. MacDonald) brought up this point.

There has been, in the normal course of events, no direct request to the board from any organization that is prepared to sponsor this. In the normal course of events the board erects plaques to those for whom requests are made, but after last year I discussed this with the chairman or one of the co-chairmen of the board and the board is taking a look and considering this, but again it is a matter of priorities.

We have been attempting in the political field to deal with plaques for all the prime ministers of the province since Confederation. Other than those living, I think we have one to go. In the political field the board considers these things and I think it is a valid request.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2103. The hon. member for Peterborough.

Mr. Pitman: I do not want to prolong this estimate, Mr. Chairman, but as well as archaeological sites which concern me deeply, I also have a concern over historic buildings and although the heritage foundation has been organized to preserve historic sites, one still wonders about the legislation and structure for dealing with this problem.

Now I am not going to go into this in any detail because I notice the member for Kingston and the Islands (Mr. Apps) has introduced a private members' bill and I hope to listen to him expound on this particular area, I think it is next week.

It seems to me we desperately need legislation in this province which will provide a delay mechanism to stop the destruction of historic buildings. I mean historic buildings which are historic in themselves, that is old buildings over 100 to 150 years old, and also buildings which may not be as old but which may have historic relationships.

I noticed in the newspapers a few days ago the home of Sir Robert Borden being destroyed, to be made into a parking lot, somewhat ironically. It seems other provinces have been able to solve this problem; the province of Quebec has provincial legislation which permits municipalities to control changes in any building which is deemed to be historical and I think a municipality in Ontario could adopt enabling legislation.

I understand the municipality of Toronto has done this which enables it to hold on to buildings which have been deemed historical. Toronto has even developed a list of historical buildings but because it does not have any backing from the province financially, there is a very big reluctance to develop such a list, and yet this is a problem which seems to have been solved both in the United States and Great Britain.

In Great Britain, of course, the National Trust is world famous for the way in which it has been able to maintain historical buildings. We come back again and again to this

problem of understanding ourselves and appreciating our past.

Who was it who said that any group of people who refuse to respect their past, cannot be expected to develop any future? I think to a very great extent, this minister, rightly or wrongly, and I suspect wrongly, is saddled with the responsibility, not only of maintaining the historical sites, archaeological sites, but also the buildings in this province.

In the same way as we have now pushed off with the federal government – and we hope to hear in a few weeks the minister make some comment on what has come out of this federal-provincial conference. He is not taking the steps necessary. He has not made either any special act of his own to protect historic buildings nor has he made any changes in The Planning Act which would encourage municipalities to take this action. Once again, the time is extremely short. We are losing buildings day by day and week by week; and still we make no adequate response to this kind of a problem.

Mr. Lawlor: What does this minister do?

Mr. Pitman: Well, this minister tries to encourage tourists, but unfortunately many buildings are not tourist-oriented, one might say. This is the great problem, this is the hang-up; but the issue is extended across several departments and it seems to rest primarily in the department of this minister who is concerned with gathering in money from tourists. Many buildings, and certainly archaeological sites in Ontario, are not tourist-oriented, and as a result very little has been done and I foresee very little being done.

That is why this afternoon I say with the member for Lakeshore, that this whole problem of archaeology be held under The Department of Education. I have suggested to the government that these archaeological sites of the past belong to the people of Ontario. I ask of the minister, have you any specific intention to introduce legislation soon to provide at least some kind of a delay mechanism whereby any individual who either owns or intends to sell an historic building is stopped from destroying that building at least for six months so this building can be retained until the historical societies in the area or the local muncipality can take some action to retain it. At least then there would be a means of giving procedures by which citizens who have some concern over this local historic site could take action to retain it. They could begin to build up a fund and take some steps to make it worthwhile for the individual owner to retain it as an historical site.

Once again we come to the same problem: Is the minister prepared to do something specific in this area?

Mr. Chairman: There seem to be a large number of private debates taking place, which makes it very difficult to follow the speaker.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I am afraid I really cannot add anything to what I said this afternoon as far as legislation is concerned along the lines that the hon. member suggests. I am anxious to see it, as he is, and I trust that it will be along very shortly.

Mr. Pitman: Very shortly?

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2103; the hon. member for Timiskaming.

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): Mr. Chairman, in my riding, slightly over 23 per cent are French-speaking and are quite bothered by the fact that when we put up these plaques along the highway, most of them are strictly in the English language.

We are also located on Highway 11, which is a major thoroughfare from the province of Quebec and Montreal to western Canada. Many of the persons using that highway and stopping to look at these plaques, although they might speak some English, do not read English. I would ask the minister if he would take it into consideration right now to make sure the plaques in that area—in fact, on most of the major thoroughfares in this province—have one side in the French language.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I think that four or five years ago we adopted the policy whereby the majority of the plaques—not all, because there are some that are affixed to a wall and there is only one side—where the predominant language in the area is French or where the event or person being commemorated was French or an event at the time when the French were predominant in what is now Ontario, that the sign would be bilingual; it is English on one side and French on the other. I cannot say, off the top of my head at the moment, how many plaques have been erected that are bilingual, but there are a number and that is the policy.

Mr. Jackson: Mr. Chairman, I agree with you. There are a great number, but surely in a province that is looking for tourists—and a great number of those tourists are coming from the province of Quebec—and especially in northeastern Ontario where the people of Ontario speak French – surely plaques

should be in both languages as a rule rather than as the exception.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Algoma.

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): Mr. Chairman, there is one thing I would like to bring to the attention of the Minister of Tourism and Information on this particular subject of historic sites and, of course, I will have to refer back to St. Joseph's Island. We have a famous historic site there, the old Fort St. Joseph. I do not know whether the minister is aware of this or not, but there has been a lot of discussion over the years—I know there has been in my area—and it has been taken up with the federal government from time to time. This is an historic spot that, I think, has been overlooked for many, many years and it has some real significance.

This particular fort was the place where the British won a battle over the United States and it was also the place where the mackinaw coat originated.

Many of you have heard of what they call the mackinaw coat; it originated there, at Fort St. Joe. I understand that the army had these Hudson Bay blankets and they made coats out of these blankets, and they called them mackinaw coats.

I would like to bring to the attention of the minister that I wish that he would look into this, because it is quite a historic place because we have had university students there, archaeology students, for two summers. They have been doing some archaeology, some excavating there, and so on, for two summers. There have been about 20 university students each time, who have stayed right on the site, camped there for about two months. I think, Mr. Minister, that this is something that I would like to see—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! Could we please have a little more silence in the chamber? There are too many conversations going on. It is quite impossible to hear and follow the debate. The hon. member for Algoma is trying to make a speech.

Mr. Gilbertson: I hope that the minister heard what I said. I think this is something that we should have a good look at, as I feel that this would be a real asset to the area. Certainly it is something that would be of interest to many, many people, both from the United States and Canada, because this is near the border of the United States. Just across from Fort St. Joe is De Tour, Michigan, and it is not too far from Fort Mackinaw. I think that the same development that has gone on on Mackinaw Island could be accomplished on St. Joseph's Island, but we do need some assistance. I think the provincial and the federal governments can get involved in this particular project.

So, Mr. Minister, I would appreciate it very much if you maybe would have some comments on this. You have probably heard about it before.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, the only thing I can say is that, as my hon. friend from Algoma has said, it is a federal site. The federal government has said, it is a federal site. The federal government, I understand, have been financing the excavations and the research that has been going on there.

It is certainly important in the history of the province and it is the kind of thing in which, instead of talking about archives and history, as we are at the moment, you revert to the other aspects of my responsibilities, that is, promotion. When the dominion government decides, in its wisdom, what they are going to do there, we would certainly make a real effort to promote it and make it known to people, so that they come.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 2103. The hon. member for Victoria-Haliburton.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that, in the establishment of a regular plaque that commemorates historic sites, when we were in California last fall we noticed that they have two sorts of plaques. One is a stone cairn on the side of the highway, to commemorate sites. The other was the bronze plate that is provided to show historic buildings, with the plate on the building itself.

It seems to me that in much of this province we have areas that are comparatively new in history—without sections that have historic trips through by explorers, and so on. So, it might be of use to have this other commemorative bronze plaque which would denote a historic building of a different type, and it might be worth consideration by the department.

The other feature that I wanted to discuss with you, Mr. Chairman, was the possibility of collecting all the historic documents pertaining to early telephone systems of this province, which are fast fading out. It seems to me that there is a very great wealth of historic documents in the establishment of these telephone systems that are either disappearing, or going into Bell Telephone

archives, or are sitting around through the country.

Some years ago one of our men with the Ontario Telephone Service Commission collected a lot of these documents—a Mr. MacDonald—and he has quite a few of these documents in his possession. He is quite an elderly man and it seems to me, unless something is shortly done to collect these documents and to write the history of the early telephone systems through the province of Ontario, it is going to be impossible for anyone to do so in a very short period of time. I believe that if your archives would make an effort to collect these early documents, it is quite possible that in some story in some point in time, we would be able to write a worthwhile history on this early development.

As you know, many of our early systems were in the early 20th century or late 19th century, and there was quite an explosion of early telephone systems around 1908. With the gradual disappearance of the independent systems in the province—I think it is down to somewhere less than 100, and about 10 years ago it was 400—you see how rapid is the disappearance of these very vital documents in this province. I believe they should be collected and recorded and kept so that some early history will be available of these systems, which were established by doctors, lawyers, and various other professional people supporting community communications. I believe it is a very vital part of early Ontario history and should be saved for some future purpose.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 2103.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, just one short comment—

Mr. Chairman: Does the hon. minister wish to reply?

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): Just one short comment of a complimentary nature. I had the occasion about ten days ago to write to the provincial archivist seeking information about an antique house owned by a relation of mine, and I would like the House to know that I received back two extensive memoranda very promptly. I had appended a postscript to my query asking if the first Attorney General of the province of Ontario—Upper Canada as it was then—John White, might have come from Devon.

I see that the member for Sudbury is very interested in this legal history.

And, in response to that very brief postscript, I got a lengthy document explaining the exploits of the Attorney General, the hon. John White, who, I regret to say was killed in a duel behind the Parliament buildings—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): We know all about it. Do you know the reason he was shot?

Hon. Mr. White: As a matter of fact, I do now know the reason and I will inform my hon. friend. I was under the misapprehension that the hon. John White was playing footsie with the wife of the Clerk of the Legislature.

Mr. Sopha: Oh no!

Hon. Mr. White: And a gentleman by the name of Mr. Small.

Mr. Sopha: He said someone else was playing footsie with him?

Hon. Mr. White: I was more than somewhat relieved. Mr. Chairman, to learn from this historical document that the hon. John White's relationship with Mrs. Small had been entirely above board.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Where does it say that?

Hon. Mr. White: Nonetheless, he made the great mistake of making remarks about Mrs. Small that were not appropriate, which were not fitting, which were highly insulting.

Mr. Sopha: That is right. He was talking when he should have been listening.

Hon. Mr. White: And, according to the ethics of the day, Mr. Small had no recourse but to challenge the hon. John White to a duel. The duel took place behind the Parliament buildings, and Mr. Small shot Mr. White dead.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Shame.

Mr. Shulman: In the back.

Hon. Mr. White: I am now glad to be able to inform the House that the hon. John White, circa 1792, came from Middlesex, whereas my forebears came from the great county of Devon, and so I remove myself from that scandalous episode.

But more seriously, Mr. Chairman, I was most impressed and very grateful to the archivist and his staff for providing me with extensive information on both of the points

I raised, and I want to express my gratitude to them and to their minister at this time.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Everything is above board now, John.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to make one comment to my hon. friend from Victoria-Haliburton. The archivist has informed me that we have some material in connection with the early independent telephone companies and we would be delighted to have any suggestions from anyone as to where further material is available, because we are anxious to get it.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2103. The hon. member for Kingston and the Islands.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Chairman, further to the discussion in connection with plaques and the aid that this department might give to others to preserve some of their historic buildings. I do not think there is any question about the fact that the archaelogical and historic sites board has done an excellent job in marking various areas throughout the province that are of historic significance to the province as a whole. As you may know, I hope to introduce a private member's bill next Monday to amend The Planning Act that would give the municipalities the power to do some of this on their own, that is to preserve some of the buildings that are of historic significance to that particular municipality.

I th'nk this is most important as far as the city of Kingston is concerned, and I am sure that it can be very important to many other areas. I am just sorry that there is not general legislation to cover this at the present time. I would hope that through the introduction of this bill, along with the representations that numerous historical societies have made to The Department of Municipal Affairs, they would see their way clear this year to introduce general legislation to give the municipalities the power to preserve the historical buildings, which they are not able to do at the present time. They could buy and renovate these buildings and prevent subdividers or builders coming in, knocking them down and putting up other modern buildings and thus depriving the community of historical buildings of great significance to their particular area.

So, as sort of a forewarning in the hope that this general legislation will be forthcoming, I would like to make this suggestion to The Department of Tourism and Information that they think about setting aside a significant amount of money that would be available to the municipalities to help them acquire the buildings that they would like to acquire for historical reasons in their own municipality. There are quite a number of them in many cities, and I cannot help but think again of Kingston, where there are many buildings of historic significance. It is going to be a tremendous hardship on the city itself to bear the whole burden of purchasing and renovating these buildings, even if they have the power. Assuming they are going to get that power, I would like to suggest to the Minister of Tourism and Information that he think about putting a significant amount of money in his estimates for next year to help the municipalities to preserve the buildings that should be preserved in their areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: And support your bill.

Mr. Apps: And support my bill. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2103 agreed to.

On vote 2104, theatres:

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, perhaps in recent years, the subject of censorship has imposed responsibilities upon this minister that have not reached the importance in the field of the public interest that it has currently.

I want to say at the outset that I eschew the role of the dramatic or artistic critic and do not seem to hold myself out in being in any way qualified to espouse any original views on the quality of the fare that is currently purveyed on the screens of the movie houses of the province. But what really bothers me, if I may borrow that verb from my friend from Downsview (Mr. Singer) who is presently absent, is the possibility of the conflict that I now see between the role of the board of censors—if that is what they are called, or still called, under this Act—on the one hand, in carrying out the statutory duties imposed upon them, and the role of the enforcement authorities, who must administer the law as it is found in The Criminal Code of Canada.

I have been made aware that in respect of the glut of movies now on the market—and I do not think that is to exaggerate the word —that have sexual overtones—(that is a safe way to put it) that conflict can arise despite the protestations of the theatre owners and the distributors of the movies, that their product has been passed by the board of censors of Ontario who have rated the bill and have

approved it within the scope of their statutory ambit for public distribution. I can see that in a prosecution under the Criminal Code on a charge of circulating or distributing obscenity, it might be a valid defence that this film has been reviewed by a qualified group of people, albeit exercising statutory powers; they have passed upon it, have given it the "restricted" label and made it available for distribution with their fiat. And, in fact, I am told that defence is used.

Now, the enforcement authorities come in and seek to investigate or to make inquiries about it, and they are met with the response that the board of censors has seen this and put the label on it. In fact, I think they put some sort of a stamp on the actual cylinders that hold the films before they are passed on to the movie houses for distribution. Maybe the answer is that the board of censors should go out of business and the province should not put itself in the position of being in conflict with the enforcement of the Criminal Code and in which, let it be noted, the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) has the responsibility to enforce through his police arm.

To that I add that there is no question in my mind that throughout Ontario—fortunately not as frequently in the boondocks up north of the French River; this stuff does not sell as well—in the urban metropolitan areas there is a lot of smut peddled in the name of art. And I go on to say, by way of qualification, that I have no doubt whatsoever, when one understands the operation of the economic system under which we live, that some people will do anything for a buck. And there is no doubt in my mind at all that the profit motivation would stimulate the exploitation of sex on the screen. I form that conclusion against the background of reflecting that, if Hollywood tonight were completely honest instead of having the extravaganza that is presently going on on the television of selecting the best movie of the year, they would be selecting the worst one, because the multiple of bad ones—

Mr. Lawlor: It would be pretty hard.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, it would be very difficult.

Mr. Lawlor: It would be more difficult than picking the best.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, because there is such a deluge of bad ones that those charged with the responsibility of selecting the absolutely worst one would really be hard put. You notice that of the several hundred films turned out each year, the names of the ones that have been nominated for awards are scarcely more than half a dozen as against, as I say, the very cornucopia of bad ones.

But that is a distraction from the main point I make. I do not think this board of censors has any legitimate *raison d'être* any longer. And if the public are to be beset by movies that have as their central theme the sex aspect of human living, then perhaps an intelligent society would approach it purely from the standpoint of obscenity and leave it to the courts to determine that which infringes the criminal laws of the land and that which does not.

I say I am no prude, and I do not want to profess to be one. But, in the light of what I said about the profit motivation and that queer trait of human nature evolved in voyeurism, that stimulation of the appetites that flow—

Mr. Lawlor: I thought the member was for free enterprise, for profit motivation?

Mr. Sopha: Well, all right; I mentioned it. That is part of the free enterprise system.

Mr. Lawlor: It leads to obscenity.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, that is one of the points that I make. Now, I have no doubt about it, I say to my friend, the member for Lakeshore, that there would be—

Mr. Lawlor: I cannot agree with that.

Mr. Sopha: I have no doubt about it at all, that there would be those who would exploit the sexual connotation for the pure desire to make a profit.

Mr. Lawlor: We must not have the public obscenity impinging upon the private.

Mr. Sopha: Well, the member and I will find ourselves in agreement, because my central theme is that we ought to take a second look at this matter and decide whether we ought to be in the field at all. It is beyond me to understand how we can set up in statutory form an organization known as the board of censors who are any more qualified than any other similar group of intelligent and educated citizens, who are able to determine whether a product is fit for general distribution or ought to be labelled in any specific way. This strikes me as artificiality supreme, that this Legislature should appoint individuals A to G and say, "You will be our agent to make these determinations." A moment's reflection tells one they are no more qualified than any other. The member for Lakeshore, for example, would be as

qualified as any of them—and throw in the member for High Park—

Mr. Lawlor: I would be a real prude.

Mr. Sopha: I would be satisfied with them as the board of censors.

You see, finally, in regard to what I allege to be an exploitation of the sex aspect—and I stand with Shaw; I hope none of the distaff side will blush, because this will not be good—but Shaw's criticism was completely compelling to me when he said that there was no excuse whatsoever in his day to go and watch on the stage any exploitation of sex, because it can never be a substitute for the real thing. And it is the real thing that one should pursue. Well, I am all for that.

Mr. Stokes: The interjectionist agrees with you.

Mr. Sopha: And I think there is something and—

Mr. Stokes: Are you not going to put in that interjection?

Mr. Sopha: —therefore, to me, it seems there is something base and below the total dignity of man to make available this surrogate, vicarious medium purveyed on the screens of the nation.

One does not have to be a prude to say that with some of the tripe that now finds its way to the movie houses, any reasonable father, who had in mind a sincere responsibility for the proper moulding of the education of his children, would want to guard his children against such things as perhaps "Vixen" or "Heironymus Merkin", and a scene or two from "Midnight Cowboy", "I am Curious (Yellow)" and so on.

But notwithstanding the member for Lakeshore, I really have a bitter feeling against those who, in the guise of art, protecting themselves behind the attitude of dissimulation and disingenuousness, would pound the table and protest that this is an art form. Really, what they mean is that this works wonders for the bank balance. And with that motivation, I am not against society taking the proper steps to wipe them out.

But I come back to my original thesis that I have thought about a good deal—that in the modern contemporary society, where these things are so much discussed, I see a conflict in our intervention that cannot be bridged, that cannot be rationalized. The minister ought to be the first to have a look at this board of censor business and perhaps toss the whole thing out and leave it to the federal government.

After all, this is their primary responsibility. Leave it to the Minister of Justice for Canada, with the assistance that he can get from the highest courts. One notes the alacrity with which he goes to the highest courts. They are at his disposal, for he can seek guidance from the courts toward the definition of obscenity. We are never going to arrive at one. It is like T. S. Eliot's "Notes Towards a Definition of Culture". It was Eliot, was it, who wrote that? I hope.

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, T. S. Eliot.

Mr. Sopha: Eliot—yes. As I say, they are never going to be able to arrive at a satisfactory definition of it. I suppose, ultimately, it is a subjective and relative thing and a matter of taste, if I may use that expression, and put it to you in that concept.

It is something we must struggle with because we must recognize that in society there are many people who are very sensitive about the portrayal of the risqué, the smutty, the product that has a dominant theme which they consider to be base. It is all very well for our friends to the left, who want us to believe that they take a progressive attitude in these matters, to get up and trumpet to us "Well, you have got to be with it, you have got to relate, you have got to be turned on"—

Mr. Shulman: Who said that?

Mr. Sopha: That is the way the member for Scarborough West (Mr. Lewis) talks. Anything goes. We have not arrived at that point yet where anything goes—

Mr. Lawlor: That is not fair when he is not here.

Mr. Shulman: It is not even true.

Mr. Sopha: —and where just anything can be portrayed on the screens. I will be very interested to hear what you have to say, but—

Mr. Lawlor: You are not at liberty.

Mr. Sopha: I seize the opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to say that I, for one, am ready to see the province get out of this field entirely, and not seek to challenge jurisdiction or create a conflict of jurisdiction. I have been told—I will not disclose the source—but I have been told that theatre owners have said to the police when they arrived on the scene "The board of censors for Ontario said it is all right; they put a restricted label on it." That is no good; that is unsatisfactory because

Ontario really has no constitutional power to do that.

Ultimately, the question is—is it an obscene production within the meaning of the Criminal Code? That is the issue, and the issue should not be blurred by any intervention of the Minister of Tourism and Information, or people acting under his aegis. For that, others more qualified than I can make the argument, the philosophic argument, against any form of censorship. I shall not do so, but I am merely one of the unwashed multitude that is somewhat horrified, as I am in my middle years, by some of the things that are portrayed. Notwithstanding my friend, Bill Lyon, and his position on the judicial bench, his august position, I do not see the play "Futz" in the way that he sees it in his reasons for judgement.

Mr. Lawlor: He is more enlightened than you.

Mr. Sopha: Yes. He is more enlightened and no doubt many people are more enlightened, but—

Mr. Lawlor: Judges live in swaddling clothes; yet are more men of this world than you?

Mr. Sopha: I do not want to argue the merits of it. I am just seeking to promote what I think is a characteristic that still cuts across our province and life in this province and the attitudes of people in the province. In saying that, I am not taking the position of Senator Hruska—was it?—who said that Carswell should be appointed to the bench because the mediocre are entitled to have representation.

I am not saying that, either, but what I am saying is that there are many people in the province who have a genuine feeling that society, and particularly its young people, are entitled to a measure of protection against the dissemination of this kind of thing. All right. I see the solution, or a step toward the solution, and that is for us to get out of the business entirely; for us to get out, and leave it to the Criminal Code and the judges to determine, in a specific case, whether a production is obscene. I will be very interested to hear the position the minister takes in respect to this.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for High Park, unless the minister wishes to reply first. The hon. member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: I would like to enter this debate, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I disagree with the member for Sudbury but for reasons which he will be surprised at. I do not think that we should scrap the censorship board. We need the censorship board and we need censorship, not for reasons that the member has suggested, but purely and simply for the reasons of rating so that we can protect younger minds.

The censorship board does something the Criminal Code and the federal government cannot do and that is to rate the movies so that, first of all, infantile, young minds can be protected from certain things they are not yet prepared for; secondly, so that persons with more mature minds can be aware of the content of movies and if they are the type of sensitive person that the member has referred to, they can avoid the type of movie to which they object. This is the reason we should have a censorship board. The problem with the censorship board in this province is not that we have it; I certainly do not think we should wipe it out —

Mr. Sopha: You are giving pain to the front bench, you know. You should see the look on their faces.

Mr. Shulman: What we should have, unfortunately, is an intelligent censorship board, and this we do not have. I would like to cite two or three examples of things which have occurred recently which rate the running of this department very high in the level of incompetence in this government. That is a difficult rating to achieve.

Two years ago I rose in this House to complain that this censorship board had the peculiar habit, not of cutting out dirty parts and throwing them away, but cutting out dirty parts and gluing them together. At that time I made the charge that they had produced a super-extravaganza, a super-sexual film all of little bits — five feet, 10 feet, 100 feet.

The minister at that time took great pains to deny it. Then last month, what does the minister do? Last month, he threw a special party to which he invited a number of people from the press and he showed them this super-sexual picture prepared for God knows what reason, which he denied ever existed two years ago. He cannot deny it now.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Because it did not.

Mr. Shulman: It did not? Well, have you been collecting it since? It is interesting to see where the minister's mind runs. What a strange thing to do. What a strange movie to

prepare. I will be very interested to hear why the minister prepared this movie.

This is the type of thing — and of course, I hate to say it, but the movie was in existence then. The chief censor at the time had been kind enough to invite — I am sorry, not the chief censor, one of the censors — had been kind enough to invite me down to see it. The minister said it did not exist. I hope for the minister's sake he did not know it existed.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, may I just answer the member again? As I said to him two years ago, put up or shut up. Give me the details.

Mr. Shulman: All right. I will put up right here, because one of the people who went to see the movie last month wrote an article about it and I will quote from this article.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I said "two years ago." Of course, they were invited last month. The hon. member said that a super-pornographic extravaganza was put together by my department two years ago. I said to him at the time, "Give me the details; put up or shut up." He has not. He repeats it. I would just like to have, before he sloughs over —

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): You just spliced it last month.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would like to have the details. Just a minute, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member is renowned for his skidding around things after he makes charges. I would like to have the details of the two-year-ago bit —

Mr. Sopha: It took you two years to produce it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: — before we get into the current one.

Mr. Shulman: I find the minister's thinking quite fantastic. Perhaps it is typical of the cabinet. He denies that two years ago they would produce such a horrible thing. Since then he produced it —

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member once again is doing what he is renowned for —

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Chairman, do I have the floor. Would you keep this man quiet, please?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The hon. member again is leaving out —

Mr. Shulman: I beg your pardon, I cannot hear you. I have the floor and I —

Hon. Mr. Auld:—something which he said—

Mr. Shulman: — before he interrupted. Well, if I have the floor you should shut him up.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: I would be perfectly happy to give the minister all night to reply or, if he wishes to ask a question, I would be perfectly happy to answer it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I have asked it. Give me the answer.

Mr. Shulman: I am trying to answer. You keep interrupting. All right, I will tell you who was there. The chief censor of the province — I am not sure what his title was — David Coon was there. If you wish to call him in front of the committee privileges, you will find which one of us was lying. There is putting up.

Hon. Mr. Auld: All right, I will tell him. He is talking about a film called—not a pornographic—

Mr. Shulman: No, I am not. I am talking about a movie that was produced with 10 little parts or 100 little parts from 100 different movies. I ask you to call on David Coon and ask you to—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I would be delighted to have in this House or in any committee the witnesses, reported witnesses, that the hon. member mentions. I think that he is talking about the film called "Bitter Ash"—

Mr. Shulman: No.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —which was produced in B.C.—

Mr. Shulman: I am not.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It was shown at the University of Ottawa without the board's approval and was sent down here. The information I had was that it might be obscene. I asked the Attorney General of the day if he would have his obscenity committee look at it before my department gave it back to the owners so that the Mounties would not lock me up if it turned out to be obscene.

We had a screening of it, two rooms down the hall here, when Mr. Coon and several other members of the committee were there, with the director of public prosecutions who, as I recall, fell asleep—

Mr. Lewis: You better take a look at the note you have just been handed.

Mr. Shulman: You have just hung yourself, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: What the hon. member said—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Now, just a minute. I say I think this is what he is referring to, but I still challenge him to produce the witnesses who saw what he called a pornographic extravaganza.

Mr. Sopha: A super-pornographic production.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And he said it was shown in this building to a group of senior civil servants—

Mr. Shulman: I did not say, "in this building."

Hon. Mr. Auld —and was made from a series of cuts from movies.

Mr. Shulman: Let me get this quite clear, Mr. Chairman, so there will be no misunderstanding. I did not say, "in this building." This was not "Bitter Ash". It had no name because it came out of 100 different movies. All the dirty parts that your censors had cut out were put together in one movie. I challenge you to call on David Coon and ask him whether or not that is the truth.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I said two years ago, and I say again tonight, it did not exist. If the hon. member wants to prove it, it is his challenge, let him. I am not defending something that does not exist.

Mr. Shulman: All right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Get him to do it.

Mr. Shulman: All right, you have asked me to produce the witnesses. Now he does not want to hear the witnesses.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You are renowned for making scatter-gun charges and then retreating.

Mr. Lewis: He has not retreated.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I am not retreating, Mr. Chairman. He was the chief censor, the official censor. He was invited by Mr. Silverthorn to see this movie.

Mr. Lewis: Because Mr. Silverthorn has only looked after our moral values for 30 years.

Mr. Shulman: In fact, I suggest Mr. Silverthorn, at this moment, and you may get an awful shock. I believe he is here.

Mr. Lewis: Where is Mr. Silverthorn?

Mr. Shulman: All right, let us continue with the stupidity of this particular department.

Mr. Lewis: Where is Mr. Silverthorn?

Mr. Shulman: Is Mr. Silverthorn here? I have never met him.

Mr. Lewis: Will the real Mr. Silverthorn just rise slightly.

Mr. Shulman: I hope if the real Mr. Silverthorn is here he will send a message to the minister.

An hon. member: You look after our morals wherever you are.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. The member for High Park has the floor.

Mr. Shulman: Before I leave this particular point, Mr. Chairman, the minister has admitted this movie now exists. He has not admitted it existed two years ago; I am not sure where the great import is. He has admitted it exists now.

I hope that some time in the course of this evening he will explain why this movie was produced by the censor board. Is this the business they are in? Producing super-extravaganzas to be shown, presumably only to those within the government and in the press—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): There is the real complaint.

Mr. Shulman: —whose minds are sufficiently mature to handle super-extravaganzas. The description written by one of the gentlemen who was there, David Lewis Stein, is rather intriguing. "The movie was about making love and little bits here, there and everywhere." Mr. Stein found it quite boring.

Mr. Lewis: Those of us who know David Stein know why he found it boring. I am not sure how that will read in *Hansard*.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: He dozed off during the film. I presume the minister will explain about that by and by, but I want to come to a more serious matter involving this censorship. This really illustrates only too well the absolute lack of sense in the department. It goes to the very top because ultimately the minister must bear the responsibility for this particular action.

I have a series of letters here which I think you are going to find quite incredible, Mr. Chairman. They involve that movie that unfortunately, we did not have an opportunity to discuss last year—"Titticut Follies". This movie was banned last year in this province; it is a terribly dirty movie, if you listen to the title—"Titticut Follies."

Actually, "Titticut Follies" is a documentary about the treatment of the mentally ill in a mental institution and there is no question in my mind as to why it was banned originally. I think that someone made a mistake. They did not look at the movie.

They read the title, "Titticut Follies" and, lumping it along with a number of others of equally horrid titles, they probably just threw it out without looking at it. Because no one who actually looked at it could ever possibly ban this type of documentary. But it is not the original mistake that bothers me; it is the minister's involvement in what followed that bothers me because then very serious things began to happen.

This movie won awards all over the world for the tremendous work that had been done in exposing the conditions of the mentally ill in mental hospitals. It won an award at the Cannes festival and it was not a great movie as far as artistry goes. There is no sex in it.

It was a story of ill people with nothing that a normal healthy mind could find sick or pornographic or violent in it. It got banned. I suspect that it was banned in error. But regardless of how it happened to get banned, I was not aware of it being banned.

I had seen it in New York; I was anxious for it to come up here because I felt that many of the conditions portrayed in that institution, which is in Massachusetts, were equally existent in some of our institutions and things that I have seen here in Ontario. I was extremely anxious for this movie to be shown here so that the public could become aware of what can happen to the mentally ill, so that more money could be forced into the care of the mentally ill, because this is one of my pet projects as you know in this province.

I discovered on April 28, by chance, that the movie had been banned in this province. I asked the minister in the House the next day if he would intervene to see that this documentary could be allowed to be shown in Ontario and he refused.

I dug out a copy of the Act under which the minister works—it is called The Theatres Act—and section 60, subsection one, reads as follows:

> Any person who deems himself aggrieved by a decision of the board, director, assistant director, or an inspector, may, within 10 days after the receipt of notice in writing of the decision, appeal in writing to the minister who shall, upon notice to all interested parties, hear the appeal and approve, disapprove or vary the decision appealed against.

It is very clear. It says "Any person who deems himself aggrieved may within 10 days after receipt of notice in writing of the decision, appeal." Quite clear.

What I did the next day, was—I thought, "Goodness, maybe I missed something in that movie," so I got in touch with the distributor in the United States. I had him send me a copy of the film. I showed it here, in Toronto. I invited members from all three parties to attend; I invited a number of members of the press to attend; and I asked them after it was all over was there something in that movie that was pornographic? Was there something in that movie that should not be shown in this province? And they all agreed that the ban must have been a mistake.

I wrote a letter to the chief censor, Mr. Silverthorn, and I received written notice that the film had been banned. Following the Act, I sent a letter to Mr. Silverthorn and another letter to the minister, which reads as follows, dated May 2, 1969, which was within 10 days after I had received the written notice. I said:

> As per section 60 of The Theatres Act, kindly consider this my appeal against the decision banning the film "Titticut Follies", written notice of which was received by me today.

Now let us just go back to this section 60. It reads:

> Any person who deems himself aggrieved by a decision of the board, director, assistant director or inspector may, within 10 days after the receipt of notice in writing of the decision, appeal in writing to the minister.

I was not going to court. I was in the same department as the minister. I was asking him

to look at that movie and see if a mistake had been made, and if a mistake had been made, to change the decision. What did the minister do? He refused to look. He would not even listen to his own Act. He wrote me back as follows on May 14, after the 10 days was over, of course:

Dear Dr. Shulman:

I have your letter of May 2 appealing the decision of the board of censors of February 25, 1969, whereby the application of Astral Films Limited for approval of the film "Titticut Follies" was refused.

Having consulted legal counsel, I am compelled to advise that by reason of expiry of the 10-day appeal period, I now have no jurisdiction to consider an appeal of the above mentioned decision of the board.

The notice in writing of the decision mentioned in section 60 of The Theatres Act refers, in the case of an application under section 38, to the official decision of the board as set down on the prepared form and forwarded to the applicant under that section.

The date of receipt thereof by the applicant determines the commencement of the 10-day period. Upon expiry thereof, the minister's right to sit in appeal ceases as a matter of law.

Yours sincerely,
J. A. C. Auld

At first, I thought the minister could not read because he is quoting things which are not in the section. The section says—and let me read it again, because it may be a little difficult to get through to him, "Any person"—not any particular film company—"Any person who deems himself aggrieved by a decision of the board may, within 10 days after the receipt of notice in writing of the decision, appeal."

Common sense has to tell you—

Mr. Sopha: That does not mean "any person."

Mr. Shulman: It says "any person." The member for Sudbury says it does not mean what it says, but it says "any person."

Mr. Sopha: It says "any person" within the context of the Act.

Mr. Shulman: It says, and I will quote it again, "Any person who deems himself aggrieved." It sounds like common sense to me. Apparently it is not common sense to the member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: No. We lawyers see things as not necessarily—

Mr. Shulman: Yes, I am aware of that, and the member is quite right. I will agree with him.

All right, we will leave the legal arguments aside; that sop that 'Any person who deems himself aggrieved may appeal within 10 days.' The minister writes back that it does not matter that you did not know about it last February; it does not matter that nobody in Ontario knew about it last February; you had to appeal last February. The Act says you can appeal within 10 days of receipt of a written notice. It does not matter if it says that; it does not really mean that. All right, they made a mistake at first. Presumably they made a mistake when they did not bother to look.

Instead of backing down somewhere along the line—the censor could have backed down and said "I made a mistake, let us reconsider"—he has done that in the past, that is the dumb thing. He has taken other movies which he has restricted or rated or refused. I can think of "Goodbye, Columbus" for example, which he rerated, or the other one of that duo which he rerated a year later. There is no restriction on him going back and looking and realizing he made a mistake.

The official censor felt the heat a bit. I had written to him and I had gone right to the minister. The censor did not show any guts to start with, nor any sense. All he had to do was go back and look at the movie again, but he did not want to do that.

He had dealt with the minister and the minister got a legalistic opinion, presumably from the member for Sudbury, or someone with a similar mentality. He said, "We have got a legal out here. We will say 'any person' does not mean 'any person'; it only means the Astral Film Company." He has opted out.

Maybe, legally, he is right. I am not really too worried about whether legally he is right. What I am worried about is here is a minister of the Crown, presumably with a minimum or a modicum of common sense; he discovers a serious error. And it is a serious error; this film was not a piece of pornography, it is not a piece of tripe—to use the word quoted by the member for Sudbury. This is a serious social document which could have been of value in this province. The minister, instead of going and looking at it, seeks a legalistic—very weak, but legalistic—way to avoid looking at the movie and seeing that an error had been made.

This is not ministerial discretion. This is ministerial stupidity and I do not think you will find anybody outside this Legislature who will agree with the minister; you will find people in here, I am sorry to say, but this is a very strange place, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Lewis: If they filmed this place, how would you rate it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Rather dull at the moment.

Mr. Shulman: That should be censored.

Mr. Lewis: What would you put on the marquee for this show?

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is free.

Mr. Shulman: Item three, and I am talking now of only one thing—stupidity in the censorship board. Let me stress again, we need the censorship board, but stupidity—they seem to have monopolized it all.

Let me read one of their other rulings: Tuesday, January 27, 1970, the Toronto *Telegram* heading is:

> CENSORSHIP BOARD DOES IT AGAIN
>
> On Saturday morning there was a private screening of a movie scheduled for 10 o'clock at the Towne and Countrye Cinema. It was an invitation-only affair and many of the 60-plus guests were teachers who were there to see the movie in preparation for a seminar they were holding later in the day.
>
> The movie didn't start at 10 because, as the audience was told, written permission from the Ontario Censor Board was required in order to screen it even for private viewing. It's an old movie that has played Toronto several times before and is about to play it again, but this particular print had not yet received clearance from the censors.
>
> If the audience found this a little hard to swallow, they were assured of the seriousness of the situation: The projectionist could lose his licence if he started the film rolling before the clearance arrived.
>
> Well, the clearance didn't arrive until almost 11. And the theatre manager said: "I'm sorry, but I have a regular matinee scheduled for 1 p.m. and I'll run into it if I start this one now." So, no screening.
>
> The name of the movie: "Fantasia", by Walt Disney.

Mr. Lewis: It is pretty erotic, that scene where the brooms are on the chase.

Mr. Lawlor: Remember the dance of the flowers?

Mr. Shulman: Stupid item No. 3. The censorship board is good at that. This minister is excellent. Let me go one further: Stupid item No. 4.

Mr. Lewis: I missed the first one.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): There will be more.

Mr. Lewis: I am enjoying this.

Mr. Shulman: This one I played a personal part in and I was so impressed with the absolute and unalterable stupidity of this department that I did something which I have never done before. I wrote a letter to a newspaper. I wrote a letter to Ron Haggart about it. "Can you really believe this can occur in Ontario?" and he said, "Yes" and he wrote a little article about it.

I happened to go to the movies one night, and I think perhaps the simplest thing to do is to read the letter that I wrote to Mr. Haggart because this sums it up so very well. This was last July. It is dated July 23, 1969, and it is written to Mr. Haggart at the *Telegram*:

> Dear Ron:
>
> Mr. Arthur Hailey, the novelist, is visiting Toronto this week with his wife and teenaged children. Last night he wanted to take his family to the movies and he found that "If It's Tuesday This Must Be Belgium", a "family" picture, was playing at the Odeon Don Mills. On the same bill with "If It's Tuesday . . ." was a restricted picture, "The First Time."
>
> As that day's final showing for "The First Time" was over at 10 p.m. and was to be followed by "If It's Tuesday . . ." at 10:10 p.m., the Hailey family arrived at the box office with myself and my wife at 10 p.m. so as to avoid the restricted picture, because we were coming with some teenagers.

Let me stress again—I am interjecting now in my letter.

> —the last showing of the "The First Time," a restricted picture, was over.

There was no possibility of our being polluted by seeing that movie. To continue with the letter:

> To our amazement, the theatre manager refused to sell us tickets on the grounds that even if the restricted film had finished playing, it was still on the same bill and

therefore persons under 18 could not be admitted. When I protested, the manager said that he agreed that it was a nutty law but there was nothing he could do about it, and if I wished he would give me the home phone number of the censorship board representative.

I then phoned this gentleman, a Mr. R. W. Watt, inspector of theatres of the censorship branch of The Department of Tourism, who informed me that the manager was quite correct and that children could not be admitted to the theatre. When I explained that the only film remaining to be shown that day was a family picture, the inspector said it didn't matter because if a restricted film had been shown that day at the theatre, that the children could not be admitted, even if the picture was over.

Over the years I have learned—

I am still reading the letter:

—that the censorship board of this province have not become renowned for their intelligence but this latest incident appeared unusually stupid to me, particularly in view of the fact that the censorship board is a branch of The Department of Tourism, supposedly promoting tourist travel to this province.

Arthur Hailey, through his writing, is in contact with millions of people. What an advertisement for the common sense of Ontario we have given last night.

Yours sincerely,
Morton Shulman.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey Bruce): You must be sick.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I am pleased, Mr. Chairman, that the minister has some support here and I am glad to see where it is coming from, from the Liberal benches. I had hoped for better. I had hoped for some common sense from there but perhaps it was a useless hope.

Mr. Lewis: Hear, hear, there they are, together all day the two of them.

Mr. Shulman: Well, let us go on.

Mr. Sargent: Read us some more.

Mr. Lawlor: The slough of despond.

Mr. Shulman: Ontario has a great problem in producing movies here. We do not have enough money. We do not have enough people. We do not have enough outlets. Occasionally, very rarely, but occasionally we get a great producer who comes out of this province and does not have to go to Hollywood. We have one here now, and yet the censorship board of this province has done its best to drive him out of the province. I am referring, of course, to Allan King. Allan King has produced two great films, "Warrendale" and "A Married Couple." They both are winning awards wherever they are being shown. They both have pioneered new work in the film field. Neither of them is an exploitation picture. Neither of them is a sex exploitation picture. Both of them are serious studies of different aspects of life as it is, one the treatment of the mentally ill, the other in making marriage work.

Mr. Lawlor: I wonder how many Tories ever went to see "Warrendale"?

Mr. Shulman: I doubt if any here did, looking at the faces facing me.

Mr. Lawlor: A great film.

Mr. Shulman: I doubt if any of them did.

Mr. Lewis: Not to mention "A Married Couple."

Mr. Shulman: Well, what happened?

Because there is great difficulty in raising money to produce pictures in Ontario, Allan King has to struggle to raise funds. It is very important then that when he produces a movie, he has an opportunity to show it.

He had a booking at the Towne Cinema for his new film, "A Married Couple," and the censorship board refused to pass it. They refused to show it. The opening was delayed, as a result of which he almost—fortunately not quite—suffered a very serious financial difficulty.

Well, I went down to New York to see "A Married Couple." I saw it here after the cuts, which were finally made, and I went down to New York to see what the horror was that they had to cut out. I wish every member of the House could see the difference between the two pictures, because they took out scenes from that movie which, horror of horrors, showed bare breasts or bare body, but allowed in scenes showing exactly the same thing.

It did not make sense to me and I went back to find an explanation. The explanation is almost unbelievable and I am going to quote from a column of Ron Haggart.

He wrote a column on this particular movie and he has worded it much better than I could, because what the censors did, is they

went back to King and said: "Well, look, you have too many nude scenes and too many four-letter words. Let us agree on the number of four-letter words you can have. Not which ones, but the number of times you can say—. Let us say you have this particular word in there 37 times. We will allow 22 and you can decide which 15 you should cut out."

Hard to believe? It is true. That is what they said. Let me quote from this column:

> The recent experience with Allan King's cinema dissection of "A Married Couple" offers typical evidence that movie censorship in Ontario today is not law, but whim. It is moved not by justice, but by caprice. What it sets out to do is pernicious enough and it fails even on that level. Naughty words and human anatomy are not kept off the screens in Ontario; all that happens is that an enclave of busy bureaucrats goes through the motion of deciding how often the words can be spoken and how many breasts may be bared per foot of film or hour of running time.
>
> The Ontario censors originally demanded more than 30 deletions from "A Married Couple." The censors were concerned over three of the most popular four-letter words, and with a joyously beautiful nude scene in which Billy and Antoinette Edwards swim at dawn at their summer cottage.

I would like to interrupt here and get away from the quotation. I wish that all of you could see that scene. This is a scene of a family—a husband, a wife and their three-year-old child—going into a stream, by themselves, to bathe without clothes on, and the censors looked at that and said, "That is dirty"—

Mr. Lewis: No. As a matter of fact, it was worse than that; they saw things in that scene which were not even there.

Mr. Shulman: They must have. What kind of minds do you choose to do the censoring in this province? What could be dirty about that scene? I do not know if anybody else here has seen that movie, but it was one of the most beautiful scenes I have ever seen in a movie. There was absolute love in that family and that was what was being shown. There was not any love-making; there was love, emotional love, and this was dirty, this had to be cut out. Strange people your censors.

Well, I go on. I quote again:

> After the censorship problems of "A Married Couple" had received some publicity, and before the film was passed for showing in Ontario, O. J. Silverthorn, the chief censor, telephoned Gordon Sinclair, the radio commenator, who as it happens has a vast love and knowledge of movies, and is a reliable guide to popular taste.
>
> As Sinclair recalls the conversation, Silverthorn said: "Allan King has gone over my head to my minister (James Auld). What do you think I should do?"
>
> Sinclair, who had seen the uncut version (as have I), suggested to Silverthorn that he should leave in the nude scene, but take out one of those four-letter words, leaving in the other two. And that, in essence, is what happened, with the result that in the version now being shown, Billy Edwards turns to his wife and calls her "a silly (silence)." His lips move, but nothing comes out.
>
> What conceivable purpose of public policy is served by removing one of those ancient four-letter words and leaving in the other two? Are the censors trying to tell us that two of the old Anglo-Saxon words are less corrupting than the third?

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): They put in the normal words.

Mr. Shulman: To go on:

> The film was classified as "restricted," which means that no one under 18 can see it, even with his parents. This system of classification, no doubt, has almost universal support in Ontario and should be continued—but the purpose of classification surely must be to allow adults to establish their own standards of taste and to exercise their power of choice in the marketplace.
>
> Once a film has been classified as "restricted", what excuse is there to cut anything from it which is not specifically illegal? All the defences usually raised for movie censorship apply only to films of general circulation or to scenes which could be illegal under the Criminal Code.
>
> In the great middle ground between, the only problem is a matter of taste. For reasons which defy explanation, the law of Ontario imposes O. J. Silverthorn's taste, rather than yours and mine.
>
> Mr. Silverthorn is, no doubt, admirably competent to keep nasty films away from children and to exorcise scenes which are criminally obscene. He is not competent, because no man is, to tell me what I will

find tasteful and purposeful on the motion picture screen.

There are two interesting sidelights to the problems of "A Married Couple." The uncensored version was seen by Premier John Robarts and by the Minister of Tourism, James Auld; they have seen and heard what you cannot. Have you noticed them turning into raving sex fiends lately? Or are they just as sane and sensible as they were a few months ago? If they have not been corrupted, why does the law presume you would be?

Mr. Lewis: I am not sure they have not. There is a certain glandular movement over there.

Mr. Shulman: Quoting:

A business associate of Allan King reports that one of the arrangements made with the Ontario censors was that King was not to grant interviews complaining about his censorship problems after the film was released or showing. Censorship, it seems, even applies to the censor: We must be protected from knowing what he is doing.

End of quote.

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): Who are you? His photographer?

Mr. Shulman: Well, I am delighted to have interjections from the Conservative bench because, Mr. Chairman, it illustrates only so well the Conservative mind.

Mr. Lawlor: Who is that old movie critic up there?

Mr. Shulman: This is not the end. Unfortunately there is a long list of similar stupidities.

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): Carry on.

Mr. Shulman: All right. Let us take another one: "Medium Cool." Here is a movie which also, strangely enough, has been winning awards.

Mr. Whitney: Your pictures would not win any awards.

Mr. Shulman: I have not made any pictures yet. That is in my future—although, come to think of it, one of my stills, in which you appear so prominently, has won a certain notoriety. Let us put it that way.

Mr. Lawlor: You would make a beautiful Sleeping Beauty.

Mr. Shulman: In case it does not appear in *Hansard*, I am of course referring to the member for Prince Edward-Lennox.

Mr. Whitney: We have not seen the picture yet.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I would be glad to give you a copy any time.

Mr. Whitney: We would like to see it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: It ran into numerous censorship difficulties here. I cannot find the particular quote I am looking for, but I have found another one, called "The Wild Bunch", which the—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Just tell the hon. member that the spool was restricted with no cuts.

Mr. Shulman: Oh, you finally agreed. That is very interesting, because it was banned here originally, apparently, when it was first brought to the Ontario censor. He must have had second thoughts.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It was never banned in Ontario.

Mr. Shulman: Well, then the newspapers reported it improperly, and I shall apologize to the minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The hon. member often gets his facts mixed up. I thought I would correct him on that one just to save a little time.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): What about the others?

Mr. Shulman: Well, then, let me quote Martin Knelman, the Toronto *Star* radio critic:

"Medium Cool" has just opened in New York to rave reviews, but the Ontario censor board has not yet deemed it suitable for patrons at the Towne cinema, where it was supposed to have opened last week but did not.

The minister has such a mine of misinformation, Mr. Chairman; he even outdistances his colleagues, and that is a compliment. I so intend it, I really do. Well, let's come—

Hon. Mr. Auld: You assume that the fact it did not open was the board's fault, not the distributor's.

Mr. Shulman: I am sure the minister is giving us correct information, as he has the rest of the evening. Just as correct.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is.

Mr. Shulman: All right, let us take another newspaper.

Hon. Mr. Auld: All correct.

Mr. Shulman: All correct.

Mr. Lewis: Just call David Coon.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Just call Martin Knelman, the radio critic of the *Star*.

Mr. Lewis: Well he did, in fact.

Mr. Shulman: I am quoting from his writing. Now let us quote from the radio critic of the *Telegram* and see what they think of you for rating the film. The film critic—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Knelman is the movie critic of *The Globe and Mail*.

Mr. Lewis: Oh, he used to write for the *Star*.

Mr. Shulman: Well, this is written in the Toronto *Star* and it is dated Monday, September 15, 1969.

All right, here is another movie, "The Wild Bunch." I have not seen "The Wild Bunch"; I do not know anything about it. However, I do know that there is a very peculiar mentality—and when I say peculiar, I mean unique, not strange—running our censorship board, because this film was refused by the Ontario censor. But, strangely enough, it was passed by the censor in British Columbia; it was passed by the censor in Saskatchewan; it was passed by the censor in Manitoba, it was passed by the censor in Quebec; and it was passed by all the American censors. Very strange, very strange.

Hon. Mr. Auld: What film?

Mr. Shulman: "The Wild Bunch."

Mr. Bullbrook: That is one of the few movies I saw last year.

Mr. Shulman: You saw the censored version.

Mr. Bullbrook: Well, I did not think it was censored then.

Mr. Shulman: No. It was just censored with numerous cuts. I was talking about stupidity and its use in this particular department.

I would like to give you one other example before I give you two comparisons. The one example is a picture that is playing right now in Toronto called "What Do You Say to a Naked Lady?" It is not a story; it is a series of vignettes produced by Allan Funt. Of course he is the author of "Candid Camera," and what he did was put his candid camera in numerous places and take pictures of persons' responses to those situations. It is supposed to be a comedy. It is a comedy, it is funny.

It is also a commentary on the attitudes of the young and the old to the human body pertaining to sex. It is such a telling commentary in relation to the age of the censors, because Allan Funt gave an interview about this movie. Obviously, the censors did not read this interview or they would not have fallen into the trap they did.

He said:

> It is very interesting. Our society has come a long way in relation to the naked female body. We can now look at a naked female body and feel that something horrible is not happening, but we are seeing something beautiful, because the naked female body is a beautiful thing. Generally, most human beings have accepted this fact. It is strangely enough a certain age group among a certain group of society that has not accepted the fact that the adult male body is also a beautiful thing.

Mr. Lewis: Hear, hear!

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Terrible, terrible.

Mr. Shulman: And he said, "the one thing that this type —"

Mr. Lewis: Do not miss those interjections. We will have no female chauvinism.

Mr. Shulman: "This type of person finds a moving male body to be a frightening thing." Now this movie was passed almost complete in Ontario. It is shown without censorship, let me say, everywhere else.

Mr. Sopha: Is it a sex film?

Mr. Shulman: This is not a sex film, I am sorry, to the member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: The word is not "film" it is "filth".

Mr. Shulman: And the word is not sex. It is body. It is b-o-d-y.

Mr. Lewis: And the place is not theatre, either. I am sorry, but that is true.

Mr. Martel: Are you looking for a job?

Mr. Shulman: The censors in Ontario cut out only one scene from this movie and I find it very amusing in the light of Allan Funt's

comments. Of course, he was not aware of what was happening in Ontario. They cut out only one scene. There are numerous scenes of a naked woman in this movie moving about quite freely. There is no sex in it as such. It is the way human beings react to bodies, really, that is what it is all about; react, not in a personal way, but in an impersonal way. The censors saw nothing wrong with the scenes of naked women, but the one scene they thought fit to cut out is where a naked model gets up from a chair and walks to a door and walks out of that door. Because the very thing that Mr. Funt said that this queer type of mentality finds dirty, was the very thing that the censors of Ontario found dirty, and that is the only scene they felt had to be taken out.

Mr. Lewis: You had better speak to your censors about that.

Mr. Shulman: I want to speak now to the member for Sudbury and say to him — to come back to my main point — we need a censorship board, because all movies are not fit for all people, and I am referring to age groups. I do not want my children of 10, 11, 12 going in and seeing either terribly violent movies like "The Wild Bunch," or terribly steamy, sexy movies like "Vixen." I do not want them exposed to that at that age group and I do not think that anyone in this House would disagree with me.

There is a purpose for censorship and that purpose is to grade the movies, and rate the movies and keep young people under a certain age out of some movies and allow them into certain marginal movies, only with their parents' consent, or in their parents' company. It should keep them out of other movies entirely and the ones which the members of the censorship board feel should not be seen by young minds should be rated "X", "Restricted," and so on, down the line. But some should be rated "X" and no person under a certain age should be allowed in.

There is a reason for censorship—and when I say censorship, I do not mean cutting things out—by all means, censoring things from our youth. And I think that is where we are all going to agree. But we must have a little more common sense in the administration of this particular law.

We must expect a little more common sense, not only from the censors, but also from the minister when he finds a mistake has been made, and that a documentary about a mental institution has been accidentally banned. We would expect him to step in and not say: "I am sorry, I cannot do anything about that." Common sense, that is all we ask. Perhaps it is too much to ask, but that is what we are asking.

Ontario is unique. I want to tell you what is going on in British Columbia, and I am quoting now from the *Globe and Mail*. This is an article which is dated July 19, 1969 and was written by John Clark. They are telling what is happening in British Columbia. It is not just the far left, or the left parties that produce common sense censorship laws. They do the same thing in some of the right parties, in fact. I believe the Conservative Party of Ontario stands alone in this particular peculiarity. But let me quote as to what is happening in British Columbia:

> The liberal attitude of the British Columbian film censor, Raymond MacDonald, who acts under provincial legislation, has won much praise. For the most part, he limits his function to the categorizing of movies and arranging of "family" to "restricted" viewing.
>
> The public has the choice of going or not going to a movie. "And," Mr. MacDonald says, "we cannot take the attitude we are protecting people from something bad. There is a tremendous difference in what offends people. This view is gaining ground among theatregoers, editorialists and the public generally, who argue that the public interest is not being served uniformly, if theatregoers are not given the same freedom of choice as the moviegoers."

Now I would like to conclude—I have a number of other movies, but I do not see any point in berating and berating, and going through this over and over again. If the minister wishes, I will give him half a dozen more examples of stupidities in this past year in this field, but there is no use—

Mr. Sopha: I thought you were going to make the academy awards tonight?

Mr. Shulman: I would like to conclude by reading an article from the London *Times* which was written just a month ago and it sums up the common sense viewpoint so very well.

It is a lengthy article. I just want to quote one paragraph from it because this sums it up so very well. This is something where we all should agree and go on to something more important, and I quote:

> In the end the very triviality of the problem is the strongest argument against official concern with it. With the level of social disorder in many western countries today, of drug use, of crime, of economic

> inequality, can anyone seriously suggest that public resources should be spent to keep men's thoughts pure? To have 20 policemen worry about an Andy Warhol film, is a luxury that not even Britain, with her low level of crime and violence, can afford.

And that is common sense; that is what it is all about, and that is what we really are asking of you here.

For goodness sake, give us just a little common sense. When you make a mistake, admit you made it. It is not the end of the world if you admit a mistake. If you had admitted the mistake in the first place we would not be wasting this time here in the House talking about your stupidity. It would have been done. The movie would have been shown and that would have been the end of it.

Mr. Shulman: It is true.

Mr. Sopha: Is that parliamentary?

Mr. Lewis: If it is true, it is therefore parliamentary!

Mr. Shulman: So for goodness sake maintain your censorship. We all agree that you should have censorship in gradation; but let adults know what kind of movie it is, let them decide what they want to see, and use just a little common sense. Thank you.

Mr. Whitney: Like people in High Park!

Mr. Lewis: Does the minister have anything to say?

An hon. member: He is dumbfounded.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: I would like to know, before making a few remarks, whether the report of the board of censors for 1969-1970, usually released almost immediately after the year-end, the fiscal year-end, is available—that is the current report?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, Mr. Chairman. Normally it is about the first week in May. I think last year it was May 5 and I think the year before it was May 2.

Mr. Lawlor: It was April 30.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It was May 2.

Mr. Lawlor: In any event, the year before that it was April 17, and so it has come out fairly early in the past.

The history, if I may develop it for a moment or two, Mr. Chairman, so that we can get perspective on the present role and function of the censorship board, is rather interesting. A sort of new declaration of movie rights was arrived at in the year 1963 when Mr. Silverthorn made a considerable breakthrough, at least in terms of his report.

As you know this gentleman, of whom on the whole I am not going to be severely critical, is one who has longevity in terms of keeping his office. He was a Hepburn appointment and has continued down to this day. That is a feat all by itself. How much more trying to keep us pure, he must have had some job keeping himself pure through the vacillations and the various difficulties that political life engenders.

In 1963 he said the motion picture has now moved into a period of freedom of expression previously denied it by various forms of censorship. Further down he says that they are directed to the audience for whom they are intended. Banning any film today, he said, only arouses controversy and brings it public value that it does not deserve.

That general sentiment and air of reflection has been carried through, by and large, except that there have been some reversals on the basis of the cuts made in the course of the film.

In 1966 the report reads as follows:

> Once again it has been another uneventful year. Even though motion pictures, frank and explicit as many now are, are accepted by the people throughout the province—

So much for that. In 1967, we reach a watershed, we reach a breakthrough. In that year he reported, on April 17:

> The board is pleased to report that not one elimination was made in any film and none was rejected. This is further to the fact that the total includes nearly all of those pictures shown in London and New York, which were considered to be extremely frank and controversial in nature, and that many were subject to cuts elsewhere. To have gone through a year's work without having made any cuts is an achievement not reached by the board before, nor by any other classification board on this continent.

He goes on in that vein:

> This is solely due entirely to the spirit and intelligence of the public, which is prepared to accept or reject what film makers have to say without calling for the

> suppression of their work. We can act in an enlightened way only if we have an enlightened public to serve, and in this respect the board is indeed fortunate.

But then shortly thereafter come the beginnings of some lapse from grace. In the following year, he says:

> We very regretfully report—

I can see the tears flowing:

> —we are unable to go through the year without rejections and eliminations as we did last year. However, the eliminations were slight and once again involved violence, extended scenes of nudity or references to sexual intercourse. In most cases the sequences in question were not removed in total, only shortened. Out of the total of 570 features, only 21 eliminations were made.

But it was a reversal at that time.

Then last year's report goes somewhat further than in previous years in perhaps what might be considered a retrograde direction. In that report there were five films not approved at all but completely jettisoned. I would like to know, in the course of these estimates, whether the film "High" was among those films which were not approved?

In any case, last year there were 97—

Hon. Mr. Auld: "High" was not banned.

Mr. Lawlor: "High" was not one of them.

In any case, last year there were 97 films placed on the restricted list due to abusive language, extended sex—as the censor puts it—and violence. That by and large is a history of the escalating, the up and down nature, of the board's activities. Partially I suppose it is accounted for by the nature of the films that come before the board in any one year.

What interests me just in passing is that of the 548 films shown in 1969 over against 570 the year before it dropped somewhat.

There were six Canadian films, 166 U.S., 69 from Great Britain and 307 from others. Among these were films from practically every major civilized country in the modern world; and the majority had no subtitles when shown.

Have you—I do not need an answer immediately but I would like to get one—have you adequate and competent linguistic staff to handle the range from Japanese films to Yugoslavian, to Brazilian, to Indian? These films are in the native language of the place. If the minister cares to answer that—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, we get a text of the dialogue translated into English in those cases. We have interpreters on whom we call occasionally, but generally we prefer to get the text; as we do, of course, get the English subtitles when they are on the film.

Mr. Lawlor: I see. Would the minister, while I am on this point, care to indicate the names of the five films which were jettisoned last year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Last year?

Mr. Lewis: Entire films?

Mr. Lawlor: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: "The Gruesome Twosome"; "She Devil on Wheels"; "Girl"; "The Body and the Pill"; "Swap".

Mr. Lewis: What was that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: "Swap".

Mr. Lewis: Well, there is a moral judgement.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not know what the hon. member is inferring; the hon. member for High Park favoured "Titticut Follies". I may say that the hon. member did not mention the film was the cause of a lawsuit. It was filmed in a Massachusetts mental institution. I am not sure whether the suit has yet been disposed of, but there was a lawsuit, I believe against the producers and the owners of the film on the part of—I think 36 patients were filmed, 34 of whom were subsequently released and who sued on the basis, I think, of invasion of privacy.

Mr. Shulman: On a point of order. I am so delighted the minister made that comment because he has misinformed the House. I happen to have the judgement of the court here, which I would be happy to send to him.

The patients did not sue, the suit was brought by the state of Massachusetts, which wished to prevent this film being shown, for reasons obvious to anyone who has seen the film. The judgement of the court of appeal was that this was not an invasion of privacy. The film was cleared. It was shown everywhere in the United States because they said it was a social document which could be shown. The persons who were trying to stop it being shown in Massachusetts were trying to stop it because they did not want the conditions in the mental institutions to be

exposed; and I rather expect there may be a similar motive in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, this has nothing to do with hospitals in Ontario, but I should repeat—I stand corrected—I am not sure, I assume the hon. member is correct when he says that the lawsuit has been disposed of. I am not aware of the details but I know that at the time it was submitted here the matter was before the courts in Massachusetts.

Mr. Shulman: Is that why you refused it? Is the minister suggesting that it was because it was in front of the courts in Massachusetts he refused to show it here? If that is the reason I am rather intrigued. Is that the reason you are giving?

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I recall that is one of the reasons.

Mr. Shulman: Since we are on that, that is very interesting, Mr. Chairman. What were the other reasons, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid that I have not got that information here, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Lewis: Come now, you knew more about that film than most.

Mr. Shulman: Did you see it at least?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I have not seen it.

Mr. Lewis: It is all right, in Tory terms that is a legitimate reason. If there was a suit outstanding in Kashmir, he would not let it show.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is significant, Mr. Chairman, that the distributor did not appeal. He may have had some qualms himself.

Mr. Shulman: Now the minister has put his foot in it once again.

Mr. Lewis: Deeper and deeper.

Mr. Shulman: I must tell you why the distributor did not appeal. I went to him and I said, "Why did you not appeal?" He said, "I am afraid to appeal; we have to distribute a lot of films in this province. Our income depends on the good will of those people. If we raise too much of a fuss we are going to be in trouble with them because they will not forget." That is why he did not appeal.

Mr. Lewis: That is the danger, of course.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I doubt that.

Mr. Shulman: Go to him and ask.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Is it Larry Solway?

Mr. Shulman: Larry Solway? No!

Hon. Mr. Auld: Is it Larry Solway?

Mr. Shuman: I do not wish to mention his name here, but you are very close.

Mr. Lawlor: I was one of those who took the time and trouble—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think that is the case.

Mr. Lawlor: I took the evening off to see "Titticut Follies," too. I think, if the minister has seen it, he will have to agree that in a cool, objective judgement the film was the very reverse of sensual. There were people unclothed in various portions of the film but certainly it was not erotica. On the contrary, they were bedraggled, poor devils of men largely, whose bodies, not only because of aging, but because of the conditions in which they lived, presented no object for a prurient taste.

The film was a most devastating critique of mental institutions of the state of Massachusetts. There was good reason for that state taking action—I mean unjustifiably as authoritarian governments tend to do. Very easily, the same thing could happen here, with that ultra sensitivity and defensiveness of mood on your part, which we encounter every day when we seek to gain access to these institutions and to make a criticism of them. This particular kind of paranoic mentality is a thing that characterizes many governments in the western world. You are not unique; you happen to be more entrenched than others and to think that by some God-given right you are saved from this particular forked tongue.

Mr. Sopha: The last one said the minister was stupid. This one is saying he is crazy.

Mr. Lewis: No.

Mr. Lawlor: Veins of paranoia run through us all. Even members, I suspect, suffer from it at times, about 10 o'clock in the evening.

Mr. Lewis: Name one.

Mr. Lawlor: I would not dare. He would challenge me to a duel behind the greenhouse.

I do not know whether this has been done to any extent in the House previously. I would like to muse over since nobody is here to listen anyhow—the Conservative benches being almost completely empty. What, Mr.

Whip, are you doing over there these days? Even the boys on the list are not here. The member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) was bad, but you are worse. Everybody knew he was incapable of mustering the troops, but you have pretensions of grandeur. In order to throw more accusations around tonight about craziness, you sit over there beaming like a megalomaniac.

Mr. Chairman: Order! Vote 2104.

Mr. Lawlor: There is not a soul in the House.

Pornography, obscenity, in films must certainly have something to do with the integrity of the presentation. It cannot be a question of sincerity on the part of the artist because, God knows, they are always sincere. Nor can it be a question of the subjective sincere judgement on the part of Judge Bolsby because, God knows, blind as they are, they are always sincere, too. One of the worst things in the world is the gift of sincerity for, without intelligence, it will leave a trail of devastation behind it. It is like Edith Cavell, you know; patriotism or sincerity are not enough.

The second thing about it is not the question of artistic integrity. There is also the question of wider social implications. Under this heading I think that, as modern men, we are coming to realize something very deeply; that neither in the realm of science nor in the realm of art are these realms value-free, nor ought they to be value-free.

Karl Marx did that much for us, anyhow; he told us that whatever our positions were, philosophically or economically or otherwise, they had an underlying ideology. This ideology, for people who were satisfied with themselves, was unknown to them, was unconscious, and lurked behind the scenes. His job was to bring it to light and to say what were the forces in society, what interests particular people are protecting, where did the weight of power lie and to expose it to the light.

Something terrible happened to poor Karl, of course. Somebody turned around and turned the tables on him and placed the Marxists under a critique, too. And in the pace of being turned upside down he, himself, fell under something of a ban.

What I am saying is that no element in human life is value-free. That, to the extent we get to know what values are operative in our society, or in a particular motion picture, and what the presuppositions of that motion picture are, or that particular piece of art, we are not in a position, really, to make a judgement upon it. The whole job of education and intelligence is to bring this to light in ourselves and in others. An exaggerated retreat from the sexual indicates a particular peculiar predilection for the sexual. Always be careful of the man who blushes.

Mr. Lewis: Take a good look at your censor board.

Mr. Lawlor: In the particular area it occurs, it is not a difficult psychological thing. It is well known that that to which we react most strongly is that to which we have the greatest seclivity, the greatest attraction, and we hate these things in ourselves.

I agree with my colleague that the censorship board of Ontario must be retained. It must be retained on a number of counts, among which were the ones he mentioned, namely, the classification concept, and on the grounds of the use of trailers and advertising, to which I will come later on. There is a great and valid role for that board to play in this regard.

I find the distinction that people use between youth and age in this regard rather intriguing. There is a cut-off age of 18, and they say our youth must be protected. I would like to know precisely from what it is that we are seeking to protect them. The word "corruption" comes into play and yet we all know that they are exposed in invidious and, you know, behind-the-hand ways among their colleagues and other children, to sexual discussions. We all were ourselves, as boys, and it is a curious way to learn about it. It is a little perverse, too, insofar as it gives a false perspective on the sexual. Perhaps we are condoning that, but where does youth end? I think you will agree that the problem among liberal thinkers about censorship is precisely that.

A man of 43 years of age, you know, might be quite puritanly inclined as an adolescent. His emotional development might be extremely retarded and sometimes I think that your cuts are perhaps directed in that particular direction—that is, the cuts affecting adult showings. Is it because of that, I would like to know? Do you not feel that adults, after a certain age, the age being completely arbitrary, are to be trusted simply as adults to an exposure to a certain range of human experience? Whether you think, too, that being so exposed condones the experience?

The very fact that something is placed on public display, that something is able to be

said in polite company, does that in itself confer a blessing on the thing being said? Perhaps there is that element, too—those people who would otherwise be in a quandary or doubt as to the propriety of the social norms or mores of a particular action or course of action. They see it depicted on the screen and, with other people in their presence apparently assenting thereto, get a sense of affirmation and confidence that it cannot be all that bad.

These are elements which may be operative in this particular area. But one is terribly concerned about the standards that are utilized by the censorship board. You know, it seems to me, and I will go beyond the member for High Park in this, that there is such a thing as gut obscenity—an obscenity, whether or not it should be permitted to be, in terms of human freedom, shown and take it or leave it, or whether this type of gut obscenity of which I speak does no one any good.

If I may quote from Chesterton on this:

> There are things you need not know of, although you live and die in vain;
>
> There are souls more sick of pleasure than you are sick of pain.
>
> There is a game of April Fool that is played behind the door,
>
> Where the fool remains forever and the April comes no more.

And that first line: "There are things you need not know of, although you live and die in vain"; is denied by the contemporary world.

I think that there are many things that it is better not to know of. That is where the moral dimension lies; it is behind things that ought never to have been invented.

There are things in the contemporary world which because of the facts, because of the devastating consequence in terms of human survival, it would have been more prudent, if we had been wiser men, to not have allowed to come into being.

And so also I wonder, in the area of obscenity, whether or not a certain degree of cutting and refreshing is not—

Mr. Sargent: If you saw this in a movie, you would not believe it!

Mr. Lawlor: Will the "yahoo' from the north go back to his hiding place?

Mr. Sargent: You must be sick.

Mr. Lawlor: Always jabbering every time I speak.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Maybe he likes you.

Mr. Lawlor: He is a kind of cunning idiot, you know. There is more surreptitious guile in that open politician than one would expect. I intend to speak and I shall continue.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Lawlor: What do you care about employment? You voted against that debate this afternoon.

What norms ought to be operative in censorship on the basis of the showing of sexual films? Ought not the norms to be based upon the Kantian motif? Is not sexual derogation founded upon disregard of the person?

Ought not persons to be considered ends in themselves? And then when they are not so considered but are utilized as means to a further end, that is for self gratification, then that is ruled out.

And what are the signs that a person is dealt with as "thou", as an end in himself, as something infinitely precious. The signs would be, whenever sex is depicted on the screen, even sexual intercourse, the signs which would be acceptable to a civilized human being, I suggest to you, whether or not certain degrees and kinds of tenderness were present. That would be number one.

D. H. Lawrence's works, however flamboyant and however gymnastic sexually some of them may be, were redeemed by tenderness. He knew about the—

Mr. Sargent: That is obscene!

Mr. Lawlor: He knew about the deep and profound relationship between a man and a woman, between human beings. This was his insight and this is what he taught; and in doing so he baptised, he gave—

Mr. Sargent: The member just lost the Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: He gave a—

Mr. Lewis: He would like to lose you.

Mr. Sargent: I know he would!

Mr. Lawlor: Listen you chirping popinjay—I will come over and bust you in the teeth in a moment.

Will you shut him up!

Mr. Lewis: Come on Mr. Chairman, render him silent with one swift blow.

Mr. Sargent: Talk about paranoia; it is king size down there.

Mr. Lawlor: I said one of the norms must be a tenderness in the relationship and in the depiction.

Mr. Sargent: You are not normal.

Mr. Lawlor: And this particular—well, I would not be if you are a type of normality. Then I desire to be completely erratic.

The other element would be that always, in whatever the relationship may be, there would be a respect, a sense of human dignity present; and therefore the business of the exploitation of sex, the exploitation of human beings or cruelty as depicted through violence to other human beings, would be the elements that would go into the judgement of the censor.

And where these elements of tenderness and dignity and respect and self respect were not present, then in those circumstances the film would be very questionable, because it is simply utilizing another human being to a selfish purpose and that human being is treated simply as a thing, an object, to be manipulated or to be used and cast away as a mere instrumentality. If that is what is being shown, then I think it is less than civilized. And if that is the nature of the film I would give good consideration to keeping such films off the screen, because they can be nothing but demeaning of the human condition, which God knows is bad enough already as things stand.

The second element that must be operative in this, as in other areas—and when you hear members speak in this House about sexual matters and about the depiction of sex and pornography, and about the cruelty and violence that is depicted in the modern world, I think that very often we are thinking that if this is excessive or goes on apace as it presently does, that we are in bad times, that perhaps the decay of civilization is caught up in this somehow. These high matters as to what are the signs of a ruining or a declining time for a civilization are partially, and particularly by puritanical people, seen precisely in these terms. In other words, how many people—Mommsen and others and the great historians—have argued that the fall of the Roman Empire was precisely caused through moral laxity and through libertinism in the areas of sexual mores; and that this was the chief cause, that this was the really operative thing, in the decline of the great empire and that we are caught up in the throes of the same thing. That this time and civilization are going under precisely because we have become an indulgent, a self indulgent and lascivious people, and this is true of the western world as a whole.

Personally, I do not think that is really true. I think that sexual licence is a symptom of a condition and not the cause of that condition, it flows from it. Perhaps it is a cause of the condition; but many men have said that the reason for the fall of civilizations and great nations are very diverse.

Earlier in this century, one of the men who gave most prominence to this was a man by the name of Oswald Spengler. He was the great German who, coming out of the first great world war, gloomily looked at the complete decay and disintegration of western civilization, not on the basis of too great a sexuality but on the basis that civilization, like human beings, are born and have adolescence and age and die, have their senescence and that we are in our senescence. And part of the signs of the senescence is precisely a decay in the concept of self-restraint.

Mr. Whitney: Roll up the cities.

Mr. Lawlor: We know that if any great things can be done in this world, if we are to achieve anything, it must be done in terms of the self-discipline that we impose upon ourselves. No one has to stand up and make speeches in this House; no one has to make any particular contribution. No one has to put up with yahoos, except in terms of self-restraint.

The terms of our stature as human beings and as individuals are the amount of responsibility we are prepared to absorb and the amount of self restraint, therefore, we are prepared to exercise over our own lives. That means we do not go, like Cato the censor, damning all things and remaining aloof from human pleasure and frailty. But it does mean a great deal of sacrifice in those areas and a refusal to participate just because a thing happens to be fun.

The hard work of the world has to be done by somebody, and if laxity in morals is a sign of lack of intelligence, still the Roman Empire, for my money, fell because of a failure of will. It no longer had the drive, the vision or the desire; therefore it fell into lassitude in matters sexual, as in other regards. I think we are going into the same process.

Movies are perhaps the most powerful medium. Despite McLuhan, television does not have the absorptive capabilities that a movie house has. It sucks you in, a movie.

You lose self-consciousness in the course of a movie; the television commercials never permit you to lose self-consciousness for an instant. In the motion picture medium you are completely absorbed, and your life is altered in the process of coming to know the people being depicted on the screen.

Mr. Sargent: Getting too many eggheads in here, too many eggheads!

Mr. Lawlor: Well, the art-for-art's-sake boys and the science-for-science's-sake boys, the politics-for-politics'-sake boys are all, I would trust, on their way out. Because, as I said, there is nothing that is of neutral value; all elements and aspects of human endeavour, exercise or operations have about them an aura of morality. Everything we do that is human is moral. Art is not to be preserved from this as some kind of sacred cow; much less is science to be treated in this way, which has been the fallacy up till this time in our history.

One of the things that the youth of today is crying out against is the watertight compartment, the fragmentation of life, that says these things have a sovereignty and an independence; that they have an autonomy on their own which is not to fall under the general regimen of human life, and what we are doing and where we are going and what it is all about in terms of development as human beings.

That is ceasing, and if we could give it a little push, I would think it would be our job as legislators in that regard.

You know, sometimes they say that writers are people who find it is rather more difficult to write than other people and philosophers are people who find it rather more difficult to think than most other human beings. An artist is one who has somewhat more difficulty creating than other human beings have. In other words, there are blocks there and, because of the blocks, the tension is heightened and, therefore, the work is produced. Otherwise it flows too smoothly and good work is not produced.

The Criminal Code of Canada is not a fitting substitute, in my opinion, for the role of the censorship board. I think my colleague from Sudbury will agree that the Laskin judgment of 1966 in Regina vs. Cameron was a masterpiece of its kind, in which the whole or deep scappling of the law of obscenity in this country under the Criminal Code provisions were gone over by the new justice of the supreme court. He did not arrive at the Supreme Court of Canada, you know, because he failed in any way his standing merit in terms of his judgment in the court of appeal for Ontario.

The obscenity law of Canada is shot through with great difficulties, ambiguities, and difficulties of interpretation. They say that sex must not be exploited. That is the first contention. But that is not enough. It may be exploited under certain conditions if it is for the public good, as seen in terms of contemporary national—not just local—mores of the average intelligence—an average, such as you can gather it, and judges can gather it, of the people of Canada as to what they find acceptable and what they find to be corruptive, or decadent in the country.

Sex must not only be exploited, but it must be unduly exploited. And that is where the terminology "undue exploitation" means that it must be a dominant characteristic of the medium in which it is being presented. Now, the business of trying to establi h the "average contemporary Canadian attitude," which is the phrase that is used, is to say the least, very difficult. Laskin thought that the Cameron pictures were not immoral. The rest of the judges thought they were, and so ruled, and the conviction was meted out.

In the case of the censorship board of Ontario, a fair amount of astuteness and liberality is shown, and has been shown, up to this date in this particular regard, when one looks over the list of current movies which have sexual implications, and where the dominant theme of the movie is certainly sex, and the fact that the board has released them without cuts or, in some cases, I suspect with very little cuts.

I understand there was a cut in "I Am Curious (Yellow)" which I saw some weeks ago. There were prolonged scenes of sexual play in the movie and I understand some of the terminal scenes were cut out.

I understand it is true that some of those scenes were then embodied in your showing to the film critics of some weeks ago. And I would like to come back to that and explore that incident a little bit as to the *raison d'être* for that showing, and why you chose that feature length film that you did choose, out of any number of others. What was your real intent in doing this?

In any event, the name of His Honour Judge Lyons has been mentioned here. I have the highest regard for him. I think it was "Futz" that Mr. Justice Bolsby—Judge Bolsby —judged to be obscene—

Mr. Bullbrook: Could the member speak up a bit?

Mr. Martel: The noise over there—

Mr. Bullbrook: I am trying to listen to the member.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Chairman, you heard the member, would you call for some order?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! There is a great deal of interference coming from my right.

Mr. Nixon: That is the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough).

Mr. Sopha: He comes in and disrupts.

Mr. Lewis: There is very little else that comes from your right.

Mr. Lawlor: In the case of "Futz," Judge Lyons was invited by counsel to attend a showing of "Hair," which he did with his wife and apparently chuckled throughout it. Many of us in this chamber, I am sure, have attended upon "Hair"—I did so under false pretenses—not in any really devious way. It was just that the member for Downsview sold me a ticket and I thought this was a completely innocent occupation. And on the night I arrived, who did I have to attend with but every Liberal bigwig in the province. I did not mind "Hair" so badly, but I thought the politics was pretty awful.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member was financing the Liberal Party, did he know that?

Mr. Nixon: I have a few other tickets to sell.

Mr. Lawlor: There are various forms of obscenity—

Mr. H. L. Rowntree (York West): And look where he is now.

Mr. Bullbrook: He has the loot with him.

Mr. Lawlor: I think we have learned in these matters to roll with the punches. I think on the whole there is no decadent precedent in us learning to have done that. I think that the 19th century view in the tradition of Mrs. Grundy, as Charles Dickens called her—the one who saw prurience under every tablecloth—is being lifted. I think this makes for a more open and frank relationship between human beings, rather than a straight exploitation.

I would hope—and I do not know what I think in this regard—that as far as young people are concerned, if there is a sex relationship they must realize that the conditions for that relationship must be founded on affection. Not that affection excuses it, but if there is no affection at all present and it is simply a mutual exploitation, then the thing is degrading and it can lead to no good whatsoever in terms of their growth or in terms of their role as human beings in a society. And to have it depicted, as it was "Zabriskie Point"—you know, Antonioni practically went mad in "Zabriskie Point;" he shows a relationship that is placed in the New Mexico or Arizona desert, in which the humans blending with the beautiful landscape are raised in spirit and become freer people and ennobled. Because working with the terrain there is a kind of magnificence and ennoblement present in depiction. That is what Antonioni seeks to do in the course of the film. He has the young hero, who had stolen an airplane and killed a cop earlier in the day, setting up—although he is kind of a wooden human being, the girl is an infinitely better actress—some kind of a human relationship between them; there is a real reciprocity. But, having depicted their relationship in the desert, does he stop there? No. He begins to populate the whole hillside with copulating couples and, by the time the film ends, the natural beauty of the scene is completely marred or masked by various couples of human beings spread over the demesne. The man is nuts. I do not know what he is trying to prove at that particular point. But this is the kind of way a movie seems to me to fail. Far be it from me to say the censors should have cut out that particular portion, but on the other hand it is completely meaningless—meaningless as a humane and human depiction on any type of norms that I have tried to set out here tonight as being valid for the development of human beings.

Well, to wind up, Mr. Chairman. The censorship board does not just see 507 or 570 movies, whatever it may be in one year. It performs another task that seems to be of some validity, and tomorrow, or whenever we get back to it, I would question a little about it. That is the role of trailers; the whole business of when a movie is not, say, in a "restricted" class and is being advertised for future showing. There is cast on the screen a number of excerpts from that film, which, because it is concentrated and broken up, give a completely false picture of what is in the picture. You have a fair amount of work to do in this regard, because of the salacious and violent scenes depicted in that particular way.

The second thing, as I understand you to do—and I would like to know the size of your staff and how you carry out these various functions—is the business of advertising in various media, including newspapers. What is said in advertising in a newspaper, for instance, must be a considerable portion of your overall work. I would like to know what percentage of your time and your staff is engaged upon the business of censorship advertising for movie productions, as against the other work of your department. I suspect the bulk of the work is done in these particular areas.

I could go on. I have quite a list of movies here that I was going to subject to review: "Easy Rider", "Tell Them Willie Was Here"; "Blow-Up"; "The Graduate"; all of which I have seen in the last few weeks—the last six months.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: How do you find all of that time?

Mr. Lawlor: You will be gratified to learn that I have shut up.

Mr. Chairman: Perhaps the hon. minister would like to reserve his reply, due to the hour of 10:30 adjournment.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think I could reply, unless there are other members who want to make some comments. I perhaps might, I hope, answer the questions that have been asked, and the philosophy that has been—

Mr. Bullbrook: You could not possibly do it tonight.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —expanded.

Mr. Chairman: Will there be any further debate on this vote? There will be further debate on this vote.

Mr. Shulman: I have questions I would like to ask.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Let me then answer a couple of the questions that the hon. member for Lakeshore asked. There is one member of the board whose main job is to deal with advertising. I might just quote in connection with trailers, from the report of the board and the chairman last year—the one dated May 5:

> The board finds it strange that the Motion Picture Association of America, having established a code and rating administration, seems to be unconcerned about trailers. Trailers containing scenes and dialogue in questionable taste promote forthcoming attractions to audiences of young children. Such trailers, like advertising, often distort the meaning of the film and prompt many of the complaints we receive.
>
> We ordered eliminations in 43 trailers last year, although the same cuts were not necessarily made in the feature itself. We intend to examine advertising in trailers very closely in the coming year.

I may say that it has been reported to me that more trailers have been cut this year than in the preceding year. This is particularly important where the trailer advertising a restricted film may be shown in theatres where the film presently being shown as a feature is not a restricted film.

I again quote from that report:

> We examined 16,702 pieces of advertising and rejected 437. The rejection rate is up from last year and we are frightened to some extent of the changing nature of the films being submitted.
>
> The public is showing an increasing interest in film advertising and in this connection the director of advertising visited many communities to discuss the situation with interested persons.

It is rather interesting, in view of some of the comments from the member for High Park, that the Motion Picture Producers Institute, which started classification in 1966, has since revised its classification system I think, twice. It is, of course, as the hon. members perhaps know, a voluntary system in the United States. Some exhibitors adhere to it. Some areas set different age limits, or perhaps different standards, as far as the classifications are concerned, but in the States I think they finally came to a classification system, a voluntary one, because of the changing nature of the product.

The hon. member for High Park compared —or at least I inferred from what he says, that B.C. was a far more open province as far as film classification censorship is concerned. I just point out to him that, thus far this year, B.C. has banned more films than Ontario has and, of course, they make cuts, as they have for many years.

Mr. Chairman: I must point out that if we are to continue further it must be by concurrence of the House.

Mr. Nixon: No concurrence.

Mr. Chairman: Otherwise the—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, in the words of the film industry: "Cut."

Hon. Mr. Welch moves that the committee rise and report.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: The committee of supply reports that it has come to a certain resolution and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will consider some second readings. Those second readings appear on the order paper and are printed—both the public bills and the private bills. Then we will carry on with these estimates.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the House leader would indicate if, among those bills he intends to consider, the law society bill is among the early ones?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Yes.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): It is the only one.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.30 o'clock, p.m.

No. 32

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Wednesday, April 8, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Wednesday, April 8, 1970

Provincial-municipal conference and regional planning meeting re Toronto area, statement by Mr. Robarts 1255

Report on pits and quarries, statement by Mr. A. F. Lawrence 1256

New regulations re Family Benefits Act and General Welfare Assistance Act, statement by Mr. Yaremko 1256

Report of Mr. Justice Haines' statement, questions to Mr. Robarts and Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 1258

Investigation into commercial operations in Algonquin Park, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Jackson 1258

Compensation to commercial fishermen in Lake St. Clair area, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Nixon, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Sargent 1259

Lifting of allowable income exemption re family and welfare assistance, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Lewis 1260

Mercury pollution by Dow Chemical, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Burr 1261

Persons under 21 being allowed to make their own wills, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Shulman 1262

Takeover of Union Gas by Consumers' Gas, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Sargent 1263

Mercury problem in fish, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Burr 1263

Brief from Sunset Haven Home for the Aged, question to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Haggerty 1263

Compensation to commercial fishermen in Lake St. Clair area, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Gisborn, Mr. De Monte 1263

Tabling answers to questions on the order paper, Mr. Robarts (see Appendix) 1265

Detroit Hotel Limited, bill respecting, Mr. B. Newman, second reading 1266

City of Peterborough, bill respecting, Mr. Pitman, second reading 1266

Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Ontario, bill respecting, Mr. Potter, second reading 1266

City of Niagara Falls, bill respecting, Mr. Bukator, second reading 1266

Haldimand-Norfolk County Roman Catholic Separate School Board, bill respecting, Mr. Allan, second reading 1266

County of Peterborough, bill respecting, Mr. Pitman, second reading 1266

City of Orillia, bill respecting, Mr. G. E. Smith, second reading 1267

Springdale Christian Reform Church, bill respecting, Mr. Evans, second reading 1267

Township of Ameliasburgh, bill respecting, Mr. Whitney, second reading 1267

St. Catharines General Hospital, bill respecting, Mr. R. M. Johnston, second reading 1267

Camp Shahwundais, bill respecting, Mr. Peacock, second reading 1267

City of Owen Sound, bill respecting, Mr. Sargent, second reading 1267

Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron, bill respecting, Mr. McNeil, second reading 1267

Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital, bill respecting, Mr. Meen, second reading 1267

City of Toronto, bill respecting, Mr. Price, second reading 1267

Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company, Limited, bill respecting, Mr. Villeneuve, second reading 1268

Town of Oakville, bill respecting, Mr. Snow, second reading 1268

Sidney Goldstone Limited, bill respecting, Mr. De Monte, second reading 1268

Morina Electronics Manufacturing Company Limited, bill respecting, Mr. Price, second reading 1268

Fermack Bowling Limited, bill respecting, Mr. Price, second reading 1268

City of Niagara Falls, bill respecting, Mr. Bukator, second reading 1268

Town of Brampton, bill respecting, Mr. Kennedy, second reading 1268

Excelsior Life Insurance Company, bill respecting, Mr. Deacon, second reading 1268

Ontario Educational Communications Authority, bill to establish, Mr. Davis, second reading 1270

Law Society Act, bill to consolidate and revise, Mr. Wishart, on second reading 1281

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Sopha, agreed to 1296

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 1296

Appendix 1297

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: This afternoon, we welcome as guests in the east gallery students from Fenelon Falls Secondary School in Fenelon Falls; and in the west gallery from Bramalea Secondary School in Bramalea, Glendale School, Simcoe, Essex Senior Public School, Toronto; hosting students from Moosonee; and later on or now in both galleries, students from Vaughan Road Collegiate Institute here in Toronto.

Statements by the ministry.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, you will recall that several weeks ago, on February 26, I presented to the House on outline of the provincial-municipal conference to be held April 22, 23 and 24. At this conference we shall explore with our municipal partners many of the large and urgent problems that we are all facing during the 1970s.

I indicated then, and I re-emphasize now, that the provincial-municipal conference will be primarily an exchange of information and views. It will be designed to search out fresh approaches to such pressing problems as provincial-municipal financing and the reorganization of the municipal structure in some areas of the province.

Today, I should like to advise the House of another equally important forthcoming meeting. It will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 5, at the Queen Elizabeth theatre at the Canadian National Exhibition grounds in Toronto. This meeting will deal with the related topic of regional planning.

Within the next few days we shall be extending invitations to about 1,300 representatives of municipalities, municipal organizations, regional development councils, the business community, agricultural organizations, conservation groups and other interested organizations and individuals in the area known as the Toronto-centred region and some of its adjacent areas.

The purpose of the meeting will be to inform these representatives and the public generally of the proposals of the government of Ontario for the long-range economic development and orderly growth of the region surrounding Metropolitan Toronto. These proposals are contained in a report called "Design for Development: The Toronto-Centred Region".

As all members are aware, the design for development programme was instituted by the government of Ontario to enable us to plan, in an intelligent way, the orderly development of our economy and of our urban and rural communities.

Of equal importance, it will enable us to introduce measures to protect the natural beauty of our province. Only by looking to the future and by intelligently planning the development of our environment and our resources can we expect to reap the potential benefits of growth, prosperity, and a better life which the 1970s and the 1980s should hold out to us.

As part of this far-reaching programme, each of the 10 economic planning regions in the province has been the subject of intensive study and analysis. The people in each of these regions have been consulted; their views, opinions and needs have been carefully considered, both by the regional development councils and by the planners and advisers of the government.

I emphasize to the House that the report on the Toronto-centred region is the product of long and considered thought. Between 1962 and 1968, this government was involved in the selection of six alternative choices for the orderly growth of greater Toronto. Two of these choices projected existing trends at different rates, whereas the other four were specific targets of desired growth.

In June, 1968, we released these alternatives and sought reaction from all sources. These reactions have been classified and carefully considered. Many suggestions have been incorporated into the proposed development concept which will be released on May 5.

Meanwhile, as I have said, the province has initiated a vigorous regional development programme. All earlier work and suggestions regarding greater Toronto, including those in

the MTARTS appraisal, have now been incorporated into this programme.

The report on the Toronto-centred region will be the first of a series of comprehensive plans dealing with the economic regions of Ontario. They will provide a vehicle for the stimulation of what we hope will be a careful examination of the proposals by all interested people. The government is anxious to provide an opportunity to all groups or individuals to make final observations or recommendations they may have before proceeding with the next phase of our programme. This will be the adoption and implementation of the proposals as provincial planning policy and as guidelines for the specific decisions by all departments of the government of the province.

Mr. Speaker, on May 5, we will welcome all members who are interested in seeing and hearing the presentation at the Queen Elizabeth theatre. The report will be tabled simultaneously in the Legislature, accompanied by a descriptive statement, so that all members will have an opportunity to become familiar with its contents and importance.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure in presenting to the Legislature a new illustrated manual entitled, "A Guide to Site Development and Rehabilitation of Pits and Quarries", copies of which I understood were to have been distributed to the members but I do not see them on their desks as yet.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Just something entitled "To the editor."

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: It comes at a time when much controversy has been raised over land use by quarry and pit operators in various southern Ontario centres, and the methods and the efficacy of existing attempts at regulating pits and quarries.

The guide will serve as a reference work for aggregate producers in rehabilitating their properties. It is one of the recommendations contained in a report made by the mineral resources committee to the Minister of Mines recently.

In respect of that report, sir, I might add that the committee is preparing a supplement to the report in the light of opinions received. This supplement will act as a basis for a series of meetings planned this spring throughout southern Ontario's gravel belt by me to meet with interested members of municipal councils, planning boards, conservation and naturalist groups, industry people and citizens in general. When the plans for these meetings are finalized, I will be making a further announcement to the House.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that new regulations under The Family Benefits Act and The General Welfare Assistance Act have been passed by Treasury Board and approved by cabinet.

These new regulations become effective May 1, 1970, and at this time I shall briefly touch upon some of the major items in respect of both programmes.

In 1967, the Ontario Legislature passed The Family Benefits Act which encompasses all those needy persons who were at that time within certain named categories, such as: blind persons, disabled persons, aged persons, permanently unemployable fathers with dependent children, widows and single mothers with dependent children.

The changes in the family benefits programme cover, broadly speaking, two main aspects. The first aspect is the upward adjustment of social assistance payments, scaled to have the most impact where the need is greatest. The amount of the increase will depend upon the relevant circumstances of the individual recipient.

The following examples illustrate some of the situations:

A single blind person receiving $115 monthly may now receive $145, providing there is no other change in the circumstances.

A widow with three children receiving $238 monthly may now receive $262, providing there is no other change in the circumstances.

A permanently unemployable father with a wife and two children receiving $253 may now receive $279, providing there is no other change in the circumstances.

Some of the items which affect the general increase are as follows:

1. Increased transportation allowances for disabled and blind persons. We recognize the major problems which transportation poses for the blind and disabled, particularly those confined to wheelchairs. In view of this the new regulations will increase the transportation component of the recipients' allowances. This means the blind and active persons living on their own and requiring the use of wheelchairs in the community, presently receiving a transportation component of $10 monthly, will now receive $30 monthly. For all other disabled persons living on their own, the transportation component will increase from $10 to $15 monthly.

2. Revised fuel adjustments. We have reviewed the entire question of the fuel component in the allowance under the family benefits programme. It is apparent that not only do the costs, but also the means used to meet heating requirements, vary greatly across the province. Accordingly, there are two new regulations concerning fuel allowances.

As of May 1, 1970, the director of family benefits is given the flexibility to average the fuel component over the total heating season depending upon the recipients' heating arrangements. Also, in respect of the season to which the fuel allowance applies, a recipient whose actual costs for fuel were higher than the amounts set out in the fuel table may have his allowance adjusted upward to compensate him at the end of the fuel season.

3. Increased shelter provision. The shelter provision in an allowance is based on the actual cost to the recipient up to a stipulated maximum which varies with the size of the family. This maximum has been increased by $10 monthly. Since shelter costs have risen more in urban areas than in rural, we expect the impact of this provision will probably be greater in the cities. Where the house is owned and occupied by a recipient who is receiving the maximum shelter allowance possible, the director may approve an amount to assist the recipient with repairs.

4. Extensions respecting free medical-hospital premiums. As all of us are aware, many recipients of old age security face a problem of a fixed allowance. At present some 80,000 recipients are receiving premium-free OHSIP and Ontario Hospital under the family benefits programme; a very important coverage for the elderly.

Now the income limitations for determining who qualifies are being raised from $1,700 to $2,000 for single persons and $3,000 to $3,500 for married persons. This will increase the number of persons who will be entitled to premium-free medical and hospital insurance.

The second aspect, after the general increase in allowances, concerns very important changes that encourage recipients to seek participation in the labour force. There is an improved formula for retained earnings by blind and disabled persons. The blind and the disabled, under The Family Benefits Act, will now be able to have their earnings, after exemptions, averaged over six months. Previously, it was necessary to take the total income in the month in which it was earned into the calculation, bringing about fluctuations in the eligibility.

5. Training expense excluded from income. All hon. members will agree that any social assistance programme is only as strong as its rehabilitative and training facets. Recipients are are encouraged to take training, counselling, and other programmes which will help them to help themselves. Many training programmes pay wages to persons enrolled. Previously, this sum was interpreted as income and applied in total to the pre-added budgetary assessment. Now, the director of the family benefits branch can deduct the expenses of taking the training from the income.

6. Transitional premium-free medical-hospital coverage. The step from social assistance to self-support is a big step and a very important one. In order to make that adjustment easier and more smoothly accomplished, the director may permit the continuation of medical and hospital benefits for up to three months after eligibility for the allowance ceases, in order to help the recipient in his rehabilitation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I turn to the general welfare assistance programme.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): What, no increase?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: In 1967, new regulations were introduced for this programme. Under this legislation, municipalities are required to provide assistance to persons who are likely to be in need for shorter periods of time. Highlights of the changes introduced today are the extension of earnings exemptions to recipients in this programme along with an increase in the rates of assistance. In approving these increased rates, we are conscious of the increases in the cost of living since the last revisions.

Regarding earnings exemptions, in reviewing other programmes elsewhere, including the recent changes in Alberta, I consider that the exemptions on earnings plan under the family benefits programme as developed in Ontario, continue to be one of the most progressive. Mr. Speaker, you and all the hon. members of the House will recall that a recipient under the programme is exempted $24 a month and $12 for each dependent and 25 per cent of additional earnings.

The new regulations will allow municipalities to adopt the same exemptions, in their discretion, as those provided in the family benefits programme. The upward revision in the rates for food, shelter and other living expenses as outlined in the family benefits

programme are made applicable for general assistance.

Mr. Lewis: Oh, shame!

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the highlights in the changes in the programmes are increased incentives toward employment and a general increase in the rates of assistance. These changes are effective from May 1, 1970, and a concerted effort is being made by the department to be certain that cheques received in May will reflect the changes. An estimated 60,000 cases will benefit from the increases in the family benefits programme, and an estimated 35,000 cases will benefit from the increases in the general welfare assistance programme.

Mr. Speaker, a basic principle to which I subscribe is that we should help people who cannot help themselves, and we should help others to help themselves. I trust that these new provisions are further steps along that route.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, in view of the strange silence of the Attorney General in the period for ministerial statements, I would ask the Premier if he is prepared to make a statement to the House reasserting the right of the accused to remain silent, in view of Mr. Justice Haines' statement of last night?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not think it requires a statement here, Mr. Speaker. I read the report of Mr. Justice Haines' statement in the news today; I presume it is being examined and looked at. I read it myself with some interest, but I do not think it requires me to make a statement here this afternoon.

Mr. Nixon: By way of a supplementary question. Would the Premier with the Attorney General agree that this matter should be debated among the judiciary, rather than being a matter of policy of this government?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I have no doubt it will be debated very widely, by many interested people.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary. Perhaps I did not make it clear. The recommendation came from his Attorney General that it should be debated there, rather than being a statement of government policy. Of course, I deeply disagree with this, and I am surprised that the Premier—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. leader may ask a question.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, may I speak, in view of my remarks—

Mr. Speaker: Yes, we will redirect the question to the hon. Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Late last evening, after this House had risen, one of the newspapers acquainted me with the statement which at that time appeared in the late edition of the *Globe and Mail*. And I merely remarked that I did not propose to get into a controversial discussion through the newspaper with one of the justices of the high court, that if the matter were to be discussed I would prefer to discuss it in the proper way—

Mr. Nixon: In the Legislature.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —so that it could be discussed in full and not be a confrontation of a negative or positive attitude alone. That is all. And the law, I would point out to the Leader of the Opposition, remains the same no matter what His Lordship may have said. The law is the same today as it was yesterday, and there is no need for this House changing the law today; there is no opportunity and no thought of doing so.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question, then, to the Attorney General, to whom the question was redirected. Can he assure the House, then, that his statement that the matter should be debated by the judiciary is no indication of any equivocation on his part that the law must remain unchanged and, in fact, substantially reinforced by statements from the government?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: All I implied, Mr. Speaker, and all I stated was that if the subject was to be discussed, it should not be discussed in an adversary forum of persons individually being called by a reporter of a newspaper to get controversial statements in that way; if the subject was one worthy of discussion, it should be discussed in a full and proper forum. That is all.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests.

Is he now prepared to expand the investigation into commercial operations in Algonquin Park from the deliberations in private to a full, select committee that would have an expanded jurisdiction to examine these matters in all provincial parks?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, with reference to Algonquin park, I feel that the present task

force under our department, which has had close to 50 meetings up till now, along with the advisory committee headed by representatives of the various parties and other interested groups, are doing some very good work in coming to an interim report.

With reference to other parks, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has mentioned Quetico to me, suggesting that we should have an advisory committee on that park. It is a good suggestion, and that also is in the process of being implemented. I feel, Mr. Speaker, that at the present time we are doing everything possible to make sure that our parks are planned and managed the way they should be.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. When this matter was first raised in the House, when the minister first appointed the special committee, he indicated that he would consider expanding its terms of reference, in fact, upgrading it, if I can use that word, into a select committee. Has he then decided that he is not going to take that course of action?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As I have just indicated, Mr. Speaker, I could say that each park, and I think the hon. member will agree with me, is separate. The problems and conditions in Algonquin park are certainly quite different from the problems and conditions, say, in Quetico park in northwestern Ontario. Instead of having a select committee, I think it is better to have an advisory committee on each of the major parks, such as Algonquin, Quetico, Killarney and others, with representatives of the people of the immediate area, along with representatives from the various parties consisting of members who are concerned about those areas. I think there is a lot more to be said for this; it would be a lot more constructive than having, say, a select committee trying to deal with all the parks.

Mr. Nixon: I have a further question of the same minister.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question?

Mr. Nixon: No. A new question.

Mr. Speaker: We have a supplementary question from the member for Timiskaming.

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, does the Minister of Lands and Forests indicate to us that he is going to set up advisory committees on all of these parks at this time? What other action is he going to take to make sure that we do know what is going on on a continuing basis?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: What we are doing at the present time, Mr. Speaker, is that we have in this province over 100 parks. On a priority basis, we are in the process of obtaining information on the most important parks—if I may use, specifically, Quetico park. Then we will have an advisory committee, which will deal with these major parks. But with over 100 parks in the province, it is just impossible to plan them all at the one time; we have not got the money, we have not got the staff. We are doing it on a priority basis.

At the same time, we are not standing still. We are taking the necessary steps to manage these parks in the way that they should be managed, keeping in mind the economic and social and recreational uses of these parks.

Mr. Jackson: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister not agree with me that the knowledge that is gained by this advisory committee in the deliberations on Algonquin park would be invaluable in considerations of the other parks? Surely this is the committee that should sit on the other parks.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I agree, Mr. Speaker, that the knowledge gained by the members on the advisory committee on Algonquin park is very good knowledge. At the same time I would say to him, that I feel, and his party would feel, that the member, who is much closer to Quetico park is probably more knowledgeable on Quetico park than is the member for Timiskaming. This question of who should be on the committee, as it is being done with Algonquin park, is at the discretion of the leaders of each party.

Mr. Jackson: I would disagree with the minister, but—

Mr. Nixon: A question of the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests. Can he tell the House what share of the compensation payable to the fishermen in the Lake St. Clair area will be met by the government of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We had a meeting yesterday, Mr. Speaker, in Ottawa. It was a very good meeting, attended by my colleague, the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr), officials of the three departments concerned in Ontario, along with the hon. Mr. Davis, the federal Minister of Fisheries and Forestry, the hon. Mr. Greene and their officials. We came to an agreement

whereby we would recommend to our respective Treasury Boards that moneys should be advanced, and that a committee should be formed of both the federal and the provincial governments—a high-level committee—which will meet with representatives from, in this case, the fishermen's association. They would sit together, go to the areas and try to assess what the real problems are. As far as the exact amount of the percentage is concerned, this has not been decided.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question. Would the minister agree that this is a needlessly complex formula and, in fact, the governments, at whatever level, ought to make the decision to compensate the fishermen. Then, acting as the agents for the fishermen, they should recover what they can in toll from the polluting industries.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, we are very mindful of the needs of the fishermen, and we certainly do not want to see that the fishermen are deprived of their livelihood. Advances will be made to these fishermen in the very near future. Then, at some later stage we will try to recover those moneys from the industries that have been polluting those bodies of water.

Mr. Nixon: What about the legal expenses, as a supplementary question?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Again, Mr. Speaker, as far as the details of the legal expenses—

Mr. Nixon: That is a pretty big detail.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —they will all be kept very closely in mind and we will try—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey Bruce): What do you mean you will try?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —and we will try to recover those moneys from those industries.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, some of the news stories suggested that the fishermen themselves would have to take the matter to court and that the government would support them. Is that accurate, or is the government going to take action themselves *vis-à-vis* the company to recover any moneys that may be advanced to the fishermen?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, I would say at this stage, that we had a very good meeting in Ottawa. This afternoon the federal Minister of Fisheries and Forestry will be here. We are meeting with him. We are meeting with one of the principal industries concerned.

I believe at this stage, Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult, I think the members will appreciate, to be able to give exact details on how this will be worked out, but we are doing something. We went to Ottawa yesterday; Ottawa is coming here today. This committee is being formed and I hope to have some more definite information as soon as possible.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question. I recognize the delicacy of the situation at the moment but can the minister not give us assurance that the government will take action to reclaim the money rather than putting the onus on the little fishermen to have to take Dow Chemical to court?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, there are some legal complications here and I must admit, in my limited knowledge of law, that I cannot answer this question at this time. If we can—if the government can do the things that the member requests, we certainly will do them; but if we have not got the legal authority, it may be a different case.

Mr. Sargent: A supplementary. Surely the minister does not mean that he is going hat in hand to industry to try to recover the money? Are we on an assessment basis with industry? Is he going to assess them for the total overall cost or is he going to ask them?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The purpose of this meeting with the industry, Mr. Speaker, is to go into the very matters that the member mentioned.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Leader of the Opposition completed his questions? The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Social and Family Services in light of his statement earlier. Did the government give any consideration to lifting the allowable income exemption that now exists, by way of assisting those families that wish to take the initiative themselves to improve their position?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, that was part of the statement that I was trying to make clear. Under The Family Benefits Act programme we have had, in effect, income range exemptions of $24 plus $12 for each child plus 25 per cent over and above that.

We are now taking those provisions and making them applicable within the general welfare—

Mr. Lewis: Well, so what?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: —assistance subject to this, with the discretion of the municipalities. It is permissible so far as the municipality is concerned.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Surely the minister or his advisers recognize that those on family benefits continue to be locked into a cycle of poverty unless the allowable income opportunities are expanded. Would he not reconsider it on that basis?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the present income allowance exemption is one of the most generous on the continent.

Mr. Lewis: But it is below subsistence level.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: It has worked out successfully and we are applying it in the general welfare assistance. I assure the hon. members of this House, Mr. Speaker, that this aspect is receiving continuing study.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: A question of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Had the hon. member for York South finished his questions?

Mr. MacDonald: No, I have one more question, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. In view of the offer of Ivan Hillier, a 20-year employee of Dow Chemical in Sarnia, to verify that Dow Chemical has been pouring mercury into the sewer since 1964, and in the last week of March deliberately washed down a mercury spill into the sewer and that the company is forwarned of inspections so that it instructs its workers not to dump mercury while the river is being monitored, would the minister make arrangements for a standing committee of the Legislature or such other body as he sees fit, before which Mr. Hillier could come to provide the evidence of this action on the part of the company?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, as far as the company being forewarned of inspection is concerned, I would assume that this is inspection by, for example, the Ontario Water Resources Commission. I am not aware of that. I noticed the press article which dealt with this point and I raised this with the OWRC. They deny that this goes on.

As far as Mr. Hillier giving this information is concerned, I would think that it is quite possible that Mr. Hillier may come in very handy, and be very valuable before this current matter of compensation is settled. I would think that he should wait the disposition of this particular crisis.

Mr. MacDonald: The minister has not specifically answered the question I asked. Is he, in effect, saying that there will be some sort of a tribunal to which Mr. Hillier will be able to present this evidence as they are coming to conclusions with regard to the compensation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If it is necessary before compensation is settled, before these claims are settled, to resort to the courts, it is quite possible that evidence such as the hon. member says Mr. Hillier possesses would be required at such a hearing. However, if it is not, I see no objection, for example, to having the OWRC appear before the committee on government commissions and somebody like Mr. Hillier making a statement.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Sandwich-Riverside a supplementary?

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Is it not possible that this condensation of mercury and the spilling is inside the plant and that the forewarnings that have been mentioned would be under the department of environmental or occupational health and that the minister, perhaps, was asking the wrong department?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I assumed, Mr. Speaker, from the hon. member from York South's question that he was referring to inspections dealing with mercury spills that eventually end up in some receiving water. I am not sure about in-plant contamination.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sarnia.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): I have a question—

Mr. Speaker: I presume the member for York South has completed his questions? The member for Sarnia.

Mr. Bullbrook: I have a question in 10 parts for the hon. Attorney General and Minister of Justice.

1. In connection with his recent statement, relative to the report of the grand jury of the county of York, would the Attorney General advise whether he or his staff personally contacted anyone in the offices of the crown attorney of Metropolitan Toronto in the county of York? If so, who was contacted and does the information received from them confirm the basis of such statement?

Does The Juror's Act of Ontario define the word " institution"? If not, would the Attorney General advise the basis for his interpretation that "institution" relates only to physical buildings and not to emanations of the Crown involved in the enforcing of law—

Mr. Speaker: Order! I think I have listened far enough to the hon. member's question to decide that it is not an urgent matter. It is a matter of public importance and perhaps the hon. member would send a copy of it to the minister so that, if he wishes, he may put it on the order paper. I do not think that it is of the urgent type that is required for the oral question period.

Mr. Bullbrook: I am not wishing to debate your ruling, sir, but most respectfully, this relates to a continuing grand jury at the present time and the attitude of the chief law enforcement officer of the province of Ontario in connection with the function and responsibility of such grand jury. While I accept your ruling, sir, I would suggest most respectfully it is somewhat contemporary—

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Order!

Mr. Bullbrook: —and, I suggest, urgent.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, perhaps it would help if I would accept the question and ask that it be directed to the order paper.

Mr. Speaker: That lies entirely within the minister's power, but I think that in order for him to do that, then perhaps it should be fully read.

Mr. Bullbrook: May I continue now, sir?

3. Would the Attorney General advise the basis for his interpretation that "institution" relates only to physical buildings and not to emanations of the Crown involved in the enforcement of law or the administration of justice?

4. Did the grand jury for the county of York have the authority to inspect the crown attorney's office, if not, why not?

5. Would the Attorney General advise the legal foundation for his assertion that a grand jury sits for a matter of a few days to two weeks? Is the tenure of a grand jury not subject to the discretion of the presiding judge and, therefore, should the grand jury not sit extensively longer than two weeks?

6. When was the complement of 30 crown prosecutors set? Has this complement taken into consideration the increase of true bills from 233 in 1964 to 721 in 1969? If such complement takes into consideration such increase, would the Attorney General explain the ratio increase in proportion to the ratio increase of true bills?

7. Why is it that the written salary schedules of the crown attorney's office has so many similar salaries if the salaries are in accordance with merit and individual ability?

8. Why does the present salary schedule available to the questioner show only five levels of salary instead of the seven levels referred to by the Attorney General?

9. Does any member of the crown attorney's office sit on the appraisal committee referred to in the Attorney General's statement?

10. Does the Attorney General intend to review the grand jury reports for the three previous years, and will he give reasons as to the non-implementation of the apparently worthwhile recommendations?

Mr. Speaker: That is to be directed to the order paper. The member for High Park.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): To the Attorney General also, Mr. Speaker. Does the Attorney General intend to take any action on the request sent to him last month by the Canada Trust Company, in which they request that persons under the age of 21 be allowed to make their own wills in this province, in view of the fact that they point out,

> If a person is competent enough to own assets, work, vote, pay taxes, serve in the armed forces and get married, surely the same person should not be considered incompetent for the purposes of disposing of his estate.

Mr. Lewis: Preferably through Canada Trust.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, this would be a matter of policy, and the whole matter of the age of majority with respect to various responsibilities of a person is under consideration.

Mr. Shulman: A supplementary. Is the minister aware that other provinces have now made this change, and can he not bring Ontario in line with those other provinces?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Oh yes, the minister is quite aware of the situation in various states and countries of the world, actually.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: A question of the Prime Minister. I wish to ask the Prime Minister if he does not consider it is in the public interest, and if there is still time to oppose the takeover by Consumers' Gas to guard against the monopoly of a public utility?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I think that we established in this Legislature that it was in the public interest that the whole matter be examined, and we therefore amended the legislation to provide that the transaction go before the energy board where it is at the present time. Those hearings have not been completed, so the public interest is being served in that way.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Lands and Forests. What is the basis for the statement made that the mercury problem in fish might be cleared up in about 20 weeks?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: In the debate last Wednesday, Mr. Speaker, I mentioned that in those areas where the sources of contamination and pollution are eliminated, it is possible within a period of 17 to 20 weeks that fish could more or less clean themselves of the mercury and they could become fit for human consumption.

Mr. Burr: Well, as a supplementary question. What evidence is there that the fish do eliminate the mercury when the mercury is not going to be eliminated in the water?

Mr. Speaker: Now, the hon. member is making a statement; he is also asking a question that may be supplementary but is not of that urgent public importance. In view of the minister's answer, I would consider there should be no more supplementaries here and give the floor to the member for Welland South.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question of the Minister of Social and Family Services. The minister has received a brief prepared by the residents' council of Sunset Haven Home for the Aged, county of Welland, requesting that the government take the necessary action to increase the amount of pocket money paid to residents at the home for the aged and to help offset the high cost of living. Is the minister prepared now to implement the necessary regulations to provide the necessary increase?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the answer to that question is no.

Mr. Speaker: Does the member for Hamilton East have a question?

Mr. Lewis: We have some problems on this side, Mr. Speaker.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Lewis: This House induces sleep.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): The problem, Mr. Speaker, is just one of trying to be responsible. We thought the question had been asked but, to make sure, I am going to put the question again to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. In regard to statements attributed to the minister in this morning's paper, about compensation to those fishermen who have been financially affected by mercury contamination, the minister implies that if Dow Chemical does not reimburse the government for compensation that is paid to the fishermen, they will support and back the fishermen up in any litigation. The minister goes on to say that he knows of no way the province itself could launch a suit against the company, because it is not a victim of pollution. Would the minister not agree that to correct this situation is only a matter of amendment or legislation to allow the Crown to move on behalf of the victims of pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, basically the same question has been asked, I think, of my colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests. What I indicated was that if the company or the polluter did not reimburse or compensate the fishermen, we would do everything possible to assist the fishermen in any claims they might launch. Whether or not the province has a remedy for civil damages against the polluter is something that is a legal question; it is a question of whether or not we have legal grounds by way of tort to establish a case in respect to civil liability of the company to the government. If we

have, of course, we would use this course, but at the present time I know of no precedent that would give us such right.

Mr. Gisborn: As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In regard to the minister's answer, my question was if they are in doubt or feel they have not the right under the OWRC legislation to sue industry because they are not the victim of pollution, is it not just a case of amending legislation or enacting new legislation to provide that the Crown can take action against an industry on behalf of people of Ontario who are victims of pollution by industry?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is quite possible, Mr. Speaker, that this could be made a statutory offence—

Mr. Gisborn: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —that, for example, The OWRC Act could be amended to provide this type of remedy. We have not got it at the present time, and therefore it is a matter of establishing a question of civil damages and civil liability.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary? The member for Dovercourt.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): I was wondering, Mr. Speaker, if the minister might consider the fishermen subrogating their rights to the province of Ontario so that the government can sue on behalf of the fishermen. Is that not a proper legal remedy—subrogation of their rights?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I doubt it. Just off the top of my head, Mr. Speaker, I think there would have to be some right in the Crown or civil remedies in order to obtain the subrogation of whatever rights may exist to the fishermen at the present time. So this is a legal question, a rather involved legal question. It certainly will have to be considered in the event that satisfactory arrangements are not made with the polluter.

Mr. De Monte: By way of supplementary, in order to clarify that point. Is the minister saying that the province cannot obtain a subrogated right from the fishermen unless they have a right? Is that what the minister is saying, Mr. Speaker?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is what I am saying, Mr. Speaker. There would have to be some right in the Crown to launch a civil suit before—

Mr. Lewis: Question.

Mr Speaker: This completes the oral question period. Today is a half-hour period.

Mr Lewis: Oh, three minutes, Mr. Speaker!

Mr. Speaker: No, not three minutes.

Mr. Lewis: You are precipitate today.

Mr. Speaker: I am not precipitate today. I keep track of this with the assistance of the Clerk.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Mr. Speaker: Before the orders of the day, perhaps I might clarify a matter that caused us all some debate and some discussion yesterday, and I do so on the following terms.

Yesterday the member for York South, in the course of the budget debate, moved what purported to be an adjournment motion which included provisions amounting to a want-of-confidence motion. It seemed to me at the time that this was, to say the least, an unusual procedure. I inclined to the opinion that a want-of-confidence motion should be moved only on one of those occasions contemplated by our standing orders and recognized procedures, or by a substantive motion of which notice had been given on the notice paper, and that a motion to adjourn the debate should be just that and nothing more. Rather than delay the business of the House while considering this matter, I decided at the time to accept the motion, at least for the moment.

I have now had an opportunity to refer to the authorities. It is necessary to draw the distinction between ancillary motions to adjourn the House or the debate and dilatory or superseding motions, even though the form of the motion is identical in each case. The former are part of the technical procedure in the House—for example, a motion to adjourn a debate before or between orders of the day—while the latter are for the purpose of interrupting and superseding the question already under consideration.

Both Lewis and May make it clear that the form of the motion, and the resulting question put by Mr. Speaker, is simply for the adjournment of the House on the debate, without extraneous words. May is particularly clear,

at page 404 of the 17th edition, where he says that such a motion,

> must be simply that the debate be now adjourned, and cannot be coupled with prefatory words; nor is it allowable to move that the debate be adjourned to any future time specified.

The foregoing applies equally to dilatory motions to adjourn the House.

For the benefit of the member for Humber (Mr. Ben), I should mention that he was right in his reference to May, which indicated the correct, simple form of such motions. However, he was incorrect in his suggestion that such dilatory motions are not debatable under the British rule.

That rule is the same as our Standing Order 38(c), under which we are operating for the time being. Such motions are debatable, but the debate must be confined to the matter of such motion. I refer the member to May, page 449, last paragraph.

Perhaps it is desirable to remind the House of the consequence of a successful superseding or dilatory motion. If such a motion is moved in proper form to adjourn the House and is carried, it supersedes the original question for that session. For example, if the member for York South's motion of yesterday had been to adjourn the House and had been in order and had carried, it would have killed the Leader of the Opposition's amendment to the budget motion.

However, if the motion is merely to adjourn the debate, the result is not quite so severe. It supersedes the original question and removes it from the order paper for the time being, but such order can be renewed.

For the reasons stated, I must now make it clear that the member for York South's motion of yesterday was out of order and that I should not have accepted it. All the subsequent procedure should not, therefore, have taken place and will not constitute a precedent for this House in the future.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Delete it from the record.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to table answers to questions 1, 4, 5 and 8 on the order paper (see appendix page 1297).

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, there is a point of order which I would like to raise with you and, through you, with the Prime Minister. It was my understanding for some years past that Wednesday morning was going to be reserved for caucus meetings and that government departments and standing committees would bear that in mind so that there would be no interruptions. There is developing a practice, which occurred periodically in years gone by but is emerging again. For example, the highways department this morning arranged a tour of inspection of the Downsview headquarters, and on occasions, standing committees meet on Wednesday morning.

I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if the Prime Minister would give consideration of some general reaffirmation of the rule that Wednesday morning would be kept free. Then, when one plans to have caucus meetings, one does not find that half the members have to be drained off into various other activities which are conflicting.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I know that Wednesday mornings were kept clear for caucus activities. I do not think that what happened this morning was done with any intent of disrupting the caucus. The point, really, is that if all the members are to have that type of instructive visit, the time to have it is when there are no committee meetings, which has automatically been Wednesday morning.

I think, probably, this is a matter that should be left to the whips because the tour this morning was not put on for the benefit of The Department of Highways. It was put on for the benefit of the members who wish to go through The Department of Highways and see how it is functioning. Of course, it would be logical to have such a tour on Wednesday morning because that is the morning when there are no committee meetings. In order to resolve this, I think that the whips should be able to agree. If you were having a caucus this morning, then perhaps that meeting should have been scheduled for some time that would have been convenient for your caucus. I would not want to be so rigid as to say that there would be nothing but caucus meetings on Wednesday morning because that is the morning in the week when all the members are free and clear of any committee duties. Perhaps we could leave this matter to be settled by the whips by agreement.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege. Yesterday two committees were asked to meet at 11 o'clock—the committee on agriculture, and the committee on highways and transport. Both meetings lasted for a period of about 10 minutes. I was invited

to both meetings, as a member of both committees. It was physically impossible for me to attend both and yet if they had been scheduled an hour apart I could have attended the committees as I should have.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt very much if that is a matter of privilege because I do not think the member's privileges have been interfered with. But it is a matter that I think the whips, or whoever is in charge of setting committee meetings, should take into account. I am sure many members have the same difficulty from time to time and since there are whips in the House, I am quite sure that will be dealt with.

Orders of the day.

DETROIT HOTEL LIMITED

Mr. B. Newman moves second reading of Bill Pr1, An Act respecting Detroit Hotel Limited.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: As the members will understand and the clerk has reminded me, after second reading, bills must be despatched somewhere, and so I ask the question, shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH (1)

Mr. Pitman moves second reading of Bill Pr2, An Act respecting the City of Peterborough (1).

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

INCORPORATED SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF ONTARIO

In the absence of Mr. Potter, Mr. R. G. Hodgson moves second reading of Bill Pr3, An Act respecting The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Ontario.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS

Mr. Bukator moves second reading of Bill Pr4, An Act respecting the City of Niagara Falls.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

Clerk of the House: The 53rd order, second reading of Bill Pr5, An Act respecting the City of Hamilton—Mrs. Pritchard.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, the bill—

Mr. Speaker: Unless the hon. member is going to move second reading of the bill—

Mr. Gisborn: I would like to draw your attention to the order paper which said the bill has not been reprinted. I wonder if there is an amendment?

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): I will withdraw that.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister is withdrawing that order of business.

HALDIMAND-NORFOLK COUNTY CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Allan moves second reading of Bill Pr6, An Act respecting the Haldimand-Norfolk County Roman Catholic Separate School Board.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

COUNTY OF PETERBOROUGH

Mr. Pitman moves second reading of Bill Pr7, An Act respecting the County of Peterborough.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

CITY OF ORILLIA

In the absence of Mr. G. E. Smith, Mr. Evans moves second reading of Bill Pr8, An Act respecting the City of Orillia.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: I am advised by the Clerk that there is a notice of amendment to this bill so therefore it will need to go to the committee of the whole House.

Agreed.

SPRINGDALE CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH

Mr. Evans moves second reading of Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Springdale Christian Reform Church.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be directed for third reading?

Agreed.

TOWNSHIP OF AMELIASBURGH

In the absence of Mr. Whitney, Mr. Apps moves second reading of Bill Pr10, An Act respecting the Township of Ameliasburgh.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

ST. CATHARINES GENERAL HOSPITAL

In the absence of Mr. R. M. Johnston, Mr. Evans moves second reading of Bill Pr11, An Act respecting the St. Catharines General Hospital.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

CAMP SHAHWUNDAIS

In the absence of Mr. Peacock, Mr. Jackson moves second reading of Bill Pr12, An Act respecting Camp Shahwundais.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

CITY OF OWEN SOUND

Mr. Sargent moves second reading of Bill Pr13, An Act respecting the City of Owen Sound.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

INCORPORATED SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF HURON

In the absence of Mr. McNeil, Mr. Evans moves second reading of Bill Pr14, An Act respecting the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

TORONTO EAST GENERAL AND ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL

In the absence of Mr. Meen, Mr. Apps moves second reading of Bill Pr15, An Act respecting Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

CITY OF TORONTO

In the absence of Mr. Price, Mr. Apps moves second reading of Bill Pr18, An Act respecting the City of Toronto.

Mr. Speaker: May I be assured by the Clerk that even though marked "not printed" it is printed?

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

CORNWALL STREET RAILWAY, LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, LIMITED

Mr. Villeneuve moves second reading of Bill Pr21, An Act respecting Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company Limited.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

TOWN OF OAKVILLE

In the absence of Mr. Snow, Mr. Villeneuve moves second reading of Bill Pr22, An Act respecting the Town of Oakville.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

SIDNEY GOLDSTONE LIMITED

Mr. De Monte moves second reading of Bill Pr24, An Act respecting Sidney Goldstone Limited.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

MORINA ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED

In the absence of Mr. Price, Mr. Apps moves second reading of Bill Pr27, An Act respecting Morina Electronics Manufacturing Company Limited.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

FERMACK BOWLING LIMITED

In the absence of Mr. Price, Mr. Apps moves second reading of Bill Pr28, An Act respecting Fermack Bowling Limited.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS

Mr. Bukator moves second reading of Bill Pr29, An Act respecting the City of Niagara Falls.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: I am advised that there is also a notice of an amendment to this bill. Is it agreed it should go to the committee of the whole House?

Agreed.

TOWN OF BRAMPTON

In the absence of Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Apps moves second reading of Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the town of Brampton.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Mr. Deacon moves second reading of Bill Pr33, An Act respecting the Excelsior Life Insurance Company.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shall this bill be ordered for third reading?

Agreed.

Clerk of the House: The sixth order, second reading of Bill 43, An Act to establish the Ontario Educational Communications Authority.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, before you put the motion. We were informed last night by the House leader that we were going to deal with the second readings of government bills in order. It appears to me that we should therefore begin with Bill 7.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I sent a notice to the leader, saying the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) finds it necessary to leave the House.

Mr. Nixon: Not again!

Hon. Mr. Welch: Therefore, I thought by giving him sufficient notice ahead of time, we would call Bill 43 and then we would go back to the order.

Mr. Nixon: Further to the point of order. The notice arrived on my desk as we came in for prayers. While we are prepared to debate the bill at any time, I just thought I would draw to the House leader's attention that it is considerably inconvenient.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Nitpicking.

Mr. Nixon: If the Minister of Municipal Affairs would pay attention—

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Nitpicking.

Mr. Nixon: —there are lots of nits over there to pick.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Perhaps I should point out to the members something I believe we all know: The order of government business is the responsibility entirely of the government, and can be called as the House leader desires.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order. As far as the rules are concerned and as far as Mr. Speaker is concerned, that is the situation. I understand the situation here, but I would point out to the members that unless or until the rules are changed, the government House leader has the right to call any order of government business that he deems fit.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): On a point of order, I want to say that may be a strict interpretation of the rules, but there is custom and usage of long standing in the House that we will be advised at least a day before as to the order of government business. In that respect the Provincial Secretary, as the House leader, complied last night; the Leader of the Opposition rose and specifically asked him if the law society bill was one of those that would be called. This morning, further inquiries were made as to the order, and once again we were informed, I am told, that the law society bill would be the first order of business.

I was in Guelph, appearing before the Canadian Transport Commission in respect of the discontinuance of a train, and I terminated my appearance before that commission and hastened here to be present for the calling of the law society bill. In spite of that very hurried trip, when I arrived I was told it was not that bill at all, that the Minister of Education, as is his wont, has thrust himself into the breach with another bill. You have stated correctly the strict legal interpretation, but certainly custom, usage and courtesy override those considerations.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether or not you feel it necessary to have any further explanation on this point of order, and I do apologize if there is any misunderstanding.

I was not asked last evening by the Leader of the Opposition about the order in which government bills would be called today. I do not know who gave the information as to the order this morning; it certainly was not me, because I was in Barrie all morning. I did indicate that the government bills that are on the order paper and printed would be called for second reading today, along with private bills. Then I was asked specifically if that included the law society bill, to which I replied "yes". Now, this misunderstanding as to the order—

Mr. Nixon: The implication was that they would be called in order.

Hon. Mr. Welch: No, you will not find that in *Hansard* from last night. If the leader does, I will give him a public apology and I will buy him a dinner. That is how sure I am.

Mr. Speaker: Before we proceed, may I say as far as Mr. Speaker is concerned that what happens between offices in the mornings or in the evenings is not within his knowledge and he must be bound by the rules. He also would say that there are matters of courtesy that perhaps have set up precedents here, as referred to by the member for Sudbury, which Mr. Speaker is always quite willing to acknowledge and to accept. However, in this case, the House leader has called order No. 6 and that I presume will be the order we proceed by.

ONTARIO EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

Hon. Mr. Davis moves second reading of Bill 43, An Act to establish the Ontario Educational Communications Authority.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, the issue is a fairly simple one on this bill; the principle is a very simple one, and I shall explain it. This party is going to vote in principle against this bill. The reason is that the bill contains a principle of bureaucratic centralization of educational television in this province as opposed to the principle of participation in the decision-making and, if you like, community control of educational television in this province.

In our opinion, this is a fraudulent bill in that it purports or pretends to be something that it is not. It pretends to be transferring the power over educational television decision-making in this province away from the minister and into the hands of an educational communications authority.

The bill does nothing; the bill simply calls ministerial control over educational television in this province by a different name. It simply renames the educational television branch of the minister's department as an educational communications authority.

For example—and I do this by illustration of a principle, Mr. Speaker—all 13 members of the authority are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, which is the minister in this case. The chairman is not elected by that 13-member council; the chairman is appointed by the minister. We find that the board, which is identical to the authority, has a vice-chairman, and the vice-chairman is designated from among the members of the board by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

So not only does the minister have the power to appoint all the members; not only does he have the power to appoint the chairman; he has the power to appoint the vice-chairman of the board. Not only does he have the power to appoint the vice-chairman of the board, he can in this bill prescribe the exact duties of the vice-chairman of the board.

In another section of the bill, by way of illustration of a principle in the bill, section 3(c) says: "The objects of the authority are to discharge such other duties relating to educational broadcasting and communications as the minister may direct." We get away from this hankypanky of Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council; we find that the intent becomes very clear in this bill. The minister may direct what this authority may do in terms of other duties. I do not call that any different from what the minister does at the present time. Then, to really rub in the personal direct control of educational television by the Minister of Education in the years ahead, we find that under section 6(1) the chairman, who is appointed by the minister, is the chief executive officer of the board and shall be paid such salary as the minister decides. In this case, of course, the bill uses the phraseology, "the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council."

So this council's authority—13 members appointed by the minister—does not have the right to appoint its chairman or the chairman of the board. It does not have the right on its own to appoint the vice-chairman of the board. It does not even have the right to appoint the chief executive officer, because those two functions are dovetailed into the position of the chairman of the board.

So the principle illustrated, if you like, by these specific examples in the bill, is a very simple one, Mr. Speaker. There will be no change in who runs educational television in this province after this bill is undoubtedly passed because the government has the majority. It will be a perpetuation of the system that has existed in the past.

Indeed, I think I could rationalize arguments for suggesting that the minister's direct control over educational television in this province might even be enhanced under this bill, compared to what it is now. Because at least he has the curriculum branch in his department cross-checking those who are writing the curriculum for educational television programmes in this province. You take them out of there and put them in their own big building and there is not even the cross-checking of the minister's curriculum branch. You can get right in there and run the whole thing.

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Not at all!

Mr. T. Reid: One of the principles of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is simply management from the top, directly from the minister. In terms of the authority of the board itself. It is authoritarian. It appoints advisory committees. It does not carry out the wishes, if you like, of a number of regional authorities which would make up a central authority. It is a management-from-the-top concept of administration and management and this, sir, is contrary to the whole direction that education decision-making in this province must take in the 1970s. It is setting up another centralized bureaucracy at a time when power should be

dispersed throughout the education system in this province.

You know, Mr. Speaker, it does not even contain the principle that those who will be involved in educational television in the classroom, in the schools, will have a right to be on a central management committee, which will have the power to make legal decisions under an Act of this Legislature.

There is nothing in this bill, Mr. Speaker, that contains the principle of participation of the teachers of this province in this centralized authority. It does not say anywhere in here that it is time to get education in this province back into the hands of the teachers, the parents and the students.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): It never was in the hands of the teachers.

Mr. T. Reid: It was. I went to a little red school house back in 1942 and that is really where it was!

What we need, Mr. Speaker, in this bill are the principles which I have incorporated in an Act on which I gave notice to this House on February 27. I put on the order paper, An Act to establish a Community Educational Television Authority, and the principles I would have had contained in that bill, as compared to the principles contained in this bill, Mr. Speaker, are twofold.

One, I would have made certain that in the centralized body at least half the members, whether 13 or 20 members, would get there without any veto power or appointment power by the Minister of Education in this province. I would have given to the Ontario Teachers' Federation—and perhaps some of its subgroups, to ensure representation from the secondary school level and the elementary school level—the legal right to appoint, through their democratic procedures, at least three or four members of the central authority. They would be there whether they got along with the minister personally or not. You would not have the veto power over their appointment.

I would also, Mr. Speaker, in contrast to the principles in this bill, have recommended the establishment, in the first instance, of five geographic regional, educational television authorities in this province. The principles of participation of the people still living in those regions, in those ETV regional authorities, would have included some trustees, some teachers in that area, some pupils, yes, and some adults in the community. Then, I would have created the central authority above that, by letting those regional authorities decide—

Mr. Speaker: I think it is very interesting in the House to hear what the hon. member would have done if he had a bill, but I think he might, perhaps, stick to the principle of the bill that is presently before the House. If he wishes to use these as illustrations, that is quite proper, but the manner in which he is doing it now is, in my opinion, out of order. I would ask him to change his method of approach.

Mr. T. Reid: In short, Mr. Speaker, this bill starts from the assumption of management from the top down, whereas it should have contained the principle from the bottom up, if you like. The power should have come from the local community groups to the central authority instead of giving to the central authority a residual power to create any advisory groups they want. That is the fundamental point I want to make.

I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that this bill, even as it is, does not state anywhere that there shall be established regional authorities. The words are not even mentioned in this bill. We hear the minister talking about the need for decentralization of education decision-making in this province. There is nothing that contains the principle of educational decentralization and local autonomy or local participation. That is a principle that is lacking in this bill. It is a fundamental principle and is one of the basic reasons why we will not support this bill in principle.

I almost suspect, Mr. Speaker, that the minister does not want to put in any mention of regional authorities here because he does not like the present META-type setup presently in operation in Ottawa to become the regional authority for that region. In other words, I suspect, because he does not get along with what is happening in Ottawa, he will not spell out a basic principle of regional participation in this bill.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I simply say that the chairman of this board is obviously going to be the real centre of power. I say to the minister that that is too much power in the hands of one person appointed by himself.

I think there should be some cross-checks on ministerial power in this province and I hate to see a hand-picked member of the minister's present department put in at the top level job of the chairman and chief executive officer. I think that if a Department of Education official is put into that position that we will have a bias built into educational television in the future that is away from community involvement, that stresses simply in-school broadcasting.

Mr. Speaker, on those grounds of principle—that this is an authoritarian Act which does not contain the principles of community involvement or participation of those involved in the actual implementation of educational television of this province, and because it is a perpetuation of centralized bureaucracy in this province over another another area of educational television—we cannot support this bill in principle.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, I might put the position of our party as clearly as possible. We support the principle of a bill to establish a television authority, a communication authority. We see within this bill certain structural weaknesses and we will indicate when this bill reaches committee ways and means by which we think that this authority can be made more democratic, to assure that the activities of the authority are open to scrutiny by anyone in this province; means by which we would assure that there is proper representation of all sectors of the province and, particularly, by which there is representation of those who are most concerned about education in this province.

Although these are arguments which I think we can deal with in committee, I think the main thing we must realize is that we desperately need some kind of authority to end the confusion which exists in educational television in this province, and has existed in this province for the last five or six years.

The development of the ETV branch, which was established on July 1, 1966, cleared away only part of that confusion. It gave a certain pattern, a direction, to the creation of programmes for the province of Ontario. It did not, however, deal with the question of the reception of television and that is where largely the confusion has lain. Indeed, if we look at educational television in Ontario in the past three or four years, one cannot help but be concerned with the degree of lack of leadership which has been shown in this area. I am quite aware of the fact that the hangup, so to speak, in Ottawa has been one of the major problems which has occasioned that situation.

I have been concerned over the past number of years, and I see in this bill an opportunity to deal with those problems. The fact that there has been a lack of grants from The Department of Education for the purchase of television hardware—certainly sets were purchased through grants—but certainly not the other forms of hardware which were so necessary for the production and reception of educational television. The fact that there was no setting up of standards for the kind of hardware which was to be provided in the schools of Ontario; the fact that there was no assurance of compatibility of the very types of educational hardware which were brought into the schools—I wonder at this time, with the very high costs in education, whether we may not find in the classrooms of Ontario, a great deal of material which will have to be shovelled off to the side and will lie unused in the future simply because of this leadership. There was no authority in this very important area.

I have been very impressed by what the ETV branch has accomplished over the past four years. It has produced some remarkable material, but the unfortunate thing is that this material has not reached students; it has not reached into the classroom. The impact of educational television has been minimal in the province of Ontario. In spite of the massive efforts to provide information, brochures, booklets, schedules—the whole spectrum of communication which has come from The Department of Education in regard to this important media—so far as the secondary school is concerned, there has been very little use of educational television.

This is where I see, finally, some organizational chaos. As the minister well knows, in the secondary schools, five of the programmes are on at the wrong time. They virtually demand a total reorganization of the high school schedule simply to get a programme for some 30 or 40 students.

I think a recent survey done by META in the Metropolitan Toronto area, an area which surely has the greatest degree of use of any area in Ontario, has discovered that there was, really, something like an hour a month in which the average student in Ontario received any impact or any influence from educational television. That is the principle of this bill, Mr. Speaker, as I see it. The structure of authority itself is something we can battle over during the period of the committee. We can demand assurances from the minister that there will be a recognition, that educational television is something which involves the whole of Ontario, not just the reception area for channel 19 in the Metropolitan Toronto area and its environs.

We can demand that the greatest problem in educational television is the attitude of teachers. I think even the Ontario Teachers' Federation has made its views known to the minister. They view with considerable concern the expansion, the escalation, of educa-

tional television, unless there is a clear direction of what role teachers are going to play in the use of this medium.

We shall make our points very clear, I think, in committee on those points. But the point which I see, Mr. Speaker, as being the most important in this bill revolves around sections 3 and 7 and 1 of the roles of authorities to engage in research. I say to the minister that what we need to know more than anything else at this point, four or five years after educational television has made its mark in the province of Ontario, is what is the role of educational television? We do not know. I am not going to get into a philosophical dissertation involving Marshal McLuhan and all of the other moguls who do have some views as to what the role of educational television shall be. But I do suggest to the minister that this is a necessary function. I would hope that the first priority of this authority is to put people in a position to spend some time thinking about the philosophy of education in this province and where educational television fits into that philosophy.

I have a few comments that I would be very glad to contribute. I think educational television has a role in providing some understanding of present events. It is the most present in its impact.

I would hope that the educational television authority might very well consider that a daily news-of-the-world programme for secondary school and elementary school students might be a way by which educational television could have an impact. I would certainly hope that the educational television authority would look with considerable dismay at simply putting films on and transferring other media into the educational television medium.

There is an opportunity to make television a unique teaching tool and it will demand, I say, a massive amount of research. And most of the research that has been done, Mr. Speaker, is specious indeed. As I remember reading in one periodical some time ago, the research that was done indicated that of some 200 students there were only 10 in that whole collection—largely from across the border—where there was any control group. So the most monstrous claims were being made for the value and importance of educational television and how great educational television was, compared with the use of text books and various other tools. Of course, there was absolutely no reason for making that assumption whatsoever. Even of the 10 studies that existed, there was no way of determining that educational television was doing either a worse or better job even on the limited view of what was being learned or what facts or information was being transferred. That is perhaps the first thing, too, that the minister should consider in this bill—setting up a research which involves deciding what kind of learning educational television should relate to.

One of the things, for example, I think the ETV branch has done is to get off the instructional television kick, because instructional television simply makes TV some kind of a weird addendum to a text book and really makes very little impact.

I am much concerned, as was the member for Scarborough East, about the role of the regional bodies. I would would hope that what role the various regional areas are going to play would be clarified very soon. Surely there must be not just a centralized channel 19-oriented concentration of activity here in Toronto. Good Lord, we have enough of that in every other area of the government of Ontario. For heaven's sake, let us make a massive effort to get the activity going out into the province. I would hope that this would be one of the things—and I give the minister some degree of assurance that this will be something I will be pressing for in committee—that we find out: Exactly what will the various regional bodies have an opportunity to do? What will be the role of the central authority? What will be the special role—and, indeed, the role that is supported both financially and in concept by the Minister of Education—in the various regional groups across this province? What kind of programmes should be made here in Toronto for channel 19? What kind of programmes should be left to the area?

This is perhaps why I see less concern over the structure. I do have a concern stemming from its seeming lack of democratic aspects. But I think that the main role of this authority is to make television programmes, and I am convinced that if it is regionally organized there can be massive input, both by teachers and by community people in these regions.

Secondly, I dare the minister to try to use the authority for anything more than what is educational in its fullest and best sense, because he will create a revolution in the classrooms of Ontario that he has never seen before. The teachers of this province would

not for one minute allow him to put anything else on either the students or themselves. That is why I am less concerned about the authoritative situation in the structure of this body. But I can assure him that we will attempt to deal with that in committee.

I am concerned about a number of things, including the problem of priority. I hope he can tell us before we pass this bill who is going to have the opportunity to make use of the medium. What priority will be given to elementary schools, secondary schools, universities?

I hope, too, that we will get some idea of the role adult education will play in the thinking of the educational television authority, because when we come back to basics, educational television can have its greatest impact at the adult education level. Yet the strange and unfortunate thing is that, with channel 19 as an ultra-high-frequency station, a great many people will be unable to benefit from educational television from that source.

That comes back to a theme I shall belabour the minister with over the next number of months. We have an obsession with child and adolescent education in this province, and perhaps in this country. We should be stressing continuing education, and educational television is one gateway by which we can deflect this obsession and make our educational system far more relevant and far more real.

I am concerned about that educational television can do about providing real equality of educational opportunity. Now this is a phrase the minister is anxious to use at every opportunity, and rightly so. But I suggest to him that, as things stand now in the province of Ontario, we do not have equality of educational opportunity. The poor do not have real access to all the advantages that education allows, and educational television is one bridge by which we can get at the children of the poor. We can get at their parents, and we can provide a whole spectrum of services to people in the low-income brackets. I would want to see on this authority some indication that there is a concern on the part of The Department of Education for that very purpose.

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to prolong this debate. I am sure this bill will receive a very long and passionate discourse in the committee. I hope, most of all, that the minister has been in touch with the Ontario Teachers' Federation, that he has seriously discussed with them the role the teachers will play. One of the great strengths of the META organization is the very closeness to teachers; in fact, in some way the reason for their closeness to the teachers is because they were the cheapest form of labour they could find. But, in spite of that fact, it meant that teachers were responsible for the programmes, and for that reason they had some responsibility for it.

I say to the minister in closing that the worst thing that could be imagined would be if the educational television authority became some kind of isolated body sending down programmes that might distort or over-influence the activities in the classrooms of this province. If, as the member for Scarborough East has suggested, there is a matter of control from the top down, so far as the structure of this authority is concerned, then this is a control we surely do not agree with. It certainly must be from the bottom up, so far as the programming is concerned, within the power of the television authority.

We are pleased that this piece of legislation finally has come down; we have waited for many months.

My last words are that we see a dire necessity, a critical necessity, for some kind of television authority in the province of Ontario. For that reason, we support a piece of legislation that promises to bring order out of chaos. We will, however, have a great deal more to say in committee as to how this authority should be structured, what its role should be and the degree to which it will be democratically aligned.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, if I may begin my remarks with a further point of order. I now have a transcript of the words spoken in the Legislature at the close of the session. The House leader is no longer in his place, but he may be within sound of my voice.

I would like to say that he was correct in part when he indicated that the law society bill would be among those that would be discussed. It was his seatmate, the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Grossman), who indicated—and this is clearly reproduced in the *Hansard* report—that it was the only one to be discussed. So maybe it is the Minister of Correctional Services who will be providing that dinner for both of us. Is that all right?

In connection with the bill before us, I want to add my voice to the arguments already presented by the member for Scarborough East in opposition to the principle of this bill. I know the Minister of Education will vividly recall previous discussions of educational television that extended back at least

to 1962, in my memory, in which I and other members of the opposition had been pressing action on the minister and in fact, his predecessor, to move into the field of educational television. At that time, the minister and his predecessor regarded television as an educational instrument, as, I believe the word was, a gimmick, that he used. Since that time—

Hon. Mr. Davis: I have never said it was a gimmick.

Mr. Nixon: Perhaps it was his predecessor, since he is not in the House to defend himself. But there is no doubt, of course, that there has been extensive discussion, before the government had any professional advice on this matter at all, of the need for the province to come forward with an adequate programme to provide this facility to the schools in our province.

My own view—and I put it forward in detail, I think, probably for three years in a row—was that one of its most useful aspects would be in the provision of second language instruction in the schools of the province which, under the policy direction of the present government, had not been provided with adequate teaching facilities for this purpose. I believe the language teaching facilities are still disastrously inadequate.

In most classrooms of this province, a second language is taught more as a code than as something that might very well be a part of the deepening culture of our young people. I still believe that educational television can serve this function. It will not be until emphasis is put on the use of television for this purpose that any meaningful, perhaps I had better qualify that, that more meaningful language instruction will come about.

I was interested to read an article in one of the more progressive magazines concerning education, just the other day. They have come to the conclusion that one of the marks of an over-structured school is the big television set at the front of the room, where structured classes will gather around for the implantation of certain segments of knowledge from time to time. The stress, in the opinion of the author of the article I was reading, is that we should move away from the big monolithic television set on four casters that is pushed around the halls—or, under this jurisdiction, is in the corner of almost every classroom—to something that is considerably more informal and that, perhaps, would meet the needs of a less structured classroom situation.

I want to deal specifically with the principle of the bill, which constitutes an educational television authority, as is required by federal regulation. It would not be possible for the province of Ontario to take part in the use of channel 19, unless such an authority were designated. I believe firmly that those people at the federal level, who required such an authority, did not have in mind that the authority would, in fact, be a segment of the minister's department so designated.

Surely it was placed in the regulations, or made a primary requirement? So that there would no chance, in the foreseeable or dim and distant future, as administrations come and go and ministers change, when someone, perhaps less sensitive to the needs and responsibilities of the ministership of this particular ministry, might very well use an educational authority for purposes that would be something less than fair and democratic.

The way this is constituted, of course, is simply a designation of, I presume, those people already working in the government's department, or in The Department of Education, as an authority. I have no quarrel whatsoever with the people in the department who have been working so well in recent years, that even without an authority we have made significant strides in the use of education television, in spite of what the member for Peterborough has implied. But the fact remains that the authority will be in the minister's hip pocket, something that I am surprised that he would ever undertake. He can protest, as I am sure he will, that he has got many more important things to do than, let us say, require that last week's provincial affairs of the Conservative Party are broadcast every hour on the hour over his own personal television network. I am sure that even he would not contemplate that sort of thing. If he did, it would be a disaster for his party anyway. I have seen some of their programmes.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): For artistic reasons alone.

Mr. Nixon: But, Mr. Speaker, the concept is there, surely if we are going to involve the community in a new method of education, one that should be considerably less structured than those that come directly under the minister's control. We should not have the authority run directly by the minister, by people appointed by him, by people instructed by him, by people paid directly by him.

I am aware that Mr. McRuer in his recommendations associated with this sort of responsibility has said that the safeguards of democracy are that the minister in whatever department might be concerned has the final authority. The word is used in a different context, and of course, that is so. This Legislature, under the recommendation of the minister, will be called to vote sums varying from year to year, from now until well into the unforseeable future. This year, we are asked to vote about $4 million which, of course, will be spent by simply an arm of the minister's department.

I basically disagree with the rationalization put forward by the member for Peterborough, when he says that while he disagrees with some aspects of the bill he is going to vote for it simply to bring educational television into being.

Mr. Pitman: I did not say that at all.

Mr. Nixon: We have educational television here. There has been substantial improvement in what has been accomplished in recent years. I am very much afraid, however, that in supporting the principle of this bill, the Conservatives and the NDP are simply supporting a very archaic view indeed, that every emanation of government must come directly under the minister. In this particular case, a new and a very powerful means of public communication, particularly as it is directed into the classrooms of our province, will come under his specific direction.

I am disappointed that the minister has brought forward legislation in this form. I can tell you that we, in all seriousness will vote against the bill in principle.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I only have two or three very brief comments to make about the principle of the bill, related mainly to the structure which the minister has chosen. I think, as my colleague the member for Peterborough has said, we support the principle of the establishment of a communications authority for education purposes in the province of Ontario. We have no basic quarrel with this choice of a corporation without share capital as the instrumentality through which it would operate. As my colleague has said, we have very serious reservations about the structure of the authority and about the responsibility reposed in it, the reserve authority, which—

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): What does the hon. member mean?

Mr. J. Renwick: —the minister has reserved to himself in the bill. Anyone who looks at the bill will see that the basic flaw in it is not the structure which he has chosen to provide as the vehicle for the establishment of this authority, but the reserve power which the minister has kept to himself.

Mr. Nixon: In other words, it is a matter of principle.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Exactly what the Leader of the Opposition said.

Mr. J. Renwick: Principle is what I want to deal with. It is very easy in committee to strike that section of the bill. It stands by itself and would not destroy the efficacy of the authority whatsoever. I think the assembly should be well aware of the fact that the minister provides the authority with power to manage its affairs and then proceeds in the very next clause to say that any bylaws passed by the authority under the bill must be filed with the minister. Then he has two weeks to persuade them to revoke or change the bylaws. If they do not do so, then the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council can revoke them or amend them.

Mr. Nixon: And you are going to vote in favour of that?

Mr. J. Renwick: We are going to vote in favour of the establishment of the authority as such. We are going to oppose in committee the reserve power which the minister has kept for himself.

Mr. Nixon: Even though the bill is flawed in principle?

Mr. J. Renwick: That does not, in our view, constitute a flaw in principle. It constitutes a very simple amendment in committee which we are endeavouring to persuade the minister should be accepted.

Mr. Bullbrook: It is the principle of the bill now that you are voting for.

Mr. J. Renwick: That is right, the principle of the bill. Perhaps members of the party on the right would have some thought as to the principle of the bill contained within the object and the purposes which it is to carry out. That authority is given that responsibility; the bill gives responsibility to the authority; this is what we are supporting. We are not supporting the proposition of the minister having a veto power upon the authority as such. There are other elements of the structure of authority with which we will also deal in committee, but the one that seemed to me to require a great deal of

emphasis on second reading of the bill in principle was our basic fundamental concern about the reserve power of the minister.

When the community colleges were established some time ago, careful reading of that bill will show in that instance that the minister chose to establish the board of regents, which I believe is the term applied to the advisory committee to the minister. Opinion in the province would have it that, somehow or other, the board of regents has some authority. But that bill carefully pointed out that it was only an advisory board to the minister and had no authority as such; a careful reading of that bill will establish that proposition.

The minister has come some distance in this case, by establishing an authority, at least with the initial responsibility subject to his veto. I think the distinction is very significant in the position we are taking on the bill, because if the minister had simply set up an advisory authority to advise him and proposed to exercise this authority directly himself, we would have opposed the bill. We hope that between now and the time the bill is considered in committee, the minister on his own initiative will consider eliminating from the bill that provision which gives him this veto power.

The positive side, as far as I can see it, within the bill for a democratization of the authority and an endeavour to accomplish what we here believe is necessary, is the provision that permits the governing body of the authority, the board of directors, to appoint advisory committees. So far as I can ascertain in the bill, those persons who are appointed to advisory committees are members of the authority. They are not members of the board of directors, but by reason of their appointment as members of the advisory committee they become members of the authority as such. They become members of the corporation without share capital and therefore have all the rights of members and, to the extent that there are regular annual meetings and regular financial statements to be submitted in the formal corporate sense, the authority will function as a very representative authority.

It would also appear to me to provide an opportunity for the authority to be a very flexible, decentralized and effective operating authority on a regional basis, again by reason of this provision for advisory committees. It will also be able, I assume, to function within the framework of the television industry and to have the benefit of the skills that are required for the operation of such an authority by the constitution of other advisory committees. It would also be possible, I assume, for the advisory committees to be composed of or to have representatives of all the educational establishments and institutions of the province, whether they be at the public, secondary or post-secondary educational level, including in this day and age the need for adequate representation by students on the committees that deal with these types of educational facilities.

I think, therefore—and I trust that I have made our position clear to the minister, if not to my friends on the right—that we have the conviction that, if properly done, the vehicle the minister has chosen is one that will provide for the establishment of a flexible and intelligible authority that will bring to the educational system of the province the maximum benefits of one of the most effective instruments of communication ever devised. At the same time, I would certainly like to hear the minister comment on why he considers he must keep this veto or reserve power he has retained unto himself in the bill.

Mr. Deacon: Mr. Speaker, I thought the purpose of this bill was not to improve administration. Surely, if the minister cannot administer his department efficiently and provide good educational television, it is a matter of changing the minister and getting someone in here who can do the job. I also did not think the purpose of this bill was to have more research carried out. I thought we are spending a few million dollars every year through OISE.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is not speaking to the principle of the bill.

Mr. Deacon: I believe I am speaking to the principle, Mr. Speaker, as I understand the principle of this bill basically is to remove the educational television authority on instructions of the CRTC from political domination. And this bill does not do that.

As the member for Scarborough East has stated very clearly, there is still ample provision for the minister to completely dominate this authority. It is not set up in such a way that there is an assurance of the participation of the public in any way, other than through the minister and his appointees.

We have seen in many places on this continent the tremendous unrest and dissatisfaction, the frustration of people who feel they cannot get their points of view reflected

through the elected boards at high levels. In the city of New York, the board of education has found itself violently opposed by small neighbourhood groups who say, "We refuse to be continually dominated by your authoritarian bodies" and, by one means or another, they are taking administration of schools into their own hands. And they are proving that they are getting far better results that way. The purpose of this bill is to be sure we do not have a central political authority dominating the situation. The minister has not made provision in this bill for the public at large to ensure their participation, in a non-political fashion, in the control of this very important new medium. I urge that the members of this House support our party stand in voting against this bill.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any other member who wishes to speak before the minister? The hon. minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I will reply as briefly as I can, although I must say I am prompted to a degree to reply to the observations from the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Scarborough East and the member for York Centre in a way perhaps that would point out some of the inconsistencies—

Mr. Nixon: Go ahead. The afternoon is yours. You came in and decided to use it.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —the member for Scarborough East has perhaps indicated in other areas of education over the past number of months—I find this really totally inconsistent with some of the observations he sent out quite recently to his constituents, which perhaps we will not refer to—

Mr. T. Reid: Did you get one?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Oh yes, I got one. I really would question the choice of language. Perhaps we will refer to that during the debates on the estimates of The Department of Education. It is really quite interesting.

Mr. Nixon: Next December.

Hon. Mr. Davis: No, I expect it will be before then. However, I must say this and I say this very sincerely. I am not going to prolong the debate. I feel—

Mr. Bullbrook: You have just done that.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I feel not disappointed—no, "disappointed" is not the right word; I feel somewhat depressed—

Mr. Nixon: Then that is a mutual disappointment.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —that the member for Scarborough East and the Leader of the Opposition, who have been part of the educational community in an indirect and a direct fashion for some years, and now the member from where is it—York whatever it is; Centre—have so little confidence in the capacity of the teaching profession, the general public, the students, with the educational system of this province, to indicate that there is any form of ministerial control over the content that would be acceptable to these people. I just cannot understand, Mr. Speaker, how they can—

Mr. Nixon: We are concerned about the safeguards of democracy.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —how they can say this, how they can take this particular position. To me, it is totally depressing.

Mr. Bullbrook: But you are not going to be there much longer.

Hon. Mr. Davis: It indicates, Mr. Speaker, really, a total lack of confidence. It really does.

Mr. T. Reid: In you.

Hon. Mr. Davis: No, it indicates lack of confidence in the public, particularly those involved in the academic community. One thing, one beauty about educational television, one very real, I think, relevant point, is that if it is not being used properly, if you feel the programmes are not relevant or perhaps are being used for some purpose that is not proper, all you have to do is turn it off.

Mr. Nixon: Yes, but you are subliminal in your approach.

Hon. Mr. Davis: To say that the structure being developed here does not give a degree of objectivity, that it does not divorce it from so-called ministerial control over content, Mr. Speaker, shows a lack of awareness and understanding by the members opposite that is really a complete mystery to me. All you have to do is assess the experience in other jurisdictions. Look at the provisions relating to how the CRTC is appointed, Mr. Speaker. Surely, there is not a more powerful body in this country that relates to the dissemination of television of what-have-you than the CRTC.

Mr. T. Reid: It has a different function from producing television programmes.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I guess, Mr. Speaker, the member for Scarborough East would have

a nationwide election for the membership of the CRTC.

Mr. T. Reid: Not a bad idea.

Mr. Martel: You just gave him a new idea.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Maybe this is what he will be promoting next. I do not know. But to me it is neither logical nor intelligent; it just does not make any sense whatsoever. I would say, Mr. Speaker, there is no attempt in this legislation at control, from the standpoint of policy or the curriculum relevance or what-have-you, by the minister or by the department. There is an attempt in this legislation, I make no bones about it, to establish a structure that is relevant, not only in this jurisdiction but, I think, you will find, it will provide some guidelines elsewhere. It will give the degree of financial control that is absolutely essential at this time—

Mr. T. Reid: Why do you want to appoint the vice-chairman?

Hon. Mr. Davis: —with the economic restrictions that face us. Mr. Speaker, I think it is absolutely essential that we recognize during the evolution of educational television that we have a responsibility. I have, as a minister and, through me, to this Legislature, to see that the economics of what is being invested in educational television are relevant. If the member for Scarborough East—with all his dissertations about waste and extravagance and what-have-you in his great plea to decentralize the operations of the department and the development of educational television —would relate back to his speech made here not too many weeks ago, and the desire to have the minister—

Mr. T. Reid: Lots more efficient than you.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —absolutely control and dominate the school boards, the community colleges and the universities with respect to finance, I say with great humility, Mr. Speaker, it is a great contradiction. It really does not speak well of the thinking or logic processes of the member for Scarborough East.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Davis: To me it just does not wash. I cannot really understand it. However, I do not want to prolong these discussions.

Mr. Nixon: He would say it himself, that is really why.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I do not really want to prolong these discussions. I would say to the member for Peterborough, who has taken a more enlightened approach to this situation, who perhaps understands—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —to a greater degree the reaction from the profession and the educators and those who might be involved. I would say this to him. It will not be—

Mr. T. Reid: We might be involved.

Hon. Mr. Davis: It will not be possible. This is part of the objects of the authority for me when we discuss this in committee to say, "These will be the priorities; these will be the hourly allocations." Surely, this is why we are appointing the authority. I do not want, quite frankly, as minister, or whoever over a period of years may have this responsibility, to say, "The elementary system will have x-hours; the secondary system, x plus y," or universities, community colleges, and so forth. The authority, with representation as it will have from the total general public, must be in the position to determine some of the allocations of time and priorities that must be given.

Mr. Martel: That has been said.

Hon. Mr. Davis: We face, from a pragmatic standpoint, the situation today where initially, obviously, there will be greater priority given to the elementary and secondary system, because we have the films and the material available. Surely, the long-term objectives of the authority must relate to post-secondary institutions, adult education and education in the very broad sense of the word.

Mr. Nixon: That is no different from what you have got now.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, if these gentlemen opposite do not have confidence in the capacity of the people who will be running the authority—

Mr. Nixon: That is right. You are running it and we have no confidence in you.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —as they relate to the general public, if they do not, shall we say, really have the feeling that the public generally will be very directly involved and concerned about the evolution of educational television—

Mr. T. Reid: Why do you not give them the right to representation?

Hon. Mr. Davis: —all I say is, Mr. Speaker, they do not have the perception I thought they had. They do not have the awareness of the interest of the public and they do not, in my view, represent intelligent—

Mr. T. Reid: Thou doth protest too much.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —intelligent and logical thinking in this particular area. Mr. Speaker, there are three or four other areas that one can get into in some detail.

Mr. T. Reid: Why do you want to appoint the vice-chairman?

Hon. Mr. Davis: The basic principle of the bill is simply this. It is the first time it has been done, I guess, in Canada; I do not know that there is any comparable legislation existing in the United States. We, as a province, with the constitutional limitations that are imposed, and there are some, are establishing a communications authority to set up a structure whereby there will be television—and this will be the prime function, as I see it for some years to come; I cannot predict what will happen 15 or 20 years from now—available to the total community in an educational sense as set out in the Act and defined in our agreements with the CRTC and the CBC. I think, Mr. Speaker, that this is really the fundamental principle. We are removing this from the direct involvement of The Department of Education and the minister—

Mr. T. Reid: Why do you want to appoint the vice-chairman?

Hon. Mr. Davis: In a way, Mr. Speaker, that, I think, makes sense and is intelligent as far as this province is concerned. This has not been an easy bill to draft. The negotiations, the discussions, with the federal authorities as the members well know, had been going on for some period of time. Ontario, in this particular field, I think, is perhaps pioneering to a very substantial degree. I am disappointed, not totally surprised, because I have listened to the member for Scarborough East on this subject for some time. I am disappointed that the Leader of the Opposition really cannot see fit to support what could be potentially—

Mr. Nixon: No way.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —one of the most important educational benefits to be derived in this province over a period of years—not tomorrow, not the next day—based really on what is an emotional and a very illogical approach to the principle of this bill. I am disappointed, Mr. Speaker, but not totally surprised, because that in itself is not inconsistent with the policies adopted by that particular group from time to time.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge the members present here to support today an enlightened piece of legislation.

Mr. Gisborn: Misled by the back benchers—

Hon. Mr. Davis: —a very enlightened piece of legislation. Although I am more than a little enthused about it—I must confess it has been, as I say, a long struggle—I am delighted to see it come to a conclusion here on this occasion. Perhaps, some time later on, after it has gone through committee, as it will, when it comes back here for third reading, the Leader of the Opposition will have an opportunity to reassess his position and give us his enthusiastic endorsement at that time.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, I realize that it is out of order, but could I ask the minister one question? He has not commented on retaining the authority that is in itself something that this party has stressed. Would he comment at this time on why he has preserved that authority for himself, the final veto authority?

Mr. Speaker: It would seem to me that each member has had sufficient opportunity under the rules of debate for second reading.

Mr. Martel: I just asked him.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is for second reading of Bill 43. Is it the pleasure of the House the motion carry?

The vote is on the motion by Mr. Davis for second reading of Bill 43.

The House divided on the motion, which was agreed to on the following vote:

Ayes	Nays
Allan	Braithwaite
Apps	Breithaupt
Auld	Bukator
Bernier	Bullbrook
Boyer	Deacon
Brunelle	De Monte
Burr	Farquhar
Carton	Gaunt
Connell	Good
Davis	Knight
Davison	MacKenzie
Deans	Nixon
Dymond	Reid
Evans	(Rainy River)

Ayes	Nays
Ferrier	Reid (Scarborough East)
Gilbertson	Ruston
Gisborn	Sargent
Gomme	Sopha
Grossman	Spence
Guindon	Trotter—19.
Hamilton	
Henderson	
Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton)	
Hodgson (York North)	
Jackson	
Jessiman	
Johnston (Parry Sound)	
Johnston (St. Catharines)	
Johnston (Carleton)	
Kennedy	
Lawlor	
Lawrence (Carleton East)	
Lawrence (St. George)	
Lewis	
MacDonald	
Martel	
Morin	
Morningstar	
Morrow	
McKeough	
McNeil	
Newman (Ontario South)	
Pitman	
Reuter	
Rollins	
Root	
Rowntree	
Simonett	
Smith (Simcoe East)	
Stewart	
Stokes	
Villeneuve	
Welch	
White	
Whitney	
Winkler	
Wishart	
Yakabuski	
Yaremko—59.	

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 59, the "nays" 19.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the motion carried.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: Again, the Clerk has reminded the Speaker that the bill that has just been given second reading must be ordered somewhere. Is it agreed that it go to committee? The standing committee?

Agreed.

LAW SOCIETY ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 7, An Act to consolidate and revise The Law Society Act.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Speaker, I first direct your attention, if I might, to some words of the hon. Mr. McRuer taken from volume 3 of report No. 1 of his inquiry into civil rights, chapter 79, page 1162, sir. He writes as follows:

> The granting of self-government is a delegation of legislative and judicial functions and can only be justified as a safeguard to the public interest. The power is not conferred to give or reinforce a professional or occupational status. The relevant question is not, do the practitioners of this occupation desire the power of self-government? but, is self-government necessary for the protection of the public? No right of self-government should be claimed merely because the term "profession" has been attached to the occupation. The power of self-government should not be extended beyond the present limitations, unless it is clearly established that the public interest demands it.

In this connection, we welcome, as a party being a party traditionally of reform and contemporizing, any attempt to further the recommendations of the learned gentleman in this connection. I think, for the sake of brevity, we might say that 23 of the recommendations of Mr. McRuer in connection with self-governing bodies have been embodied in this legislation so that from a point of view of one general principle, that is, a principle of reform, this party is prepared to accept this type of statute, but certainly it is encumbent upon us, as a party of reform, to make sure that the reform truly is reform and to make sure that contemporizing really is contemporizing.

As Mr. McRuer said, the main function of us, as legislators, redirecting our responsibility to self-governing bodies, is for the good

of the public not for the good of the profession. So I rise in the House today primarily as a legislator. I cannot divorce my background as a member of the profession and I do not want to do so. I rise primarily because I am concerned, as are members of this party, with the public good and whether, in point of fact, lip-service has not been paid to the concern expressed by Mr. McRuer in the words that I have just read. The fact of the matter is, as we look into the various principles engaged in this bill, we come to the conclusion that it perhaps merits reconsideration.

Before getting into an analysis of those principles, I would like to take the time of the House in discussing the question of the background and the sincere attempt by the incumbent benchers of the Law Society in conjunction with the government, the opposition parties and mainly in conjunction with the profession as a whole to some degree, with the public, to bring forward a good piece of legislation.

To do this, I want to first read a letter directed to my leader by the treasurer of the law society under the date of June 5, 1969, which gives some of the background attempts by the benchers themselves in seeking out the thoughts of the profession in connection with this proposed legislation. I take the liberty of reading it into the record, to exemplify the concern of the benchers and to illustrate, to some extent, some of the concern that I might express as a legislator.

Dear Mr. Nixon:

> On December 17 last I sent you a copy of the draft of the proposed new Law Society Act which had been approved by convocation on November 16, 1968. I suggested to you at that time that Mr. R. F. Wilson, QC, and Mr. E. A. Goodman, QC, the chairman and vice-chairman of the legislation and rules committee of the law society, and I would welcome the opportunity of discussing this legislation or with such person as you might designate.

May I interject my own words at this time to say that we in this party had an opportunity of meeting with a representative group of the benchers of the law society. We had a most pleasant and pleasurable meeting, one that solved a great deal of the concern that we had at that time, and one that conveyed to us, without any equovocation, the degree of talent that this profession has grasped to itself in self-government at the present time, notwithstanding the new legislation. As I do take issue with some of the thoughts of the benchers of the society, I want to reiterate I do so, of course, maintaining that respect that I, both as a legislator and as a member of the profession, have for them collectively. I might take issue with individual thoughts or collective responses that they might have made to me but, of course, they are all made in good conscience and to some extent meritoriously. I continue with the letter:

> A copy of the proposed Act was also sent on December 17 last to all the members of the profession. Some 22 letters were received from such members suggesting various amendments.
>
> When the required one month's notice of the annual meeting was published in the Ontario reports on December 20, 1968, so far as the law society was aware, all of the county law associations were in agreement with the proposed Law Society Act. The proposed Act had been considered at the joint conference which the benchers had with the county and district law associations on November 1, 1968, and the few suggested amendments which had been proposed at that conference were embodied in the draft Act which was approved by convocation and sent to the profession on December 17, 1968.
>
> Consequently no reference was made in the notice calling the annual meeting to the fact that any resolutions were to be considered at the meeting.

If I might attempt to clarify again, through my own words—an attempt had been made by the benchers themselves, or at least a representation of the benchers, to involve the profession through the local associations in a digestion of the bill, its import and ramifications in a response to the benchers at that time. I again read:

> The following resolutions were passed at the annual meeting of the members of the County of York Law Association on January 29, 1969, and were presented at the annual meeting of the law society which was held in Windsor on February 8, 1969.
>
> Resolution 1: That the proposed Law Society Act be broadened so that there shall be included in the objects of the society the consideration and initiation of law reform and the making of submissions to the proper authorities on matters of law reform on behalf of the society, and that there be provided from the funds of the law society adequate assistance for the foregoing purposes, including research.

The question was raised of the responsibility of the profession through its society in connection with the question of law reform.

Resolution 2A: That the number of elected benchers be increased from 30 to 50.

Resolution 2B: That the present life benchers retire at age 75 and that no further life benchers be created except that the present treasurer and all future treasurers shall be benchers until the age of 75 without further election.

Resolution 2C: That the term of office of elected benchers shall be reduced from five years to three years.

Resolution 2D: That the law society shall be composed of the treasurer and benchers and other members.

Resolution 2E: That there shall be an annual meeting of the members of the law society.

Resolution 2F: That the law society be empowered to ensure and to procure and arrange for its members against all kinds of liability.

The treasurer continues:

Resolution 1 was defeated,

That is the one in connection with the suggestion that the profession as a whole take some act of participation in the field of law reform.

Resolutions 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E and 2F were passed. With the exception of the 584 members who attended the mid-winter meeting of the Canadian Bar Association and who were handed a copy of the resolution of the County of York Law Association, the general membership of the law society did not know that these resolutions or any other resolutions were to be considered.

The annual meeting of the law society was attended by less than 200 members. The benchers felt that they would be subject to considerable criticism if they treated the general membership as being bound by important resolutions which it did not know were being considered.

Again, my words: I think that is a reasonable attitude for the treasurer and the benchers to take. Reading again:

After giving the very serious consideration to the resolutions which were passed at the annual meeting, a special convocation was held on February 26, 1969, which approved further amendments to the draft Act. These further amendments were sent to every member of the profession on March 20, 1969, so that they might have an opportunity of considering it.

The members were requested to write to the president of their county law associations if there were any further changes which they considered should be made, and to send a copy of their letter to me.

The presidents of the county law associations were in turn asked to let me have the views of their respective associations. In addition I sent a copy of the further amendments to the Chief Justice of Ontario, to the chief judge of the county and district courts, and to the president of the provincial judges association.

I have received 22 letters from the members of the society as to various provisions of the proposed Act.

I do not entirely understand in reading the letter, and I neglected to request an explanation of the treasurer during the course of our meeting. I had hoped that he had received response from all the associations in connection with the proposed amendments. But I will say this to you, Mr. Speaker, it is a sad commentary, I think the Attorney General will agree, that only 22 members of the profession saw fit to discuss the proposed amendments out of a total of some 5,300 in the province. I would think that the benchers and the treasurer himself probably looked with regret on that response.

I also received letters from 39 of the county and district law associations. Of these associations, 24 indicated their general approval of the amended draft Act. Four associations either approved or proposed modification in the resolutions passed at the annual meeting, and the remaining associations made various suggestions as to the amendment of other provisions of the Act.

A letter was received from the Chief Justice of Ontario stating that the supreme court judges were satisfied with the provisions of the proposed Act. After considering the various replies, section 27 was amended to include reference to the master and section 29 (c) was amended to include full-time local masters and taxing officers.

This is in connection with the retention of status during the acceptance of a position outside the profession as a practition.

Subject to these amendments, the revised draft Act was approved by convocation on April 18, 1969. It was then sent to the Attorney General with a request that it be

> enacted by the Legislature. The Attorney General has replied that it will be dealt with just as soon as possible. I am pleased to enclose a copy of the revised draft Act, as approved by convocation on April 18, 1969. I think it is fair to say that it now embodies the views of the great majority of the legal profession.

I think that is probably a fair comment. It is difficult to substantiate that entirely in regard to the final response that was received, but I think it is a fair commentary and one has to consider what more the benchers could have done in the circumstances. I suppose they could have convened some type of plenary involvement of all the members in connection with it, but I think this vehicle they chose was an adequate one. He also says: "I am pleased to enclose a copy of the revised draft Act—" I am sorry, sir. "At your convenience —" and then he goes on, in the last paragraph, by inviting the meeting with representatives of our caucus, which took place.

The main concern we have in connection with this is the principle involved, and I want to suggest this to you: Let no one in this House cloud the issue by saying there is only one principle and that it is a new Law Society Act. I will not subscribe to that type of inept rationalization that just went on in connection with the preceding bit, that in point of fact we can amend some of the sections afterward. I take the attitude that, when we rise to debate and when we vote in connection with principles on second reading, we rise and we vote on the bill that is before us, not the bill that we hope would be amended subsequently. The fact of the matter is that I am talking—

Mr. Gisborn: What about the Medicare bill?

Mr. Bullbrook: Go ahead. What did you say? Did you say anything intelligent? Go ahead.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please! I might say to the hon. member for Sarnia that I have looked at the explanatory notes, and in my opinion this is a multi-principled bill.

Mr. Bullbrook: Right. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Speaker: And I believe the hon. member is quite within his rights to discuss a variety of principles.

Mr. Sopha: You are almost qualified to be a member of the law society.

Mr. Bullbrook: The point I make in this connection, in speaking to the principle, is that you cannot rationalize a severance of one principle from another; the principles involved are many. I speak of one: the principle of reform. We accept the principle of reform, in accordance with the directions and the thoughts expressed by Mr. McRuer.

Contemporizing—we accept that, but I invite your consideration of the question of contemporizing. I want to be fair. This becomes a question of balance, and a value judgement on balance, but the very Act retains the concept of the Law Society of Upper Canada. I must say that we discussed this with the treasurer and the benchers. They rightly put forward the position that the Act in itself—or the society, I believe—predates Confederation. The profession can take great pride in this connection, and in the retention of that appellation and what one might call a somewhat archaic viewpoint in connection with the chief executive officer, who is called the treasurer rather than the president. I do not want to make a great issue over this, because I think the treasurer mentioned directly to me, "What is in a name, basically?" and I agree. It is not that important.

Mr. Sopha: All right, why not change it then?

Mr. Bullbrook: But, if I might, I want to say this to you. The whole purpose of this Act is to bring this profession closer to the public today, in 1970. If it is a question of enshrining the traditions and continuing our grasp of the traditions, or saying to the public we are lawyers; we are a body that governs lawyers in Ontario—and I want to accept that —I cannot go along with the continuation of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

I want to say that I accept the traditional argument. I accept again the merits behind the traditional argument. But the whole purpose, the whole thrust, the whole invitation in Mr. McRuer, is to say, "Public, here are your self-governing bodies," and to say, "Legislature, make sure in establishing the quality and control of your self-governing bodies that you are saying to the public to whom you are directly responsible, 'We have always had your interest paramountly in mind' ". I realize this is an argument of some degree of veneer, because again what is in a name? It is not really that important, but I think we do have an obligation, in view of contemporizing, to call ourselves the Law Society of Ontario. We should be the Law Society of Ontario.

The fact of the matter is this is the province of opportunity; it has been for many of us lawyers, and we should be happy with it. In connection with the principle of contemporizing, of bringing us into focus with the public and closer to the public, how many times, as lawyers, have you had a client come in and discuss situations involving other lawyers? Or how many times have other lawyers had clients come in and discuss situations involving me? The question arises of recourse to the society; you tell them, "the Law Society of Upper Canada," and they cannot grasp the connection. That is really what we want; that is really what we have to do in law: We have to have the Law Society of Ontario. They do not know what you are talking about, and we have got to take this into consideration, too. My personal background, Mr. Speaker, happens to be one of Irish and Welsh. The fact of the matter is that we happily are being populated to a great extent by people who never heard of Upper Canada, by people who would not know the background of Upper Canada—and thank God for those people.

I think we have to pay more than lip service to this, so I speak for myself in saying, in respecting the tradition and, of course, the intent of the ventures in this connection, that on balance, I, as one legislator, want it to be the Law Society of Ontario.

Now we pass on to the question of public involvement. I do not make a practice of reading during the course of remarks to the House—and I am doing more today than I ever have before, I think—but I want you to bear with me, if you would, in connection with this.

An article by Harold Greer in the Peterborough *Examiner* of March 5, 1970, is headlined "Law Society Dodges Public Interest". That, I think, is a little overt and probably was accepted by some editor of the Peterborough *Examiner* as being eyecatching, but basically this is what he had to say—and I want to read what he had to say:

> When those in need of reform are given the opportunity of doing the reforming, the results are not likely to be radical, which explains why Ontario's new Law Society Act is only a slight improvement over the regime of self-goverance which the province's 7,000 lawyers have traditionally enjoyed.

I think he has exaggerated the numbers there somewhat.

> Nominally, Attorney General Arthur Wishart is the sponsor and must take responsibility for the legislation. However, the lawyers themselves, through the Law Society of Upper Canada, have been drafting it for the past two years ever since J. C. McRuer in his first report on civil rights found cause for change. Not surprisingly the product of all this labour, which the government has docilely accepted, is a pale shadow of Mr. McRuer's recommended reforms.
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> Mr. McRuer's main concern with the law society, as with the 21 other professions in Ontario which have been given the statutory power of self-government, was for the public interest. "The traditional justification for giving powers of self-regulation to any body," he wrote, " is that the members of the body are best qualified to ensure that the proper standards of competence and ethics are set and maintained.
>
> "There is a clear interest in the creation and observance of such standards. This public interest may have been well served by the respective bodies which have brought to their task an awareness of their responsibility to the public they serve, but there is a real risk that the power may be exercised in the interests of the profession or occupation rather than that of the public. This risk requires adequate safeguards to ensure that injury to the public interest does not arise."
>
> One way of doing this, McRuer said, was for the government to appoint lay outsiders to the governing bodies of the self-governing professions. After all, he noted, the only representative of the public interest in the law society now is the Attorney General, who is one of the society's many *ex-officio* "benchers" or directors.
>
> The law society has not exactly thumbed its legal nose at this view, but its reaction amounts to the same thing. On the one hand, the new legislation contains a ringing declaration that the Attorney General shall serve "as the guardian of the public interest in all matters within the scope of this Act or having to do with the legal profession in any way" and to that end may demand to see the society's records; on the other hand, being an *ex-officio* bencher, he will lose his right to vote after 1971."

And I mention this—I speak now, I do not read—that inherent in section 14 is a principle that is tragic, that we resist entirely. I continue to read:

> And far from appointing laymen as benchers, the society proposes instead a "law society council" composed of representatives of various departments of the

legal profession plus three non-members appointed by the government. The catch here is that this will be three in a council of 73, and the council will have no powers other than "to consider the manner in which the members of the society are discharging their obligations to the public and generally matters affecting the legal profession as a whole." The law society will continue to be run by the benchers.

Now, we in this party enjoy not only a happy dialogue, we enjoy a happy latitude of thought. For myself, I do not entirely subscribe to the philosophy that lay people should be part of the benchers. Some of my colleagues might disagree with me. If they feel conscientiously that way, of course, they will do so, and with vigour. I might be persuaded otherwise, but I find it difficult that the best interests of the public would be necessarily served by placing members of the public at the benchers' level. But let us look for a moment at what the Act has attempted to do. And Mr. Greer puts it quite succinctly.

Under section—it is not necessary that I refer to the section—the fact is that in the composition of the law society council there is provision for the appointment—yes, it is section 27; subsection (h) of subsection 2, section 27: "Three persons, not being members of the society, appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, for such terms as he sees fit."

I am going to talk, when we get into committee, about the question of "for such terms as he sees fit." I think we cannot abdicate our powers entirely to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, right to the appointment for total pleasure. But that has nothing to do with the principle. The principle is here. I think the maximum possibility of representation on that council at the present time would be 73. And what we are invited to accept is a principle inviting public representation of three laymen, with 70 members of the profession. That is lip service.

The Attorney General looks quizzical. If I am misrepresenting facts, I invite his interjection.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I was trying to catch the eye of the Opposition; he was drawing something to my attention.

Mr. Bullbrook: Oh, I am sorry, sir. I apologize. I thought you were looking at me rather quizzically, and I was wondering whether I was misrepresenting facts.

Now, three laymen is what they consider to be adequate public involvement? Well, of course, it falls far short of adequate public involvement. I am not going to get into any analysis of arbitrary numbers—whether it should be three or 33—but again it would take great vigour and incisiveness to convince me that three is anything more than lip service, as far as public involvement is concerned. What percentage is it? Can anybody help me? Is it five per cent? Is it two per cent? Two per cent.

When you hearken back to my opening reading, Mr. Speaker, where Mr. McRuer synthesizes what he wants to say, he says, "Look, it is not the profession that the Legislature is concerned with when they pass those types of laws; it is the public that you are concerned with." But, please, do not come to us in this party and say—and I think I am being temperate, because I believe there are colleagues of mine who want representation on the benchers—that this is adequate public involvement in the policy-making group of the society.

Now, something happened today—and I do not digress; I believe I am not out of order in saying this—a justice of the supreme court made a pronouncement, used the prestige of his position to advocate what in my opinion—for what it is worth—is the removal of one of the most essential safeguards to the individual under the common law. He saw fit to do that. We want the public to talk about that. That is what we want. Let us not just hear the Attorney General and the opposition critic and the law society; let us get the public involved in this. The public must recognize the consequence of some of the thoughts—both radical and conservative—in our province and what we are really doing. You know what happens in this chamber when it is lawyers' day—and, certainly, it might well be because of the talent involved; I do not know—the place is evacuated. It really is; it is evacuated. Yet, really, what we discuss at most times are the very things that affect—

Mr. J. R. Breithaupt (Kitchener): We have not even got a quorum.

Mr. Bullbrook: No, I am not going to mention quorum, because I will have to sit down if I mention quorum. I am not going to mention it.

The point I make here—and I will try to be temperate again; sometimes I am intemperate—through you, Mr. Speaker, to the Attorney General, is that this is not sufficient. This is why we want to grasp the principles. He does not go far enough. He has got to go further

for us; he has got to show us to assure us here of public involvement in the profession, because, if any profession requires a happy liaison with the public, ours does. An honourable profession it is. We deal in a sensitive field of public involvement. So we have got to assure, more than anybody else, more than the professional engineers or the dentists, more even than the medical doctor, that the public properly understands how we are governing ourselves. The public truly believes that we discipline ourselves adequately. The public is entitled to know that basically we are people in a profession of integrity, and you cannot do it by three out of 73.

I want reform, but you do not give us enough.

There are many specific things we have got to get into. I mentioned section 14. If I might be permitted, for a moment, to mention another question of principle—a principle that escaped me before; a principle that is not new but which came up in a private bill last week. An applicant for admission to the society must present satisfactory proof that he has a good character.

I do not like that. That is reprehensible to me. I would presume that a citizen of Ontario is of good character. I do not see that in self-governing bodies that we have to establish a principle that one of the condition of involvement in a profession is to prove that you are of good character. I believe in the concept that you are subject to revocation of your entitlement to be a member of that society if you are of bad character. We were involved with it with the bill on the city of Ottawa. If I might, on this principle, I spoke vigorously about it—I think the member for Armourdale (Mr. Carton) recalls last week—along the same lines. This is what is happening in this chamber, you see.

We are becoming more concerned and more aware of the insidious ramifications of little things like that. Nobody has to prove that they are of good character. Goodness gracious—it is presumed that you are of good character. The fact of the matter is that if they can prove that you are of bad character, do not let them in the law society. That is my thought in that connection.

Section 14: A principle I brought up with the benchers of the law society; I think that basically, Mr. Speaker, their attitude was that they were relatively receptive to the concern that I expressed on the principle that bothered me. That is, that under section 14, the Attorney General has the right to sequester to himself documentation and so on in the hands of the law society.

What concerns me here again is a question that itself is very contemporary. In discipline proceedings at times, I would think that there might well be significant omissions made by people. I would think I would invite the Attorney General, the chief law enforcement officer, if the circumstances warrant, to continue a prosecution in the criminal courts for the public good. That is his responsibility and we all would hope that he would accept that, if the situation warrants it.

Again I am concerned that in the administrative tribunal, mainly the discipline committee of the law society, admissions are made at that time which then come into the hands of the chief law enforcement officer of the province of Ontario. In effect, confessions at times. I have always subscribed to the philosophy that if it were I, I would abolish confessions that were given prior to counsel being available to the accused. I go that far.

I am an advocate of Ramsey Clark all the way. This is a bothersome thing here; I think that we must not emasculate the section but eradicate the principle involved that the Attorney General has available to himself everything that was ever said, everything that was ever done.

I think that admissions made in the dialogue that must take place, I would think, in disciplinary hearings should not be available for use as an admission in court against the person. This is a question of a principle of the chief law enforcement officer—the head man of the police, in effect, being able to—you look up again. You do not like that appellation?

Mr. Sopha: What do you need the power for?

Mr. Bullbrook: The appellation—let me digress for a moment—was not intended to in any way defame. I assure you of that. I regarded that as part of your powers or your responsibilities to be chief law enforcement officer, the head of police. Maybe they are not mutually reciprocal terms.

Maybe they are not, but you did not believe their quasi-military group last year, but even now? They are still law. Goodness. All right. In any event, in connection with that I would like to see that principle changed.

We can go on significantly; we have many, many things to be discussed but I have got to sit down. I am taking too much time.

The question of citizenship—right? The continuation of Canadian citizen or British subject. This again leads this principle of establishing membership on the basis of citizenship.

I see some merit in it but it causes concern in this respect. You have a man come over from the United Kingdom with the necessary professional qualifications, okay? Supposing we on the same boat a man coming from Italy with the same qualifications. One of them has got to wait five years and the other one does not.

There is something inherently wrong with establishing that principle and again, in fairness to the benchers of the society, they do resist, they respond to this type of argument with meritorious response. This is why we are here to put forward our various positions. We invite the question—is it time now to consider the establishment of specialization under this Act? Is it time now to designate your capacity as a solicitor or your capacity as a barrister? There are many other things to be discussed.

On the question of the role of government and our responsibility in connection with the establishment of fees, the fact that the rules of the society are still set by the society itself without any necessity of confirmation from government. The regulations themselves require, I believe, approval by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

We feel sorry, frankly, that we cannot get up and shout hurrah because there was a wonderful opportunity to shout hurrah here. Before I sit down I want to invite the consideration of the profession, the Canadian Bar Association, the law society, of the fact that there are three parties in this House. If they have thoughts about legislation involving the profession or the public good, do not deal with the Attorney General alone. He is a man of great talent, charm and capacity and integrity, but he is not alone. There are other lawyers—

Mr. Speaker: Order! This, of course, has nothing to do with the principle itself.

Mr. Bullbrook: It has to do with the principle in this respect, sir, that we are discussing the question of the public good and the involvement of the profession in their concern. I could discuss it if I might, then I will try to turn it to a question of order because probably you are right.

What about the question of law reform? Should the profession have a responsibility in connection with law reform? The point I want to make—and I want it on record, if I might, sir, most respectfully—I want to invite the profession to give laws not just to the Attorney General but to the opposition, because that would make for good laws and good government.

As a result of what I have said, and other thoughts that I will not bore you with, I move, seconded by Mr. Breithaupt—

But if I might, before I make this formal motion, we do not want to delay the legislation; we really do not; we want it to go through.

As I say, it is a reiteration, but the law society has attempted vigorously and sincerely to put forward a good bill to us, but it does not go so far as we legislators—let me make that clear—as some of us legislators want it to go in connection with public concern and public involvement. That is why without purpose of delay, but because of the responsibility we had, I move, seconded by Mr. Breithaupt, that all the words after the word "that" be struck out and the following added: "the bill be read a second time six months hence."

Mr. Speaker: Order, please! There is a motion being placed before the House.

Mr. Bullbrook moves, seconded by Mr. Breithaupt, that all the words after the word "that" be struck out of the motion, and the following added "the bill be read a second time six months hence."

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, we, too, have some reservations and misgivings, but weighing the bill qualitatively, and in terms of the quantitative aspects of the numbers of people and others represented on professional bodies. Weighing it qualitatively we feel that it is not so defective in principle as to be vitiated in that principle.

We will be moving in committee a number of amendments, which I will indicate in the course of my remarks today. It is along, curiously enough, the lines, by and large, of the member for Sarnia who has just spoken. He has spoken sensibly, balanced and well on this issue, and with some great degree of judiciousness. I think he and I both like to, when the occasion warrants it, use a little passion in debate, but in matters of this kind I think it is hardly necessary.

Mr. Bullbrook: But it is fun.

Mr. Lawlor: It is a straight matter of a profession in which we happen to have a

deep interest, not only in terms of the image of that profession for the general public, but as to its internal operations and its in-built methods of internal reform.

Some move, partial as it may be, that is being made within the terms of this legislation effect that purpose. As a matter of fact, if we survey what we have already done with respect to professional associations, this bill represents a new departure, a departure that may have some fruit, actually, as we peruse it and come into, say, a new medical Act or a new dentistry Act. It is one which I cannot see in principle is wholly wrong.

I would think that, if you were going to conclusively follow Mr. McRuer's recommendation, there can be little question on what he himself has said. That the benchers, the governing body, ought to be democratized in the sense of some laymen having direct and immediate representation as benchers. That is effectively in however, minatory form, what we did respecting other self-governing bodies. We made a member of the general public—a layman; only one—a member of the professional engineers' association. We had a member of the general public in the surveyors' situation. As I remember, the Act having to do with the stock exchange and the governors thereof, made public representation mandatory on that body too.

As we come to The Law Society Act, that principle in effect has been abandoned. What has been substituted for it is the concept of a council. The lawyers will retain control in their own hands, in the hands of those who have been placed in the high office of bencher through the election process among the profession itself. It is a position of great confidence. It is now proposed that, instead of every five years, we will have the opportunity to elect an increased number of these gentlemen every four years.

So far, so good. I think the member for Sarnia gives the game away, therefore, as far as principle is concerned, the minute he acknowledges that he has no major reservations about the constitution of the benchers, as such. If I had reservations, that is where the reservations would have to fall. And that, in my opinion, would be a matter of principle.

At this time in history, as the present complex of things evolve in these professions and with the response we have from within the profession itself—which contains people who are alive and people who are intensely critical of the profession; one comes across them every day. In this, there has been no stirring or major response, which is an indicia to me, at least, that so far as the lawyers are concerned they are fairly content with the new legislation as being a step in the right direction.

As far as recoil from the general public is concerned, demanding representation and a greater voice in the governing of legal matters in this province, anyone will accede that if they wish it, they should have it. That, too, has not followed or flowed. So, from no direction does there come that spontaneous, vital life out of the community—which must, it seems to me, in most instances—to give direction and force to a radical reform of any kind.

We can be leaders in reform on some sides of the fence. It is not in matters of this kind that I desire to be that kind of reformer. It is in maters of human well-being and, in a direct sense, of welfare; it is in people's immediate lives that we have to be prepared to cut deep and change things. But, in the running of professions that have been more or less autonomous and have governed themselves with a fair degree of perspicacity for public good, I do not feel that one has to become overly exiguous.

Mr. Sopha: I never thought I would see you abdicate.

Mr. Lawlor: The member is a stem-winding bender on this particular mission.

Mr. Sopha: You are a great disappointment to me today.

Mr. Lawlor: I think that McRuer's approach on this whole matter has been predicated upon the workings of the medical society in Great Britain. Whether there are eight members of the public on a 44-man board, I think if this medical society concept were looked into deeply at all, it would be found to be an innocuous and nugatory piece of business. That is the role the laymen play in this particular assembly.

It might have been a wise thing for the Attorney General, prior to bringing in this bill, to have sent either myself—or the member for Sarnia, or the member for Sudbury—to Great Britain as a one-man task force to investigate the actual operations of this medical society. I am told—and this is by a little reading that I have done—that the lay representation on the board has not got that degree of efficacy or force that you would anticipate.

I mean, an abstract and theoretical democracy is not a working democracy. To simply put people on boards and then floor them

with a technical critique and all kinds of special verbiage which they cannot possibly understand—unless they have a certain amount of training in the field—is to present with your left hand that which you are taking away with your right. It is a pretence. If your processes of democratization—participatory or whatnot—that they talk about nowadays, and which seems to be all the hangup, is to be really valid and working, then we have to examine what function and role laymen do and can play on major associations of this kind.

I suspect—and it is with great misgivings that I say so—that from the day-to-day work of convocation, the day-to-day work of the committees of the Law Society of Upper Canada—and I take as much exception to the "Upper Canada" as anybody; it should be called Ontario; let us stop the nonsense. But, leaving a minor point like that aside, the day-to-day work of that body, which is performed by and large gratuitously by eminent members of the profession, who should be given considerable credit, because of the hours taken away from gainful employment and dedicated to the cause of the profession.

It should be praised; we should be aware of it and give it our assent. If we had laymen on the benches, would these people be able to take the acres of time that is being given presently by these lawyers to the work of the convocation, or of the benchers' committees? I rather doubt it. Of course, the answer would be to pay them. But, if you are going to pay the lay assembly, then I would think the benches also would want remuneration for performing precisely the same work and carrying the burden of it, as must be the case, since they are the acknowledged experts.

As to the functions a layman might perform on the discipline committee, it gives me some pause. I do not say it is an impossibility for an intelligent layman to understand the major issues, the niceties, that are involved in some piece of fraudulent undertaking performed by an unscrupulous and very subtle lawyer. Some of these machinations are quite superb and, I think, rather escape the purview of the man on the street. But he acknowledges that our role in society as responsible individuals is precisely recognized to be that; and we must exercise this surveillance over our own house. In this way, I see McRuer's recommendation as being hypothetical and somewhat abstract. And, while I think it has great validity theoretically, how on earth does it work in practice? If it does not have the punch, if it does not affect what it is supposed to affect in terms of citizen participation and surveillance of any governing profession for the total good of the public, then it is a mask and a pretence. I suspect that, perhaps not 10 years hence but at some time in history, that is what it would accomplish.

Instead of doing that, the law society says, "Let us set up a council." I take severe exception to the council, but perhaps more severe exception than my friend from Sarnia does in this particular regard. That council is composed, as I believe, of 73 individuals; it is top-heavy, overloaded with lawyers. Where does the public voice and realm come into play with three people being appointed? The junior bar gets one member; there are two student members and two members from full-time teaching staffs at university. All the rest, overwhelmingly, are practising lawyers and a good many of them in my estimation, something in the region of 24 of the 73, are actually benchers themselves sitting in judgement over their own house.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Why does the hon. member not support our motion?

Mr. Lawlor: I propose to move an amendment on the matter.

Mr. Trotter: This is the very essence—

Mr. Lawlor: I think a hoist motion is wrong in this particular context.

Mr. Sopha: Stop vacillating.

Mr. Lawlor: I am not. I am telling you what we are doing. You have misconceived your strategy—

Mr. Sopha: Abdicated your idealism.

Mr. Lawlor: —and I think what you should do is move to amend instead.

Mr. Sopha: You are a great disappointment to me today.

Mr. Trotter: Real jelly fish on this one.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, sir.

Mr. Lawlor: I do not think I want to punch Elmer today. At least, not yet.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: When one tries to take merely a prudential judgement and does not pull one's hair and hector and rave in this House, he seems to lose some kind of credibility. On this issue, I just will not be aroused.

One had misgivings about the Act when one first saw it and consulted with one's colleague; he found there was no response. We spoke, as has been mentioned, to a representation from the Law Society of Upper Canada in a three-hour session which, by and large, as far as my colleague, the member for Riverdale, and myself were concerned, pretty well obviated our major objections.

They do come down, nevertheless, to section 27 which I do not personally think is a matter of principle. I think the council is a good idea. I just think that the quantitative composition of the council is wrong. I propose that that is a matter for amendment and not a matter for hoist, and we are prepared to move in that direction.

We think that there are about 12 committees, I believe, of the benches; maybe 11, I counted 12. Whether they are all full-fledged committees or some just *ad hoc*, and if there are two members from each committee, there are about 24 benchers sitting also on the council, that is too many; That is where the gravamen and the weight of the work of the whole council will flow from and fall. Therefore, the whole issue is prejudged as to the role and function of the general public in this regard.

When you add the president of each county or district law association, you might just conceivably in this context get a better or at least a more dispersed vision of the role and functions of the law society. People coming from outside the Toronto area, from the various counties throughout Ontario, come with no great felicitations for the work of those who are grounded here in Toronto.

They would come with new ideas. They come with opposed ideas and I would think that on the whole, the weight that they would throw into the deliberations of the council, would weigh strongly against that of the 50 per cent of the benchers who derive from this geographical location.

There is this balancing factor; but nevertheless they are lawyers. There are lawyers who have in-built prejudices; we have our in-built blindnesses. It is not necessary but it is certainly natural for any profession so to be built. We are an atavastic crew who are not, perhaps, as given to sentiments on the public's behalf as we might be.

I think we are head and shoulders above other professions, such as doctors, in this particular regard, perforce by reason of the very kind of work we do; living with the people and advising them day-to-day; all classes of society; knowing their complaints and their ills in a very social way and not just in a physical way. In that particular regard, I think there is a greater cognizance, a greater social consciousness exercisable in our profession than is true elsewhere.

I would like to see the number "three" changed. I have not got a precise figure. but it should be at least five. There is no question about that and it very well might be 10 or 15 members of the general public on this council. This council would then have a far greater weight in terms of investigation, in terms of its rapport with the lawyers. It would act, in effect, as a watchdog upon the lawyers, otherwise three laymen would be swamped, however astute, however erudite in matters of law and in matters of sociology and the comportment of modern society. They could not possibly, when the brow-beating takes place which inevitably takes place among lawyers, carry much weight or reach very many decisions which would be of benefit, on the whole, to the general public.

In that area we simply must increase the number of individuals representative of the general public. The council has to meet at least once a year and it has to submit a report to this body. If that report is to be searching, if it is to have any validity at all, it must be composed of and out of the minds and the general experience, *vis-à-vis* the law society, of a numerous group of the general public. A group drawn from a wide area of that public, among businessmen on one side, trade unionists, sociologists, social workers; a great many of the public who know what impact law has upon their lives and the people they live with daily, and therefore will be able to exercise a major role.

I think it is regrettable that the York county law association rejected the broadening of the objects clause in the legislation having to do with law reform. It is this area that can bring back that concept into the internal workings of the law society. I suppose the law society must have argued that, after all, there is a law reform commission.

I trust that they did not argue it is not the job of the law society to be concerned about and to be deeply troubled over matters of law reform in an accelerating society.

Law perforce is always behind the times, but if it is too far behind the times, it loses all its efficacy. It holds itself up to contempt, to be disregarded and to be breached. It is this nice balance between certainty on the one side without being static on the other, as that will be—how better to do that than through the instrumentality of this council,

again, with a wide public representation, the widest possible?

I think the day will come when that representation of the law society would be able to outvote the lawyers sitting thereon, because after all we exist and our whole purpose is to subsist in terms of the general public interest. We are not self-serving. To the extent that we have been self-serving in the past, that must be overcome and obviated.

The whole thrust of McRuer is devised to bring that about. If we can bring that about through another way than McRuer has suggested, so much to the good. I think you have found a way in which to do so, through the council. As I say, these council concepts may bear good fruit in the years to come not only with respect to this profession but with respect to many others, but the nitty-gritty, the day-to-day administrative work, the judgement over their own peers that perforce must occur, I think should be left internally to the working of the benches—at least for the time being, until this possibility of the council in the terms of the expanded council of which I speak has been tried. If it is found wanting, then the full impact in plenary powers of McRuer touching the benchers themselves must come to the rescue.

I think in this regard we have to watch the situation closely, and if one takes an evolutionary rather than an revolutionary approach in these matters, as I am prepared to do today, I think this will show up in the very next few years. But the step forward in this particular regard cannot be discounted. If it is fleshed out, if it is given some beef, then maybe you have got something here that will work for you. That—if there is any issue or principle—is the central core and issue of The Law Society Act.

There are multiple other matters. It has been already admitted, Mr. Speaker, before you rise to suppress me, that this is a multi-principle bill which I always interpret to mean that anything you talk about is the principle.

I would like to mention, though, when going through, that in the existing Act there is no provision as to whether the hearing of a lawyer before the discipline committee or before any of the bodies of the benchers shall be public or private; there is nothing as to his right to cross-examination; nothing as to having counsel for witnesses to appear; there is nothing as to the privilege in defamation, or as to official notice; there are no rules of evidence set out; no standard of proof, no express provisions as to the record compiled; no express provisions as to informing accused by way of a written decision setting out the reasons; no provision for a reprimand by convocation; no right to appeal *per se;* no availability of the transcript to the putative offender; no provision as to whether accused may carry on his practice pending an appeal by way of *certiorari,* and so on; no express provisions for terms and conditions of reinstatement in the profession; no provision for the immunity of the adjudicating tribunal, and no provision for the publication of findings.

These are just a few of the things that are not presently embodied in explicit terms in the legislation and which now will be embodied. Again, that is good, in principle, and as far as those principles are concerned this is an enormous move ahead it is embodying, by and large—with again some peripheral, though nevertheless important, reservations one has arising out of its not following certain provisions of McRuer on one side of the fence, and with some novel ideas, I would trust, that we have on the other side of the fence.

In the briefing on principle, on second reading, I do not think it is necessary to go into the niceties of what these are. They have to do with British citizenship and that sort of thing, the kind of hearings *in camera* and the powers of reprimand as to whether benchers should sit in convocation over matters in committee. In the discipline committee they have already heard the evidence. The argument appears to be that convocation is simply an extension of the work of that particular committee and that it is necessary that the members of the discipline committee continue to sit in judgement over a disciplined member right through.

There is one section in the Act where you deliberately say that in the case of reprimand having to do with students, and in another area of reprimand having to do with practising lawyers, that the people who sat in initial judgement over that individual do not sit in convocation when he comes before it. Why the discrimination in principle quite puzzles me. I see no harm in having the members of the discipline committee who sat in on the initial adjudication being present on convocation, but for consultation purposes to say what happened on that occasion, although there is going to be a transcript produced under the new regulations and rules. I see no harm in their being present but I wonder if they ought to be able to vote.

It seems to run counter to some notion of natural justice in the British system for the same people to hear the same cause twice.

There are reservations about the use of admissions, particularly touching appeals. Well, all right then, having accepted the legislation with these rather pointed reservations that we have made, I think it simply boils down to the fact that in this regard the Law Society of Upper Canada has a double function or responsibility to perform which I think doubly entrenches my argument about expanding the number of laymen to sit on that council.

Not only is this society responsible by and large for justice for the people of Ontario, its administration and the way in which it is run, its colour, its tone and its temper—a high responsibility that, on one side of the fence, could easily be traduced to self-seeking purposes—and which in the past, on occasion, I suspect has followed on the other side. On the other side, the internal working of that society, it ought to portray and embody these very principles of justice in its impersonal imbias. It is supposed to reflect on to the wider horizon of the society as a whole. Is not the only way to achieve that, to get a balanced representation from the general public and from that whole society sitting on that body, to give the society the experience, the wisdom, and what they have garnered from living in this society, from human life itself as to their day-to-day problems as to the sensibility or insensibility of lawyers and the law society touching this widest possible range of problems?

I would ask, therefore, Mr. Attorney General, and you, Mr. Speaker, that these remarks as to the expansion of this body be taken into good and serious consideration as we come into committee. We shall move in a determinate manner as to precisely the number we feel should be sitting on that body. Your remarks might be some indication of what would be the area acceptable, and in a judicious consideration, beneficial, within the terms and contours of the Act.

I think you can hardly disagree with me that there is merely token representation of the public within the confines of the present bill; that the lawyers are top-heavy in this regard and it is not beneficial from their point of view. As I say, when we move into committee, we will move an amendment in this particular regard.

Mr. Breithaupt: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise and add some remarks to those of my colleague, the member for Sarnia, with respect to the amendment that he has placed before the House.

There are, to my knowledge, some 25 members of the Law Society of Upper Canada in this House. Besides yourself, sir, the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), the Attorney General and seven others members of the executive council, there are four other government members, eight in this party and two in the third party. This, sir, makes some 24 members out of 118, almost one-quarter.

The legal profession, accordingly, has always found some favour with the electors of this province, who have sent solicitors and barristers into this House to help make the laws of the province. I think it is to the society's credit that members have stood for election in all parties and in all years and have attempted to offer their services for the betterment of the province of Ontario. It is in this context that I, too, add my few remarks, based on my interest here as a legislator, more than as a member of my profession. I hope that many members of the Legislature who are lawyers will join in this debate to give whatever further assistance and guidance they feel they can to the Attorney General, in ensuring that we have better legislation, not only in this but, of course, in many other areas.

The principles set out in this bill are many, but there is really only one that I wish to discuss this afternoon. The principle has been referred to, with respect to the representation of the citizens on the council, but I would add my remarks to the area of the representation by the lawyers, themselves, as benchers. "Rep by pop" was always a phrase in Ontario politics which evoked much response in elections, perhaps, 100 years ago. Now, while the lay problem of representation on the council is an important one, I think an even more important one is the representation regionally by solicitors themselves as benchers within the society.

Where do the benchers come from? Basically, they are senior members of larger firms; men who have accepted a responsibility, and a very honourable one, to serve the society. Men who take time from a very busy practice, from many other civic or municipal responsibilities, to assist their profession in its development. But the principle that bothers me is the one set out in section 16 of this Act, which refers to membership of the 40 benchers that are now to govern the society. Twenty should come from Metropolitan Toronto and 20 from the rest of the province, but how are the local practitioners going to be involved?

How are the persons from the two- or three-men firms going to bring their points of

view to the benchers? I think no better example is the one we all went through in the last few months dealing with the certification of cheques. It is a bookkeeping problem, perhaps, to the more senior benchers whose office managers told them about the problem. But it was a very practical problem to the individual solicitor running around trying to close a real estate deal. It is this kind of bridge that, I think, elections as benchers should attempt to close. Not for a moment would I presume that the burden should shift to Metropolitan Toronto, because here the men are available; they are prepared to serve and, of course, we have the majority of the lawyers in the province within this municipality.

But I do believe that the profession would be served well if the membership were somewhat better divided on the basis of a form of representation by population.

It is really a simple matter to work out. There are some 5,000 solicitors in the province and if there are 40 benchers, an easy population ratio can be established.

Mr. Lawlor: Is that the right figure, 5,000? I thought it was more than that.

Mr. Breithaupt: By the figures I have it is 4,974. In the county of York and the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto there are, I am told, 2,450; and there are 2,524 in the rest of the province.

I think that we can raise one good point and we may go into this more when we come to the actual section. That is that some form of representation on a division by county or an amalgamation of several counties would serve the law society well.

There are certainly areas within this province that do not receive representation by the, perhaps, more average practitioner, from some of the rural areas or the smaller cities, that they perhaps should.

I am going to suggest to the Attorney General, and will send over to him, an amendment which I propose that will break the province into some 16 other areas outside Metropolitan Toronto and encourage a more regional view. In the way of a Chinese dinner, when the solicitors in the province vote for their 40 benchers, they have to vote for one out of column A and perhaps two out of column B, or however we may make up the regional areas. Not only are the chances improved for a person within several counties to become a bencher, the odds are not weighted against him as they are presently.

It is clear, of course, that there are those within several or four or five counties who may decide to support a local man. But chances are that man will not have the background of knowledge or perhaps the prestige that he should have within the law society and before the bar and the bench to, in fact, be elected. Therefore, the persons whom we hear of more often, and who are, indeed, eminently qualified tend to be elected, more so from the leaders of the bar rather than some of the more average representatives. I certainly do not hope that the Attorney General will construe my comments, Mr. Speaker, to say that we must have the mediocre as members of the benchers.

The American government is presently going through that problem in its own supreme court choice.

Mr. Lawlor: Who is going to represent the mediocre?

Mr. Breithaupt: I do not know if that is an offer, but I would be pleased to nominate the member for Lakeshore if I can find 19 other names. I think it is still 20. In any event, it is not so much a matter of mediocrity as it is, I think, the necessity for the law society to represent a cross-section of views. While the views of the city benchers who are available to attend the interminable meetings of the discipline committee and the other meetings are most important, I do think that we should have some machinery, or at least some encouragement, for a wider representation, not only throughout the age structure of the bar, but also throughout its location of professional practice. I think we should always ensure that northern Ontario, for example, has a certain representation; some for Essex, for Ottawa-Carleton, or wherever it may be. The chance election from one list of nominees will not, I think, guarantee that kind of response that I feel is in the best interests of the law society.

The member for Lakeshore has stated that he has accepted the bill, but would prefer, in principle, to only add certain amendments. I agree with my colleague from Sarnia that that is not good enough. Because I think we must ask ourselves, "is the bill so substantially flawed that we cannot, in fact, support, it in principle? We have chosen a hoist in this matter.

I suggest to the Attorney General that in four brief points alone, this bill is substantially flawed. I think that the degree of public involvement in the council is, by far, inadequate, and I think the member for Lakeshore agrees with me in that point. I believe that

this principle of some form of representation by population within the law profession on the benchers' group itself is a serious point. I think that the problems raised by *in camera* hearings and certain of the disciplinary procedures are not adequately dealt with at this time. To pick a minor point, I think that the unproved automatic equality of a British subject in comparison with other persons in Canada who may not be citizens—

Mr. Lawlor: Surely that is not substantial.

Mr. Breithaupt: This is not really a serious matter, but one again of bringing the law society into the 20th century.

Mr. Sopha: Patrick, are you a British subject or are you Irish?

Mr. Breithaupt: The member for Lakeshore has suggested that there are only peripheral matters to be dealt with, which can be dealt with as amendments. But he has gone on to list many important points which we concur are flaws in the bill. I think, because of these difficulties, it would be worthwhile to call upon the members of the House to support this amendment from my colleague from Lakeshore.

Mr. Trotter: Sarnia.

Mr. Breithaupt: I am sorry, from Sarnia. Not that I am sorry that the member for Lakeshore is not my colleague.

Mr. Lawlor: Freud called it *lipsa lingua.* His heart is really here.

Mr. Breithaupt: We would encourage that kind of approach on his part. In any event, Mr. Speaker, I think the difficulties raised in the bill are substantial and we would be well served if we proceeded to have this piece of legislation reviewed to the point that the hoist motion calls for.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. member for Parkdale is going to have any discourse at all on this, I wonder if he would prefer to adjourn the debate, because he has about six minutes left. If he wishes to use them now, that is fine. If he wishes not to break his speech, we could adjourn.

Mr. Trotter: I can use the six minutes; it is enough. That will give me a good excuse to give a short talk, Mr. Speaker, because this matter has been covered to a certain extent, and the member for Sudbury will be giving a very thorough discourse on the matter.

I can recall a few years ago hearing the labour organizer, Murray Cotterill, talking to some of the benchers of the law society and some of the lawyers. Most of us were students, hoping to graduate, and that labour leader roared at us: "You guys got what we want. A closed shop." And there is no doubt, when you belong to a profession or a certain organization, it is in large part a closed shop. It has to be, simply because there are certain standards you must attain before you can qualify. But what is most important, I think, in any society today—be it a profession or a trade—is that it is, in large part, open to the public. This is even more important to the men and women who are practising law.

When I say open to the public, I mean that the public should have a greater understanding of what lawyers try to do, because so many people feel that the lawyers write all the legislation; no matter what the subject is, a lawyer has written the legislation. No doubt, in large part, in this particular case, the law society itself has been able to write the legislation. Perhaps this is a good idea, because they would have the best understanding of what needs to be done. There is no question in my mind that they are oriented to helping the public. The fact that legal aid has been so successful, has been, I think, very outstanding. And it is to the credit of the law society that they have had very little criticism from the general public. They did not get in the hassle that the medical profession has got itself in across this country today. The medical profession has been extremely narrow in its outlook. The law profession has not been.

But this bill, Mr. Speaker, does not go far enough. It is all well and good, in section 14, to support the principle that the Attorney General is representing the public. But to the public, Mr. Speaker, the Attorney General is one of the boys. We may feel and believe in our own minds that the Attorney General will do everything he can to represent the public, because that is his duty, his responsibility as a politician. But the general public does not necessarily think so. After all, he he is a lawyer; he is one of them.

This is why I think it is very important that a far larger representation of lay people should be voted on that council. Only three out of 73 is not enough. My own feeling is it should be 10 or 15 people.

After all, it is not this council that looks after the day-to-day affairs of the law society. I think it was the member for Lakeshore who wondered how lay people would be able

to look after the day-to-day affairs. It is the benchers who look after the day-to-day affairs. But this council, as set up in section 27, only meets once a year; it has to meet at least once a year. This is a tremendous opportunity for the lawyers in this province to say to the general public, "Let us open our books; we open our doors to you, this is an opportunity to see what the law profession can do."

I feel that in this day and age, groups and professions seem to have become so distant from the general public; it is not like in the old days when you knew the town lawyer. You seemed to know the handful of individuals who are lawyers; it is changed. Today, there are thousands of lawyers. In an area where there are at least 2,500 lawyers, in Metropolitan Toronto, there is no personal contact between the law profession and the people as a whole.

This is why it is important for all proffessions to open their doors to the general public. I think it is incumbent upon the legal profession to show the leadership that it has shown in many aspects in the past.

Again, in this very vein, I would like to see them change the name of the Law Society of Upper Canada to the Law Society of the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, this is the main point I want to emphasize—that the law society use this opportunity to become not only modern in fact, but modern in name and modern in spirit. And to have the contact with the public that is so important if we are to preserve law and order in this province and have the respect for our courts and for the legal profession that we must have if we are going to have law and order.

Mr. Breithaupt: I would like to rise on a point of order so that I do not mislead the House. I am informed that the correct figure I should have used for membership was, in fact, 7,400 members of the law society. The figure I used represented the number of paid-up members in the county and district law associations. Of course, as you know, not all members are necessarily members—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has made his correction.

Mr. Breithaupt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I will entertain a motion for the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Sopha moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will carry on with the consideration of the second readings, following which we will then go into committee of supply to continue a discussion of the estimates of The Department of Tourism and Information, and then The Department of Transport.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock, p.m.

APPENDIX
(See page 1265)

Answers to questions were tabled as follows:

1. *Mr. Reid* (Scarborough East)—Enquiry of the Minister: Is the construction of the $42 million Humanities and Social Sciences Research Library by the University of Toronto on its downtown St. George Campus "part of a University of Ontario plan that would centralize nearly *all* Ontario graduate work at the St. George Campus" of the University of Toronto as alleged by the editor of the *Varsity* (Brian Johnson) on page 4 in the February 25, 1970 issue?

Answer by the Minister of University Affairs:

The Humanities and Social Sciences Research Library currently being constructed at the University of Toronto has been designed to serve the needs of graduate students and faculty at the University of Toronto and as a provincial resource facility which will provide a service to the other Ontario universities as well. It is anticipated that much unnecessary duplication of cost and facilities will be avoided through this method of providing at a central point within the province a resource library which can meet the highly specialized and diversified needs of the graduate schools in Ontario. The already existing system of inter-library transportation and communication which has been established will serve to distribute the materials from this central library and to facilitate access as well. The centralization of a resource of this nature in no way implies that graduate studies will be restricted to the St. George Campus of the University of Toronto, but rather ensures that every institution will have an opportunity to benefit equally from this resource centre.

Question: What are the planning estimates of The Department of University Affairs concerning the number of graduate students enrolled in provincially assisted universities in Ontario in 1975? In 1980? In 1985? What are the planning estimates of The Department of University Affairs concerning the sub-estimates of the number of graduate students at *each* provincially assisted university in 1975? In 1980? In 1985?

Answer: The Department of University Affairs has not issued enrolment projections for graduate studies in Ontario during the period mentioned by the honourable member. One of the major aspects of the study presently being undertaken by the Commission on Post-Secondary Education is to attempt to determine the need for graduate enrolment in the universities over the next twenty years. The commission will study among other things "the number of students for whom provision should be made in various types of institutions and programmes, and the type, nature and role of the institutions required to meet the educational needs of the province, with particular reference to existing institutions and their ability to meet present and future demands."

Each Ontario university has submitted to the department an estimate of graduate enrolment for each of the next five years. The total represented by these estimates for 1975-1976 is 21,267 full-time graduate students. The estimate for each university in that year is as follows: Brock, 159; Carleton, 1,165; Guelph, 1,235; Lakehead, 133; Laurentian, 115; McMaster, 2,312; Ottawa (excl. education), 1,999; Queen's, 1,870; Toronto, 5,310; Trent, 12; Waterloo, 1,834; Western, 2,461; Windsor, 862; York, 1,800.

4. *Mr. Davison*—Enquiry of the Ministry: What are the costs of the following Commissions: Plunkett report—Peel-Halton; Mayo report—Niagara Falls, Welland and St. Catharines; Steele report—Hamilton, Burlington, Wentworth?

Answer by the Minister of Muncipal Affairs:

Peel-Halton local government review, $73,-100; Niagara region local government review, $71,300; the Hamilton-Burlington-Wentworth local government review, $157,000.

5. *Mr. Shulman*—Enquiry of the Ministry: Was the original idea behind the development of Plan 174 in Oakville that this was the only way a somewhat run down area with large lots could be handled, namely, that the municipality and the owners would work together to get some low cost housing? At the present time have all owners been expropriated and ordered to move out whether they have settled or not? Of the original 129 parcels of property at August 1 last year, have 52 not settled or accepted any agreement and have these 52 all received expropriation notices and low offers?

Did the town of Oakville call for bids from developers to develop this area, and did Consolidated Building Corporation submit a good proposal whereby they would pay all costs of development, and would not have anyone

move out until new homes had been built to which they could move? Later, did another developer get into the act on a 50-50 basis, and at this point was the $400,000 capital contribution that was to be paid by the first developer dropped, and now, must the homeowners that will buy pay this contribution which was given back to the developers?

Is it true that this agreement did not come before council until after approval by the OMB? Is it true that although the development costs have only gone up $240,000, the proposed prices on lots and homes has gone up $1,700,000? Is this now low-cost housing? Is it true that the town of Oakville, which is the expropriating agent, is using its powers to take property without compensation in many cases, and turning it over to private developers for profits? Is this legal under any Act?

Is it true that the town of Oakville is claiming to be the authority for expropriation, but that the town as such has not paid one cent to anyone, and that all money used for payment for property has come from the developers? Is this legal? Is it true that no ads have been placed, and that no hearings or anything else has been held, even though this is claimed to come under the new expropriation Act?

Is it true that developers are moving onto property for which no agreement for settlement has been made, or any money paid out, and cutting down trees, tearing up fences, and demolishing homes and other buildings? Is this legal under any Act? Are the negotiators for the town offering very low amounts for the properties, despite the fact that the Act states that the market value must be paid for property? Is this legal?

Have many of the people acting on behalf of the town never been hired or appointed by town council? Have most of the transactions taking place never been brought before the council or discussed by it? Has council never met any of the developers or negotiated directly with them in any way? Have any arrangements been made to house the people, both owners and tenants, who have to vacate? Have mortgages been paid off on houses in this development which have been demolished? Did developers take out building permits a month before they had possession of the land?

Answer by the Minister of Municipal Affairs:

Oakville Gardens was designated as a redevelopment area on April 13, 1959. The redevelopment plan approved by the Ontario Municipal Board on November 26, 1964, provided for a co-operative type of development by the area residents, with provision for acquisition of lands by the municipality from those owners not wishing to participate, and the provision of services by the municipality under The Local Improvement Act. This plan did not get off the ground because the town council could not finance the installation of services.

In 1966, Oakville town council decided that the only way left to redevelop these lands would be to invite tenders from private developers. The proposal was that the private developer would pay all acquisition, demolition and servicing costs and would agree to sell the land and buildings at a pre-determined price. The town's role would be simply to help the prospective developer in the assembly of land through its powers of expropriation in those cases where the developer had failed to secure the lands through direct negotiations. The idea was to avoid any capital expenditures by the town. Sixteen firms were invited to bid, but only six developers made the actual submissions.

The firm of Consolidated Building Corporation Limited was given the award by the town council, subject to the approval of the revised plan and financing agreements by the Ontario Municipal Board, and also the approvals pursuant to section 20, subsections 3 and 8 of The Planning Act by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. After hearing objections by the ratepayers, and by one of the unsuccessful bidders, the Ontario Municipal Board approved the revised redevelopment plan on July 17, 1967.

On a further appeal by an unsuccessful developer, under section 42 of The Ontario Municipal Board Act, the Ontario Municipal Board arranged a rehearing and reconfirmed its approval on October 12, 1968. In addition, on a request by an alderman of the town of Oakville, the Ontario Municipal Board scheduled a further meeting and the approval for disposition of the land was confirmed.

As mentioned earlier, the Ontario Municipal Board approved the revised redevelopment plan on July 17, 1967. A motion was made by the town council to the Ontario Municipal Board for a review of the board's decision and this was allowed. Prior to the review by the Ontario Municipal Board, solicitors for the town negotiated a revised agreement with Consolidated Building Corporation Limited in which Longmoor Building Corporation became an equal partner in the scheme.

At the Ontario Municipal Board hearing of the review, the Board insisted upon certain additional safeguards being written into the scheme. In the original proposal with Consolidated Building Corporation Limited, the development company was to pay the town the sum of $840,000 for all of the land in the plan, which was estimated to cost $1,200,000. The town, in turn, was to apply the estimated $370,000 in capital imposts derived from the plan to make up the balance of the cost of the land. The Ontario Municipal Board insisted that the two development companies must compensate the Town in full for the cost of acquiring the land, but allowed that the Town might use the capital imposts to reduce the cost of servicing the plan of redevelopment.

The negotiations carried out by the solicitors for the town leading to the draft agreement presented to the board on October 10, 1967, were done with the full knowledge of the council. The board reserved its decision on October 10, 1967, to permit the Oakville council to consider and execute the agreement which it did on October 30, 1969, by Bylaw 1967-165.

Notwithstanding the rising costs of real estate, compensation under The New Expropriation Procedures Act, 1968-69, and delays in approvals of the rezoning, redevelopment plan and the subdivision plans, the first of the new homes are now being offered for sale and are being sold, several thousand dollars per unit lower than any other new housing currently being offered for sale within the town.

The town of Oakville expropriated the land in March, 1968, under the previous legislation, but the method of calculating compensation, and allowances, comes under the new legislation, and settlements are being made accordingly.

In accordance with the new legislation, offers of partial payment have also been made toward the settlements.

Council has been kept fully informed of the progress made in the plan through staff reports, agreements, and so on. During the early stages of the redevelopment scheme, the principals met with council both in committee and formal session. The two developers have co-operated fully with the town in assisting owners or tenants in finding alternative accommodation. Some owners have at the developers' expense been moved temporarily to other housing within the plan. The town has relocated some tenants elsewhere in the town and assisted in moving costs and monthly rentals. Some tenants have been offered alternative housing either in Ontario Housing Corporation facilities or other premises. There now remain only three or four families to be relocated.

As settlements are finalized, appropriate provision is made either to pay off the outstanding mortgages or if the premises are to remain, to meet mortgage payments until the premises are resold, and new mortgages are arranged.

Seven building permits were issued to Consolidated Building Corporation Limited on August 29, 1969, for seven model homes on the Sixth Line, the principal town street leading to the plan. Council authorized the conveyance of the lands by Bylaw 1969-146 passed September 8, 1969, to Consolidated and Longmoor.

In all its actions, the town of Oakville has received the approval of the Ontario Municipal Board and the board has heard objections regarding this matter. The town of Oakville is aware of its responsibilities and duties under The Expropriation Act, 1968-69, if properties are being acquired in Oakville Gardens in this manner at this time.

It is felt the plan resolves many problems that have accumulated over a long period of time and little would be served by investigating this matter further in view of the consideration that has already been given by the Ontario Municipal Board. If grievances do exist between some inhabitants of Oakville Gardens and either the council or the developer, clarification should be sought from the town council or access should be had to legal advice.

8. *Mr. Jackson*—Enquiry of the Ministry:

1. Has any revision been made in the pulpwood price list included in section 1, subsection 1 of the crown timber license issued to E. B. Eddy Co. on October 17, 1963 for rights in Timiskaming area?

2. What is the present status of negotiations between E. B. Eddy Co. and the province for the erection of a pulp mill to exploit the resources under licence?

3. Has any other company, individual or co-operative, indicated an interest in erecting a pulp mill in the Timiskaming area if the resource now held by E. B. Eddy is made available?

4. What is presently being done by The Department of Lands and Forests to ensure the early construction of a pulp mill in Timiskaming to exploit the resource held by E. B. Eddy Co?

5. The number of third party agreements now in effect in the limits licensed to E. B. Eddy Co. in the Timiskaming area.

6. The names and addresses of companies or individuals holding third party rights.

7. The names and addresses of companies or individuals who are presently and actively exploiting their rights under third party agreements.

Answers by the Minister of Lands and Forests:

1. No.

2. Negotiations continue with respect to all Eddy Co. operations.

3. No.

4. A brochure containing information relevant to this area and of interest to industry is available and has been distributed. There have been contacts with industries interested in the area. The former Howard Smith licence is also available to enhance the timber package for industry. But at this time there have been no commitments by any industry to establish manufacturing facilities.

5. Seven.

6. Frank Bowen, Gowganda. George Rousson, R.R. No. 1, Timmins. Canadian Splint and Lumber Corporation Ltd., Pembroke. Liskeard Lumber Limited, New Liskeard. Bay Lumber Limited, Westree. Briscoe Lumber Limited, Englehart. Kokotow Lumber Limited, Kirkland Lake.

7. Same as No. 6—all companies or individuals presently cutting.

No. 33

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, April 9, 1970

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Thursday, April 9, 1970

Consumer guide for senior citizens, statement by Mr. Yaremko 1304

Meeting re compensation to fishermen and Dow Chemical, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Nixon, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. T. P. Reid 1305

Tax relief for senior citizens, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. Nixon 1306

Availability of heavy water, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Nixon 1306

Validity of Canada Water Act as it applies to Ontario, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Nixon 1306

Tax relief and comfort allowances for senior citizens, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr. MacDonald 1307

Threats of strike violence in Essex county, questions to Mr. Wishart, Mr. Lewis 1308

Proposed shutdown of CGE electronic tube plant, and arrangements affecting rubber industry in Canada, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. MacDonald 1308

Board of governors of Laurentian University, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid 1311

Child removed from Kingston hospital, questions to Mr. Yaremko, Mr Deans 1312

Legality of contests by cigarette companies, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Gaunt, Mr. Sopha 1313

Global oxygen content, question to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Burr 1313

Cost of municipal census in Waterloo county, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Good 1314

Planned Parenthood Association and abortions, questions to Mr. Wells, Mr. Shulman 1314

Testing by OWRC of phosphate-free detergent, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. T. P. Reid, Mr. De Monte 1314

Increased grants re general welfare assistance, and increased costs to municipalities, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Gisborn 1315

Programme for proper disposal of toxic liquid waste, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Deacon 1315

Pollution at Cobourg sewage plant, questions to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Pitman 1316

Fuel Transmission Services and Borden Farms, question to Mr. Randall, Mr. MacKenzie 1317

Amendment of standard lease by Ontario Housing Corporation, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Nixon 1317

Presenting report, Department of Public Works, Mr. Welch 1318

Reform of governing bodies of universities, bill to provide for, Mr. T. Reid, first reading 1318

Air Pollution Control Act, 1967, bill to amend, Mr. Martel, first reading 1318

Damage by Fumes Arbitration Act, bill to amend, Mr. Martel, first reading 1318

Report, standing legal and municipal committee, Mr. Meen 1319

Third readings 1322

Law Society Act, bill to consolidate and revise, Mr. Wishart, on second reading, continued 1322

Motion to adjourn debate, Mr. Sopha, agreed to 1343

Estimates, Department of Tourism and Information, Mr. Auld, continued 1344

Recess, 6.00 o'clock 1344

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1970

The House met at 2 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Today we are to have a great many visitors: in the east gallery, students from Fairmount Public School, in Scarborough; a Boy Scout group from Tillsonburg; and students from Westdale Secondary School in Hamilton. In the west gallery there are students from Northern Secondary School in Toronto and Bayview Junior High School, in Willowdale. And in both galleries, students from Toronto Teachers College, in Toronto.

Later this afternoon there will be students from Ridgetown District High School, Ridgetown; the Institute of Chartered Accountants, hosting students from George Harvey Secondary School, Northern Secondary School, and Midland Avenue Secondary School; and from the Christian Missionary Alliance Church School in Cobourg.

Statements by the ministry.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Point of order, sir!

Mr. Speaker: Point of order.

Mr. Shulman: My point of order, sir, is that the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) of this province has seriously misinformed the Legislature—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Not again!

Mr. Shulman: Again! It is in the case of the Clinton Duke matter, in the statement which he read to the House two days ago, sir, on several different points.

First, I quote from his statement, sir. The first quotation, on page 4 is:

> The proceedings in the family division of the provincial court are open to the public, although the publishing of the proceedings may be prohibited by the judge.

This statement is false, sir. The proceedings in the family division of the provincial court are not open to the public. I checked with the family court here in Toronto this morning and they confirmed that the public are not allowed to enter the court.

Second, in Burlington—where this case occurred—on the day of Mr. Duke's trial, a reporter from the Hamilton *Spectator* was refused admission to the court room just prior to the case being heard. In an effort to determine if the public was now allowed into that court room, just yesterday, sir, when the Halton county family court opened, in the presence of Judge Langdon, the *Spectator* reporter was twice ordered to leave the court room. When he objected he was escorted out by county clerk Frederick Baugh. "The judge does not want you in his court," Mr. Baugh said. "There is only one way you will get in there and that is to force your way in." Judge Langdon said the Attorney General was wrong to say he had no authority to close his court.

Sir, I have a transcript here of the proceedings that took place yesterday in that court, and I quote from page three and I am quoting out of context—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): What is all this about? What kind of a point of order is that?

Mr. Speaker: I am waiting to hear.

Mr. Shulman: It is Mr. McAuliffe that I am quoting, sir.

Hon. J. H. White (Minister of Revenue): He has not got the nerve to do it when the Attorney General is in the House. I think it is a shame.

Mr. Shulman: Let him come here when he is supposed to be here. He gave the minister his statement.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): He is here more than the member is.

Mr. Shulman: I quote, sir, from the transcript:

> *Mr. McAuliffe:* Your honour, the problem we are confronted with, we have the Attorney General, in the matter of the Duke affair, arguing that family court proceedings are not closed.
>
> *The Court:* They are not closed. Unless I issue an order, they are not closed. This

morning I am prepared to make individual orders on each application, excluding the press, if I have to.

Mr. McAuliffe: Excluded or prohibited from publishing?

The Court: I think excluded.

End of quote, which of course is exactly the opposite from the initial statement of the Attorney General, which I quoted.

2. The Attorney General, in his statement, said that Duke had not received special treatment. I have here an article from today's Hamilton *Spectator*, in which appears the following statement:

> Both Judge Langdon and Mr. Latimer conceded later that day that Mr. Duke had been accorded special treatment, a fact denied in the Legislature this week by the Attorney General.

Third, the Attorney General stated the case was held in family court because it was a result of a family dispute. You will recall, sir, this was a dispute between two neighbours, and I would like to point out that this matter also has been investigated yesterday in Hamilton and Burlington. And, in the courts, not even threatening charges involving common-law partners are put in the family courts. They are tried in open criminal courts, where the public may enter.

Fourth, even the judge involved disagrees with the Attorney General. On page five of yesterday's transcript, I quote—again out of context—Judge Langdon:

> I am not accepting wholeheartedly or endorsing completely, the remarks made by the Attorney General.

He goes on to qualify this, sir.

Mr. Sopha: Imagine the Attorney General squabbling with the judge in the public arena. What is this country coming to?

Mr. Shulman: Point five, sir.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: Point five, sir.

5. The Attorney General, in his very incomplete and inaccurate investigation, appears to have overlooked the odd fact that—while Mr. Latimer, the local crown attorney, acted as Duke's prosecutor—Mr. Duke's lawyer, a Mr. Hennessey, is also part-time assistant crown attorney; his superior is Mr. Latimer.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I might have a word about this. It is quite obvious that the hon. member is quoting from newspapers and other reports, which of course . . .

Mr. Shulman: And official transcripts!

Mr. Speaker: And what the hon. member has said are official transcripts. Of course, I have no knowledge, nor has the House, as to these. And I am sure the Attorney General will have it drawn to his attention and will have the right to deal with the matter in due course.

Statement by the ministry.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Social and Family Services): Your honour, I am pleased to announce that in co-operation with my colleague, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence), we have produced a consumer guide for senior citizens, copies of which have been circulated to the members of the Legislature. We are now finalizing plans for our respective departments to circulate this little document to as many senior citizens throughout the province as we can—particularly those who live alone and thus become targets of con men, racketeers and other heartless individuals who prey on them.

The primary purpose of this guide is to continue to educate and inform our senior citizens, and to warn them against the dangers of dealing with strangers, and thus protect them against financial loss and the losses of goods or property.

The minister of The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs and myself are aware and appreciate the work being carried out daily throughout the province by the police, better business bureaus and chamber organizations and, of course, the news media in issuing warnings and education efforts directed to our citizens who, because of their circumstances and confidence and trust in people, are often the victims of frauds and outrageous repair bills.

The need remains to continue to expand these warnings and educational activities. At The Department of Social and Family Services, through regional offices, drop-in centres, homes for the aged, pensioners and similar related individuals and groups being established and contacted throughout the province, we will utilize these contacts and opportunities to circulate and draw attention to the guide without delay and, we hope, effectively.

On behalf of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs and myself, I have just returned from the annual meeting of the

Red Cross Society, an organization which has not only been very active in serving the elderly, but which suggested the idea of a consumer guide in the first place.

We would take advantage of the many agencies working with The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs and other departments of government to obtain their assistance in ensuring that the guide affords a new opportunity for continuing and expanding the work done by public and community agencies. Despite almost daily alerts, we still hear of our citizens, usually elderly women, being victimized.

This guide, as you will see, has been designed to fit in a purse or wallet and to be handled easily and to be kept for handy reference at home. We believe the language and presentation are straightforward and clear, always subject to review, and all of us hope and pray that it will help reduce the exploitation of helpless people, which comes from time to time and, I am sure, shocks us all.

I welcome and enlist the support of all members in helping our aims and in the distribution of these pamphlets.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests. Did he take part in the meeting yesterday involving the two federal ministers as well as the executives from Dow Chemical, and if so, has he any further statement he can make to the House as to the possibility of the fishermen being reimbursed without having to resort to a suit against Dow Chemical, that is in case, of course, of the mercury pollution?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, I did attend the meeting that took place in the office of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) yesterday and it was also attended by Mr. Greene and Mr. Davis. With refereence to the second part of his question, we have agreed to form a committee, and that this committee would look ino the claims of the fishermen and that advances would be made to the fishermen. The second question of compensation—the question of liability—will have to be established, and this, as the member will appreciate, will be a very complex matter. But we have agreed at the present time, beginning next week, that a committee will be formed, to meet either here in Toronto or in Ottawa, composed of federal and provincial representatives along with representatives from the industries themselves, and they will establish the guidelines and make advances to these people.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary question: Can the minister then assure us that these advances will take the form of regular payments over the next few months, which would be equivalent to what the fishermen might expect to earn during the fishing season in the coming summer?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, we have just established the principle, and at this stage it is very difficult to say the amount of the advances and the percentage. I think what we have established is that this is a high-level committee, and I am sure that everything will be done to try to see that no one who is directly affected will suffer undue hardship during the period that he will be out of work.

Mr. Nixon: A further supplementary. Is there now machinery to see that money is sent down to these fishermen, who must, of course, meet certain commitments on a regular basis, rather than waiting for this high-level committee to investigate the complex machinery of the payments?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: There were two meetings yesterday, Mr. Speaker. There was one meeting in the office of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, which we referred to earlier in our remarks, and there was a second meeting which was held about the same time and which we later attended—a meeting with the commercial fishermen themselves and other allied industries. Already the solicitors of the fishermen's group and these allied industries have put out forms, more or less claim forms, requesting information as to the pounds of fish and so forth, using last year's returns as a basis. This information is being sent to the fishermen, it will be collected, and when there is a meeting next week—and there definitely will be a meeting next week, probably by the middle of next week—this information will be on hand and we will in a much better position to deal with the problem.

Mr. Nixon: Will cheques go out to the fishermen before the end of the month? Can the minister give us an assurance on that?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: There again, Mr. Speaker, I think at this time it is rather difficult to give a positive answer. All these matters, both federally and provincially, are subject to government policy and are subject, of

course, to the respective Treasury Boards. But as I said earlier, we certainly, as a government, did not want to see people suffering and we certainly will act as fast as we can, and the hon. Leader of the Opposition knows we have acted fast. This machinery is set up and by next week it should be in operation.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, in view of Dow Chemical's refusal to accept liability, can the minister today clarify his contention yesterday that there are legal or constitutional difficulties in the way of the province taking action to get the money rather than private action by the fishermen?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, I confessed my very limited knowledge of the legal aspect and I must confess it again today; I am not in a better position. So I am sorry I cannot answer this question at this time.

The legal aspect is a very complex one and I think there will be a lot of study given to all sides of it.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of clarification, if I may, Mr. Speaker.

One news story stated that the OWRC Act does not at the moment empower the government to effect compensation. Is that the problem that you have to amend the Act in order to give yourself the power to assess liability and compensation for those who suffer?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: This is my understanding and I would also like to say to the hon. member that both the federal government and the federal Ministers of Fisheries and Forestry are considering amending The Canada Fisheries Act. We are also giving consideration to amending our own Act, so that in the future we will be in a much better position to deal with such matters.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): By way of further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister if the government is prepared to sue Dow Chemical, as they have the power to do, to recover the cost of compensating the fishermen?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would say at this time, Mr. Speaker, the whole matter is under consideration.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Social and Family Services. Is he gathering information to advise the Premier and the Treasurer on the effective use of the $10 million announced in the budget for the relief of pensioners in this province?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the department is aware of the announcement and we are making available all the information that is in our department.

Mr. Nixon: As a supplementary question, does the minister feel that the money could be spent so as to attract an equal expenditure from the federal government under the Canada Assistance Plan?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That will be a matter for Treasury Board to decide.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary: since the minister is expert in these matters, being the minister associated with welfare payments in this province, would it be possible, in his view, for these funds to be matched at the federal level, if they were applied for the relief of pensioners in this province?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: We believe that the interpretation of the Canada Assistance Plan could lend itself to this, but that determination has not actually been made, to my knowledge.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Premier.

Before the Easter recess, he undertook to get additional information for the House on the availability of heavy water, which will be in great demand for the start-up of our Pickering reactor. I do not know whether he has had an opportunity to get that information, but in view of recent announcements associated with the scarcity and its supply—the need to buy it from the United States and other foreign sources, an increase of almost 15 per cent in the price of heavy water announced just a few days ago—I feel this information should be made available at the earliest possible—

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): It is a matter of some concern to us, of course, and I instituted some investigations which I hope will give me some information that I may give the House, but I have not yet had the results.

Mr. Nixon: I have a question for the Attorney General, Mr. Speaker.

Has he further information on the legal opinion provided to the Ontario Water Resources Commission about the validity, or otherwise, of The Canada Water Act as far as it applies in Ontario? This matter is being

considered by the House of Commons and I feel that the House should know what the position of this government should be on its validity.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I checked the matter after the hon. member asked about it a day or so ago. We did furnish an opinion to the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

I spoke with the chairman of the Commission today. I understand that that opinion has been made known to the government at Ottawa and, as a result of our views, their legislation, I am told, is being modified. We did make a very thorough study of it and furnished a very complete opinion to the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

Mr. Nixon: A supplementary: Would it be possible that that opinion be tabled so that we could examine it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, I would be glad to do that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a three-part question for the Minister of Social and Family Services.

1. How does the minister justify the fact that the increases announced yesterday were in the range of 10 per cent, whereas the cost of living increase for the same period is in the range of 12 per cent?

2. Why was no action taken in increasing the comfort allowances which are made available to those older people who are in various institutions and whose entire pension is taken by the institution for their upkeep?

3. Would the minister give us an estimate of the total cost of this programme and how it breaks down in the various levels of government for payment?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, in respect of the increases, there was no general increase across the board for everybody on an equal percentage basis. We were allocated a specic sum of money by the Treasury Board, in the light of the budgetary demands upon the government. We took those sums of money and assigned them, based on our best judgment and experience, to where the need was the greatest.

In respect of the comfort allowances, this series of amendments to the regulations made no changes whatsoever in relationship to those who reside in institutions, because there the so-called cost of living generally applicable to the necessities of life is taken care of in our support to the institutions themselves.

With respect to the comfort allowance portion of $15, I am hopful that when we make some adjustment to that, at some time in the future when the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) is in a position, that it will be more substantial than just an increase, say, of 10 per cent of $15, which would be $1.50—significant, but yet not perhaps what might have to be done. That is the position of the residents of our institutions and it is one of our top priorities.

The total cost will be upward of $18 million. About half of that will be shared under the Canada Assistance Plan and the remainder will be divided between the province and the municipality. The bulk of the provincial share —roughly $8.5 million, other than the Canada Assistance Plan—will be borne approximately $7 million by the province and $1.5 million by the municipalities, across the province.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of supplementary question: In his announcement yesterday, the minister indicated that a sum of money had been allocated and it has been decided how it shall be spent. Has the minister any other announced allocations of money which are going to be addendums to the budget in the weeks and months that lie ahead?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the announcement made by me was not an addendum to the budget. The reference was made very clear in the Treasury budget statement.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, but the amount of money, Mr. Speaker—am I not correct, was the amount of money included in the calculations of the budget?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the Treasurer had made it perfectly clear that the amount allocated for The Departemnt of Social and Family Services was under review and that review has led me to be in a position to make the announcement.

Mr. MacDonald: In short, to clarify it finally, Mr. Speaker, the amount that was announced by the minister is in addition to the figures given by the Provincial Treasurer in this budget?

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): The budget does not mean a thing.

An hon. member: Sure it does.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes or no?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the amount allocated to the department originally

is as it stands. We have a commitment from the Treasury with respect to any additional sums which might be necessary to carry out our programme.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, the minister has not answered my question. My question is: Is the amount that was announced yesterday an addition to the amounts that were included in the budget?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: The amount that was announced yesterday was, in part, those amounts which were in the budget—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Oh, come on!

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: —together with a commitment for any additional sums.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Would the Prime Minister reconcile whatever the Minister of Social and Family Services may have just said and the contention in the budget that there would be further additions to the budget beyond $3,739 million?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not understand. I will have to get the *Hansard* of this discussion—

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, the Premier is right!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —to find out what the member is talking about. Are you talking about the additional sums we said we would discuss in this House?

Mr. MacDonald: Right, including the specific suggestion of the provincial Treasurer. One of them would be increases in the assistance—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will go into the whole matter.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Prime Minister is taking it as notice.

Mr. MacDonald: Confusion, great confusion! A simple explanation, if it is simple.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. Lewis: A question of the Attorney General, Mr. Speaker.

Has the Attorney General either received reports or looked into reports of alleged threats of violence—sugar in gasoline tanks and other consequences—that appear to be flowing from the strike between the janitors, members of a CUPE local, and the Essex county school board?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, Mr. Speaker, I cannot give a report on that as yet. Personally I have not looked into it. My people I think, are aware, but I have no report to offer the House at the moment.

Mr. Lewis: By way of supplementary, would the Attorney General perhaps be kind enough to elicit a report to see whether any of the anxieties are borne out?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We will certainly be watching the matter. Now to what extent we may report I shall reserve as we do in matters of criminal investigation.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister responsible for the Ontario Housing Corporation.

Can he now announce to the House that OHC has amended its standard lease and has brought the improvements and changes in it as a result of the landlord-tenant legislation, now six months old, to the attention of those people requiring the use of the lease? Secondly, has he decided what use will be made of the security deposit fund which, he announced some time ago, would not be returned simply because the deposits do not fall under the letter of the law even though the spirit of the law would indicate they should be returned?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Mr. Speaker, I will get detailed information on both those matters for the hon. member at the first of the week. I will check on it again.

I know they are looking at it. They were looking at it when I went away, and I have not had a chance to check—

Mr. Nixon: They were looking at it two months ago.

Hon. Mr. Randall: No, I said they were looking at it when I went to Japan. I have not got the answers on my desk in complete detail, but I will have them for you at the first of the week.

Mr. Sopha: Has the minister been back in Japan since I last saw him?

Mr. MacDonald: With the arrival of the Minister of Trade and Development, I have a final question.

The Prime Minister informs us he has passed on to the minister a couple of questions I asked a number of days ago, and I wonder if the minister can respond.

1. Whether or not the government was informed of the shutdown of the CGE electronic tube plant on Dufferin Street and, if so, what action was taken and what the minister feels with regard to the contention of top officials that the electronic tube industry of Canada is doomed?

2. With regard to the growing concern in the rubber industry in Kitchener as a result of the duty-free arrangement granted by the federal government to the French tire manufacturer, Michelin, for the establishment of two plants in Nova Scotia, but which is going to affect the whole rubber industry across the country, including Kitchener?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I have the information here from the General Electric Company in two letters. Perhaps if I read these letters into the record the hon. member will be as well informed as I am.

I received the first letter on March 26, but I understand prior to that, Mr. Gillespie, the general manager of the plant had been talking to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales). The letters I got are confidential, but I have talked to Mr. Gillespie, and he says he does not mind if I make his public, so I will make it public. It says:

Dear Sir:

After a long and serious business study we have reached a decision to discontinue the manufacture of electron tubes in Canada. This applies to all types of receiving, industrial and military tubes currently made in our Dufferin Stret plant. I am writing to inform you of our plans since I was unable to contact you personally. The matter has been discussed with the Hon. Mr. Bales. The main purpose of this communication is to make sure you are properly informed, as the current environment is such that the situation could easily become exaggerated when the details are made public.

After many years of manufacturing we have finally had to accept that it is no longer possible to continue manufacturing at the volumes and price levels we face today. Whereas we manufactured 12 million tubes per year at one time, we are now down to two million. This volume, combined with ever increasing costs and a market where prices are being driven down by imports from low cost countries, has brought us to the point where we have to phase out.

Although the final termination will take place in the balance of 1970, the decline has actually been under way for many years. For instance, we employed 854 people in the Dufferin plant in 1966 and the figure today is down to 240.

Last year we reduced the staff by about 200. All of the people (except our four special cases) were offered alternative employment in other parts of the company. Our plan is to try to achieve the same result in the final phase-out year. Every effort will be made to place the employees in other businesses. As we get down to the high seniority, long service people, this may prove difficult as the particular skills, especially female assemblers, are not readily transferable to other businesses. In this regard we have already been in touch with the Departments of Manpower at the federal and provincial levels to discuss retraining and relocation, etc.

The remaining employees in the plant will be involved in manufacturing guns for picture tubes, warehousing, shipping, etc. Ultimately, the space vacated by the electron tube business will be filled by other manufacturing businesses in the company.

Over the last few years we have attempted to substitute the manufacture of other electronic components—

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Take it as read.

Hon. Mr. Randall: To continue:

—at Dufferin Street to compensate for the declining tube business. We undertook the manufacture of transistors, diodes and capacitors. However, we have had to close them all down again because we could not achieve a viable business in Canada with a small domestic market, high costs, reducing tariffs and intense foreign competition.

Incidentally, our dropping the manufacture of military tubes has been discussed with The Department of Supply and Services. Their position is that they will continue to procure limited quantities of military tubes, but cannot pay any premium to keep CGE as a Canadian source. They will be able to source the types which are exclusive to CGE in Canada, from sources in the USA.

We will keep you informed as events progress. In order to protect our competitive position, and ensure that we handle our employee communications in a controlled

manner, we would appreciate your treating this information in a confidential manner for the time being.

And following my call to Mr. Gillespie, I received another letter dated April 7, in which he says:

Thank you for your note of April 2.

As you may have seen from the newspapers, we have now announced our decision to phase out of electron tube manufacturing at the Dufferin Street plant.

There will be 160 direct labour people involved, and the reduction will start in June and take place over a few months. We are hopeful that we will be able to retrain and relocate the employees involved. The total employment at the Dufferin Street plant is 1,500. In Toronto, we employ 6,000.

As the tube facilities are converted to lamp making facilities, we may be forced to have some people on lay-off for longer than the normal periods related to seasonal adjustments. We are trying to work out with the union how we might give preferential treatment to longer-service employees.

A copy of our employee newsletter is attached. This goes to all employees and the Union on a regular basis. The reference to our intention to try to relocate all employees, retrain where necessary, and the timing of the layoff is indicated. This information has also been reported in the press.

Incidentally, the press reports suggested that CGE was blaming the federal government for the problems of the tube industry. This was not our intention. Our position is that an electronics industry is vital to the future of Canada as a developing nation, and the federal government has to recognize this and do more to support a strong Canadian electronics industry. Obviously, such an industry has to be based on the development and supply of Canadian components. The situation today is that the Canadian component industry is slowly disappearing. In our own case, we are not blaming anyone for the demise of the tube industry, but we are deeply concerned that the gap is not being filled by the manufacture of the next generation of components in Canada.

In our case we have, over the last few years, started the manufacture of transistors, diodes and capacitors—and then had to give up because we could not compete with the imports.

We will keep you further informed.

And I have a copy of the notice to their union employees—again, Mr. Speaker, dated April 3—in which they outline the position to the union. I believe they are working out what will be a satisfactory solution for the 160 people involved. So I am quite sure that General Electric recognize their responsibilities to the employees and will try and find jobs for them.

In the meantime, our Department of Trade and Development has been down. Our Labour department people are working with them and the federal authorities, so I think this matter is well in hand.

Mr. Lewis: The whole light bulb business is a hoax.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Well in hand, all right.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Now, Mr. Speaker, answering the hon. member's further question about the French company coming in—the Michelin company coming to the Maritime provinces—I have discussed this with my people in the trade department. We have been looking at this since we first heard of the announcement and the reply I get from them—at least, the information I get to pass on to the members of the House is such.

The details concerning the agreement between a French tire manufacturer and The Department of Finance in Ottawa have not been promulgated. A confidential proposal has been made by the federal government to the tire manufacturers. Questions raised in the federal Parliament concerning details have not been answered and our enquiries have met with a similar lack of success.

Apparently the federal government, in its desire to locate industry under the regional economic expansion programme has made a review of the whole tire situation and the tire industry and, as a result, a number of discussions were held with the Michelin company. In view of the number of employees involved, as well as the high percentage of production exports, estimated at 85 per cent, the government has agreed to the remission of duty and, in some cases, sales taxes, on the importation of tires which will not be manufactured in the Nova Scotia plant.

The government in Ottawa is prepared to work out broadly similar agreements with any other company and accordingly has met, through The Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, with manufacturers' representatives from all provinces concerned since last November. It is our understanding,

through information received from the tire industry, that the duty-free period is conditional on the commercial production date of the Michelin plant, now estimated to be March or April, 1971.

In the meantime, details will be discussed with companies on an individual basis by The Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in Ottawa. The ramifications of this programme for Ontario companies and their employees will not be known until a more definite programme or rationalisation is drawn up. My department will make every effort to follow up discussions, so that we are fully informed of the new programmes when they are announced.

So, I think you will see our position here. They have made a deal with Michelin, and Michelin are going to make tires that are not now made in Canada. But once they start to make them it gives them, according to our understanding, permission to bring in standard sizes being made by our other tire manufacturers here. This poses a problem for us and poses a problem for them, so we are deeply concerned to try and find out what kind of arrangement has been made.

At the present time that is all the details I have but we will follow it up.

Mr. Lewis: By way of a supplementary to the first part, Mr. Speaker. I shall try to make it concise, in perhaps a series of one or two.

First, is the minister aware that the imports of electronic tubes is greater from the United States than it is from the Far East for the year 1969?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Well I am not aware, but I would not be surprised—let me also say to you—from my knowledge of the electronic industry. If you look at your old radio sets and anything else that uses electric tubes, there are many thousands of different sizes and types, and no one company makes all sizes. In fact, I understand that the big companies get together and then one will make from A to Z and somebody will make some other sizes. But my understanding is that no one company makes a complete range.

The tube business is gradually being replaced by transistors; it is a business that is going to fade away, so we have to find some other work for the people engaged in the tube industry.

Mr. Lewis: That, sir, is debatable; but apart from that, has the minister any proof that CGE is not, in fact, importing large numbers of tubes from the parent company, General Electric in the United States to supplant the work here?

Hon. Mr. Randall: No, I have not any proof, except that when I asked the same question, all the tube companies brought in at least 40 per cent of the tubes sold in the past. Even when they were making 12 million tubes they brought in 40 per cent of the different types of tubes from their plant, or somebody else's in the United States. To look after their customers after this plant is closed down, with these 160 employees, I am told this may go over 40 per cent. But it will be only for a short period, because the thing is dying out. Those tubes will no longer be used; it is really a replacement business.

Mr. Lewis: A last, quick supplementary: has the minister looked into the likelihood that General Electric is rationalizing its operation on a world-wide scale and phasing out the Canadian subsidiaries in a systematic fashion?

Hon. Mr. Randall: No, I do not think that that is correct at all.

Mr. Lewis: Well, take a look at your—

Hon. Mr. Randall: In my estimation there are two companies that are scientifically operated: one is General Motors, the other is General Electric. And General Electric makes sure that its plants stand on their own two feet. If it has a plant here and the plant is making money, it certainly is not going to be phased out. I think that is an assumption that does not hold true.

Mr. Lewis: Well, it is worth looking at, surely?

Hon. Mr. Randall: These companies do not want to close out, I can assure you.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): A question to the Minister of University Affairs.

Who are the five persons named by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to the 21-member board of governors of Laurentian University? Secondly, are any of these government-appointed governors—

Mr. Sopha: Does the member want me to answer that?

Mr. T. Reid: —members of a labour union or trade union, in or near Sudbury; and if not, why not?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The minister is just glad the member asked that.

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of University Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think if the hon. member really was anxious to get this information, he could have asked his colleague from Sudbury, who has been keeping a very close eye on the situation at Laurentian.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): The member for Sudbury East might have been able to tell him as well.

Mr. Nixon: What about the minister? What does he know about it?

Mr. T. Reid: Did the minister, or did he not, appoint a labour union person to the Laurentian board?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, we do not really seek out and determine the total background of everybody appointed to the board of Laurentian. If the hon. member would like to have the information, I would be delighted to get it, not only for the five members that we appoint, but for the total membership of the board of governors at Laurentian, with as much background as to their occupations and so on as possible. I would be delighted to do this for the hon. member. But, if he is in a hurry for it, in that I think he already knows the answer to his question, perhaps he could answer it for himself or ask the member for Sudbury, who does have the information.

Mr. T. Reid: A supplementary question: am I right in understanding—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Why does the member not give up!

Mr. T. Reid: I am a bear for punishment!

By way of a supplementary question, do I deduce from the minister's remarks that he, or the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, did in fact appoint five members to the Sudbury board, and that he does not know whether or not any of those is a member of a trade union?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure really what the member for Scarborough East deduces from what I say from time to time—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Davis: But I have undertaken to get all this information for the hon. member; I shall do so at the earliest possible opportunity.

Mr. T. Reid: The minister does not know who he appointed.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): I have a question for the Minister of Social and Family Services relating to the child who was removed from the Kingston hospital last week.

Would the minister be able to indicate to me now whether they have located the child, whether action has been taken by the department to assure that the conflicting statements about the child's medical health and welfare have been rationalized? And what action does he contemplate taking immediately?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I have asked our department to keep me informed continuously and, not having heard, I make the assumption at this time that I do not believe the whereabouts of the baby has been determined as yet. I am not in a position to pass judgment or to analyze the medical positions taken by different people, with this exception: that the doctors who made the initial assessment for the necessity of the treatment, by themselves and after consultation with other experts in the field in the area and in Toronto, had come to the conclusion that the point of no return for this specific type of medical treatment had gone by. So that, as a basis of action, was no longer available.

The local children's aid society has no reason to believe, I am advised, that the child is not otherwise being properly cared for. So there does not appear to be any reason for them to take any further action. But they are also keeping themselves fully informed of it.

Now, whether any other action will be taken, apart from the action by the children's aid society, will depend upon any conclusions reached by the local crown attorney in this regard.

Mr. Deans: May I ask the minister, by way of a supplementary question, what action was taken to locate or find the whereabouts of the child, during the first five days after it was taken from the hospital? Were the Ontario Provincial Police, for example, involved in the hunt for this particular child?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: After the baby had been removed from the hospital, and the doctors' ability to take action with respect to medical treatment on the basis of a father's consent, the Lanark county children's aid society applied before the justice of the peace for a search warrant, which I believe was executed by the Ontario Provincial Police. The matter ended thereafter.

Mr. Deans: I then assume that they failed to find this child, even with a search warrant.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Are the contests legal that are presently being conducted by Peter Jackson and other cigarette companies? If so, what is the minister and his department doing to fully protect the public?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I will not purport to give a legal opinion broadly on whether they are legal. This would require, I presume, interpretation of the Criminal Code. May I say that, as far as I know, they are not in contravention of any statute that my department administers. However, in view of the question asked, I shall review the particular advertisements and programmes and contests.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister if, when he is taking a look at the situation, he would review the whole aspect of this problem, particularly in light of Mr. Justice Haines' comments with respect to a recent case, when he said these companies are allowed to create public confidence, promote sales and then plead that the criminal law precludes delivery of the premium.

Mr. Sopha: That is what they plead. I doubt if the minister could answer that question.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Speaker, may I readdress the first question to the Attorney General?

Mr. Speaker: No. I think at a later date the member may do that. But the member for Windsor-Walkerville has a supplementary to the question.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Yes, of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. May I ask if his department makes any check with the supposed recipients of the prizes, to see if they actually receive the prize and the amount indicated?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: To the best of my knowledge, we do not. I think it would be extremely difficult. Were you referring to all contests and prizes?

Mr. B. Newman: Just in the province of Ontario, dealing with the Peter Jackson people. To find out whether Mr. John Stevenson, as indicated by the Peter Jackson company as having won a $500 prize, actually received that and whether there was a John Stevenson?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, as I suggested earlier, I will certainly look into this. I will canvass the possibility of us inserting ourselves into the situation. I think that is as far as I can go this afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Gisborn: Why does the government not ban it in Ontario?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury has a supplementary?

Mr. Sopha: Is the minister considering, in light of these attractive prizes that are being offered by cigarette companies, whether it is in the public interest that the sale of and use of cigarettes is being stimulated by the nature of the prizes that are being offered? Is any consideration being given to prohibiting these contests from the health point of view?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have not; my department has not given consideration to this. But I think the question is serious enough to warrant consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Supplementary? The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, concerning the claim of Roy Bambrough, a chemist who claims the global oxygen content is now about 19 per cent and is being depleted at about one-third of one per cent a year. My question is this: Has your department any method of proving or disproving claims such as this, which are becoming more and more frequent?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, I would like to find out on just what facts the gentleman quoted has to make a statement like that. This is a statement that certainly requires a great deal of knowledge, a great deal of information; I suspect, really, that it is probably a guess. We have no information such as the hon. member has referred to today. Certainly a provincial organization, such as the air management branch, would not of its own have such information. But I

will ask them if they have any information that may help the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Dovercourt. Is he on his feet? The member for Waterloo North.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): A question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs: how much more will it cost to take a municipal census in Waterloo county, using 140 part-time census-takers, rather than having the assessment department people do it in their regular rounds?

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): We estimate there will be a saving.

Mr. Good: A supplementary question. Is it true that the part-time census-takers are receiving only two days of training prior to going out?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, that I cannot answer that specifically. There is a manual, and courses are being set up. I would be glad to supply that information.

Mr. Good: A further supplementary. Is the minister convinced that the accuracy of the results will be such that they will be comparable to the accuracy of results that have always been put on appraisal cards and consequently transferred to the assessment rolls by professionally trained assessment people?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Yes, I am. The report of the committee of clerks and treasurers recommended that the voters' list be prepared from enumerations in the same way they are provincially and federally, rather than using the assessment rolls. I think this is a normal development that will take place; it is a necessary development that will have to take place if we are ever to achieve a permanent voters' list, which many of us think there is a great deal of merit in.

Undoubtedly there will have to be training. Perhaps two days is not long enough; perhaps a longer time will be required in the future. I question in my own mind, frankly—we have been busy enumerating here in Metropolitan Toronto, ward by ward—why we are doing this, inasmuch as there is not going to be an election this year. We are taking a look at those sections and, frankly, I have some doubt as to why—I know why; we have always done it or it has always been done.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: I have a question of the Minister of Health. Would the minister comment on the statement in the international medical journal, *Medical Economics* of last month, in which the Planned Parenthood Association, when an illegal abortion is required, refers the woman either to Japan or England or Ontario?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, is the hon. member referring to the Planned Parenthood Association in Ontario?

Mr. Shulman: No. It is the Planned Parenthood Association in the United States.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would have no knowledge as to why they would refer them to the province of Ontario. In regard to abortions, we are operating in this province under the recently amended federal legislation. And, as far as I am aware, there have really been very little changes in the method of obtaining an abortion even under that legislation in this province.

Mr. Shulman: Well, in view of this statement in this reputable medical journal, would the minister investigate this matter?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I will be glad to look into it, Mr. Speaker. I have no knowledge that this is a reputable medical journal. I might indicate there are some disreputable ones around.

Mr. Lewis: Will they accept advertisements from you?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Can the minister at this time indicate to the House the findings of the OWRC in its testing of the phosphate-free detergent that I displayed in the Legislature some time ago and any other research they have done on any other phosphate-free detergent on the market?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, the particular brand the hon. member showed to the House has been tested by OWRC. It was found that the phosphate content was negligible—something under one per cent. Therefore there would be no problem or no source of putrification from that particular product.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask, by way of supplementary, if OWRC is carrying out any research on other phosphate-free detergents that are on the market today?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we are conducting continuous research with respect

to detergents and soap, including some products that are sold in the market in Sweden, products that contain NTA, in order to see what effect these products may have in many ways from the point of view of being safe and effective, so as to be marketed in Ontario.

Mr. T. P. Reid: By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker, does the minister intend or will he have this information published in newspapers across the province? And does he not think that would be a better expenditure of money than the current advertising by OWRC?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, Mr. Speaker, we do not want to get into a position where we are recommending one particular product over another. Certainly there is no objection to publicizing the phosphate content in detergents or referring to the amount of phosphate, as compared to one product that may be foreign or a product manufactured in Canada. However, there is no reason, from the point of view of information or safety, for example—but not from the point of view of effectiveness of a product—why we would not be willing to give this information to the public.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): By way of supplementary, Mr. Speaker: Is the minister perhaps contemplating requiring the manufacturers to publish the phosphate content of the product they market on the package?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are considering this, Mr. Speaker, along with the idea of the maximum amount allowable in a box of detergent.

Mr. Speaker: Member for Hamilton East.

Mr. Gisborn: A question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mr. Speaker: In view of the increased grants regarding general welfare assistance announced yesterday and the subsequent increased costs to municipalities, announced by the commission of welfare in Hamilton as being $57,000 in Hamilton, does the minister intend to pick up the increased portion as an addition to the previously announced additional money to the municipalities?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Oh, I hardly think those two things follow, Mr. Speaker. Presumably if we were unduly concerned that the municipalities could not stand their share, then we would have increased our share. This was not done, and I think that is the answer to the question.

Mr. Gisborn: Well as a supplementary: does the minister not feel, in announcing his own intentions for further assistance to the municipalities, that they must have needed that money and now, to be burdened with another increase, that will have to be looked after?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Surely the whole thrust of reform is that the municipalities need money on an unconditional basis rather than on a conditional basis such as you are describing.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York Centre.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, question of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management: has the minister yet prepared a programme for the proper disposal of over 50,000 gallons of toxic liquid waste coming from the Hamilton, Owen Sound and Oshawa triangle, which are now being dumped into open cesspools and endangering the headwaters of the Holland River and the water supply of the village of Stouffville?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well Mr. Speaker, the question of the hon. member implies that there are no industrial liquid waste disposal sites in the Hamilton-Toronto area. There are a number of industrial liquid disposal sites in the triangle to which he refers.

The one particular site that has been suspected of contaminating water in the Stouffville area, as the hon. member knows, was closed down temporarily late last year and early this year. Tests were made, investigations were carried out by OWRC and the waste management branch, and it was decided at that time there was no danger to drinking water or to the wells in the Stouffville area. On that basis, that site was opened up.

Now I heard a rumour yesterday that claims are being made that the same danger exists now. I have asked for a further report from those two sources and, if there is any possible chance of contamination of those wells, the site will be closed.

Mr. Deacon: As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, will the minister work with the council of the township of Whitchurch and the village of Stouffville in their request to have a much more complete check made of the site and the extent to which it is endangering the water supply, as at this time of year they are finding seepage of these toxic liquid wastes, going into the areas around there, is endangering wells?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I hope there is no motive behind some of the complaints of this particular dump. I hope it is not because there happens to be a disposal site there, rather than any danger to the contamination of drinking water. As far as working with the council of Whitchurch is concerned, certainly we will see that any information we have is given to the council.

Mr. Deacon: As a further supplementary, is the minister working on any permanent solution to the disposal of wastes other than polluting the countryside with these open cesspools?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member is exaggerating the fact that all liquid wastes are now being dumped into open cesspools. One of the problems we have, of course, is that every time we find what we feel is a suitable site for the disposal of industrial wastes, there are citizens' delegations protesting that site in their area.

Mr. Deacon: They have reason to!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Let us be consistent. A person is either for a proper disposal of industrial wastes or he is not. Many of the sites that have been proposed have been acceptable to our department and they are acceptable from a municipal zoning point of view. But when you have citizens 40 miles away objecting for some reason or other, it is very difficult to get these sites in operation. We are doing everything possible to encourage the private operators, who are in this business, to open various sites.

There is one at the present time being contemplated in my riding, and I feel it is a suitable area. This, of course, will look after pretty well the area between Hamilton and Toronto. There are two more contemplated by the same people. The sooner we have these sites in operation, the sooner there will be proper disposal of industrial liquid waste. However, if we continue to have problems finding land, it may be that we will have to have some form of expropriation powers.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Peterborough?

Mr. Pitman (Peterborough): I wonder if I could direct a question to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management? Has the minister received a telegram from a group of citizens associated with Pollution Probe indicating that the sewage plant at the village of Cobourg is guilty of pollution and that the evidence of such pollution now rests in the labs of the Ontario Water Resources Commission? Is he willing to comply with the request for legal assistance in bringing such polluters into court?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I did receive the telegram to which the hon. member refers. I am informed that Cobourg had requested the Ontario Water Resources Commission early last year to undertake the financing and construction of the enlargement of the existing plant as a provincial project. However, after the information was known as to the cost and other details of this project, the town decided to go on its own—in other words, to build its own plant rather than with OWRC financing.

I understand now that it is before the Ontario Municipal Board. The Ontario Municipal Board has been considering this for some time. It is requiring further information, particularly as to financial requirements of the municipality, the overall debt picture of that town, before the approval will be given. That is where it is at the present time.

As soon as the board approves the town's bylaw for the enlargement of that plant, then the town will make application to CMHC, and if there is no holdup as far as the commission is concerned, we will approve the design and there is no reason why tenders cannot be called very shortly.

Mr. Pitman: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: is the minister saying that if any polluter, whether industry or a municipality, is carrying out negotiations with the OWRC or the Ontario Municipal Board, it can actually break The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act, that it can indeed pollute, that indeed it does not even have to comply—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question is not supplementary. He asked a specific question.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is a naïve question.

Mr. Pitman: It is not a naïve question at all.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Trade and Development has the answers to three questions from the Liberal—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What does the member suggest we do?

Mr. Pitman: Well I have a number of suggestions.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member and the minister can perhaps pursue this during the estimates.

Mr. Pitman: Well the minister is the policeman!

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Trade and Development has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. MacKenzie) asked me a question on March 6 with reference to Fuel Transmission Services Limited and Borden Farms and I promised to get the information for him. The answer is:

The hon. member's question is based on the premise that homeowners or lessees of lots on the Borden Farms subdivision must purchase oil from Public Fuel Transmission Systems Limited or pay a penalty of $130. This premise is incorrect in that there was a saving of approximately $130 servicing cost per lot due to the fact that trenching for the fuel line also served for underground power lines. As the cost of trenching was borne by Public Fuel Transmissions Systems Limited, this represented a saving of approximately $130 per lot. This saving is passed on to any lessee who elects to use the underground oil transmission system. It is not therefore a penalty, but an optional saving.

I would further point out to the hon. member that a lessee may, at any time on three months' written notice, discontinue the use of the system and is then not required to refund the $130.

The second question, Mr. Speaker, was asked by the hon. Leader of the Opposition this afternoon. I said I would get the information; it was in my office and I had it brought up. It arrived today, with reference to The Landlord and Tenant Act, and I will read the statement I received.

Following the enactment of the amended Landlord and Tenant Act, OHC prepared a new form of lease which complied with all the requirements of the Act. Where new tenancies have occurred since January 1, 1970, this lease has been used. As the hon. member will be aware, OHC currently has in excess of 25,000 tenants across Ontario. Therefore, the renewal of all leases is a major task.

We are hopeful that within a matter of weeks advice will be received from Ottawa concerning revisions to the national rental scale, regarding which I submitted a brief to the hon. Mr. Robert Andras in November, 1969. When a new rental scale is implemented, this will necessitate OHC entering into new leases with all its tenants.

Accordingly, I am sure that the hon. member will understand why we have been reluctant to enter into new leases now, and where there is a distinct possibility we would have to repeat the same procedure in a matter of a week or so. But in order to set the hon. member's mind at rest, I would like to assure him that regardless of whether the new leases have been issued, OHC is required in the same manner as any other private landlord to adhere to the provisions of the amended Landlord and Tenant Act, and accordingly all leases currently in effect may be deemed to be amended by that Act.

Mr. Nixon: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker—two of them as a matter of fact. Has that statement got a date on it? What is the minister going to do about the security deposit?

Hon. Mr. Randall: The question was asked on March 27; no date on the statement, it came up in my office this afternoon. As far as the security deposits are concerned, as I pointed out to the hon. member, we will have to go through the 25,000 leases we have and the amount of security deposits we have. It is our intention, I believe, to give a rent credit instead of sending out cheques to the tenants involved, and it is our intention, as I said earlier, to make sure that all the security deposits are returned in this way.

Mr. Nixon: That is a statement of policy? The money will be returned in the form of a rental rebate?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Of a rent credit, yes. Now the third question, Mr. Speaker, if I may?

Mr. Speaker: I regret to say the question period has now expired. The minister will have to hold the other answer to the next question period.

Mr. Shulman: A point of order!

Mr. Speaker: A point of order!

Mr. Shulman: My point of order, sir, is that the Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) has misinformed the committee of the whole House.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: Two nights ago, sir, during the estimates of this minister's department, the minister flatly denied that a pornographic movie had been prepared by his department two years ago by cutting little bits out of

numerous films which they had censored and by gluing these pieces together—

Mr. Sopha: I wish the minister would hold a public showing of that infernal thing and get it over with.

Mr. Shulman: This morning, sir, I was able to reach Mr. David Coon, a lawyer, in his office. Mr. Coon at that time was in the employ of The Attorney General's Department. His job, among other things, involved censoring written material. As a result of his position, sir, he, along with three other individuals, was invited to a showing at the censor's office of the movie which the minister insists does not exist. Mr. Coon is prepared to swear to this matter, sir.

The matter itself is perhaps not as important as the fact that the minister has misinformed the House, sir, and I ask that you refer this matter to the committee on privileges and elections, to have the conduct of the minister investigated.

Mr. Speaker: I would have thought that the hon. member, now rising on a point of order with respect to a matter in the committee, would have deemed it more proper first to rise in the committee and bring the matter to the attention of the committee.

However, the matter has now been brought to the attention of the House for any action that is necessary.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. Mr. Welch presents the annual report of The Department of Public Works for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: In due course; in the fullness of time.

The member for Scarborough East.

REFORM OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF UNIVERSITIES

Mr. T. Reid moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to provide for the reform of the Governing Bodies of Universities.

Mr. Speaker: While the motion is coming up I will say that normally it is the custom for Mr. Speaker to be assured that there are no government bills for introduction as they take priority. That is why I always look to the right first and then to the left.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. T. Reid: Mr. Speaker, the bill reconstructs the governing bodies of universities in Ontario, replacing boards of governors and senates with one governing council having democratic representation of faculty members, alumnae—who would include the public community, undergraduate and postgraduate students—and the administrative staff, and including other appointed *ex officio* members, representing governmental links.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would help solve the current crisis at Laurentian University.

THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ACT, 1967

Mr. Martel moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Air Pollution Control Act, 1967.

Mr. Speaker: I presume notice has been given of this; it is not marked on it. I would ask, not only that legislative counsel have that put on the motion, but that members do not present to Mr. Speaker a motion that does not indicate the notice.

Mr. Nixon: We should do away with the necessity of notice.

Mr. Speaker: Until the rules are changed, if they are.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Mr. Speaker, the amendment incorporates into the Act air pollutions that cause damage to soil, which at the present time is nonexistent.

THE DAMAGE BY FUMES ARBITRATION ACT

Mr. Martel moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Damage by Fumes Arbitration Act.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has again produced a bill without any indication as to notice.

Mr. Martel: Notice was given two days ago, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, but you see we do have occasions here when this is questioned in the

House. The only possible way for Mr. Speaker to be sure is to have the place which is put on the motion filled in showing notice as given.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: I shall not accept any other motions unless they have the notice filled in.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Speaker, the amendment adds damage to soil by fumes as the damage that is arbitrable under the Act.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kingston and the Islands.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day you may remember that some time ago you asked me to form a hockey team of members of the Legislature. I would like to make my report to the Legislature this afternoon and I am sure that all sportsminded members of our Legislature will be pleased to know that the Legislature's all-star hockey team has completed its spring practices.

We have discovered several excellent players and we are looking forward with confidence to playing our federal counterparts, which we hope will be some time this fall. I could give you an individual report on the prowess of the players, but I think this would be unwise because we do not want to disclose our strength and weakness to the opposition.

However, I might say that this is an all-party team. We have had turnouts of six members from the government side, five from the official opposition, and five from the NDP. We have played three games with the drivers from The Department of Public Works and I might say that we are the only undefeated hockey team in Toronto this season.

Mr. Pitman: Is it competition though? That does not say very much.

Mr. Apps: I would like to express my thanks to all those who turned out for the team and now to officially advise them this afternoon that all have won places on the team. We look forward to you coming back in the fall. Stay in shape; we are looking forward to our game with the federal MPs which we hope, if we can arrange it, will be some time in the fall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Lewis: It used to be six from the NDP.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): It gives everybody an opportunity to skate on thick ice.

Mr. A. K. Meen (York East): Mr. Speaker, since the Legislature seems to be in a mood for the reception of reports, although we have passed the section dealing with that on the orders of the day I wonder if you will be good enough to permit us to revert to the matter of reports? I was unavoidably out of the chamber when the reports were called, and I do have one for presentation.

Mr. Speaker: Agreed that we revert to presenting reports?

Presenting reports.

Mr. Meen, from the standing legal and municipal committee, presented the committee's report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill 4, An Act to amend The Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act.

Bill 6, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments:

Bill 11, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Mr. Speaker: Now these bills must be consigned somewhere. The first one, Bill 4, An Act to amend The Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act. Shall it be ordered for third reading?

Mr. Sopha: Do you want to do it in committee of the whole?

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Committee of the whole.

Mr. Speaker: Bill 4, committee of the whole House.

Agreed. So ordered.

Bill 6, The Public Trustee Act, third reading.

Agreed.

Carried.

Bill 11, The Judicature Act. Committee of the whole House.

Mr. Speaker, on a point affecting the privileges of the House and perhaps coming within your prerogatives.

The other day I was in the lobby provided for members of the opposition and was engaging in conversation with the distinguished member of the staff press gallery who represents the Toronto *Daily Star*. I would use the same adjective if I was talking about a member of the staff of the *Globe and Mail* or the *Telegram*.

Mr. McKeough: Sudbury *Star*? Sudbury's paper too?

Mr. Sopha: However, one of your attendants, in the purview of your jurisdiction, approached us and told me that as a result of orders directed by yourself it was improper for that member of the press gallery to be in the members' lounge talking to a member. I, however, continued the conversation with him.

Now, I should like to ask you, sir, whether you have given such directions and on what basis they have been given. And to ask you, in ancillary form, if we cannot meet members of the press in that lobby, then where is an appropriate place, contiguous to the House, where we can meet? We do not have the elaborate quarters furnished the members of Her Majesty's executive council—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member is kidding.

Mr. Sopha: —where we may receive the press.

Just by way of final comment, it seems to me that had not the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) sequestered those rooms across the way, as he did in the biggest land grab since Hitler took over the Sudetenland, they might have been appropriate quarters.

I have just opened this matter with you, because I am sure it is an imposition on the press not to be able to have some place convenient and comfortable to meet.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: The press lounge!

Mr. Sopha: I do not go up there. I go up once a year. On the opening day I go up, pay my compliments and leave my card.

It is not that I discriminate against them. They are all very fine people. I would even be willing to be seen with the CBC, but I do not go up there. I do not think that it is a useful suggestion.

Seriously, I raise this matter with you and I ask you to relent and to allow the press, within reasonable limits, to make use of that lobby out there—to join with us and carry on whatever discussion we want to.

Mr. Speaker: It is obvious the hon. member was either not in the House or did not read *Hansard* or he would have read the statement which Mr. Speaker made—which I made—on the basis that the members here must have some place where—well, first of all, that the lobbies are of course, part of the House—and, secondly, that the members must, of course, have some place where they can talk with their friends without having the ear of the press, no matter how reliable or distinguished they are, talking to another member in their immediate area. They must have some confidential place next to the House where they can discuss.

I have made the ruling. I have instructed the attendants. I am not changing my mind. I am arranging a meeting with the press gallery and with The Department of Public Works to see if we can find some way of providing even better places than we have now. And this House is not without proper places for interviews by the press and television and other media.

And so the attendant was acting on my orders—and he reported the incident to me—and they will continue to be so. And I also will advise the members and the press gallery who are listening that the spiral staircase is out of bounds during House time. The floor of the House is only for members and authorized people. If you wish—if the members wish—to meet with the press, of course, the press can come out and come down and meet them outside where there is ample place for interviews, or in other areas.

As I said, I have arranged with The Department of Public Works for a meeting with them and the press gallery will probably join us. We will see if we cannot find some suitable arrangement.

I have no comment on the "great land seizure", because I was somewhat involved in that and I was as disappointed as others with respect to that particular property.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, further to the point that affects the priviliges of the House, I wonder if you might consider consulting with your House committee further on this matter as well, so that the feelings of the members might be more directly reflected in the decision.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I have asked my House committee and I am getting a reply today for an appropriate time to meet. It looks as if next week will be the appropriate time but all I can say to the hon. leader is that I do not think the opinion of the House committee

bears very great weight in some areas, shall we say.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Further to that point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I suggest, in view of your latter comments, that this be referred to the committee on standing orders and procedures.

Mr. Speaker: I would say to the Leader of the Opposition the problem is this: the House committee is not an appointed committee. It is an *ad hoc* committee. It has no official standing in the House. It was not appointed from the House. It has been appointed by the caucuses rather, on an *ad hoc* basis, so I presume that its recommendations are those of *ad hoc* committee without the backing, shall I say, of a motion in the House.

Mr. Nixon: Might I just further say that there really is nothing other than an open debate in the House that might advise your honour on this matter other than that committee, and I would heartily recommend that his consultations with them be given perhaps the weight they deserve, which may even be a little larger than has been assigned.

Mr. Speaker: The House committee has great weight with Mr. Speaker. The member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I certainly support—I know we do here—the position taken by the Leader of the Opposition. If there is not some formal body of this assembly that has and can carry some weight in these discussions as suggested, arrangements should be made, if possible, that a very special standing committee be appointed for this purpose.

I think the whole relationship of the press gallery to the assembly, in its formal sense and in its informal sense, is very important. I know that I raised, with Mr. Speaker, not so long ago, the question that a member of the press gallery wanted to speak with me about a matter. I invited him to join me in the west lobby in the members' lounge and no sooner sat down when I was informed that I was not able to invite that member of the press into that lounge to sit down and discuss the matter which he wanted to discuss with me.

I raised the matter with Mr. Speaker because I think that there are some areas of sensitivity in this which do not allow it to be dealt with by arbitrary rules. Sufficient discretion and good sense, I am quite certain, can solve the problem to everybody's mutual advantage.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, well I was just going to point out that while that may have been infringing on the member's privileges, as he feels, he might also have been infringing the privileges of any other members who want to use the lobby for other purposes.

There will be a House committee meeting, I hope, next week. We will discuss it and I certainly am very much in favour of the House committee being made more than an *ad hoc* committee, but that is not for Mr. Speaker to decide. I have also made tentative arrangements which I hope will result in a meeting between the public works officials and, perhaps a representative from the House committee and the press gallery.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, if I may comment. That gratuitous remark of yours is the kind of thing which just sets us on edge.

There was nobody in the west lobby who was using the particular chesterfield that I was sitting on and to my knowledge there was nobody using any other chairs.

Mr. Lewis: Exactly!

Mr. J. Renwick: I was not infringing upon the privileges of any other member. I was making use of the members' lobby for a purpose: so that I would be available within this chamber and I would not be standing out in an anteroom or out in the corridor, or disappearing up to my office.

I am asking, Mr. Speaker, that a sensible method be devised to solve these problems with good sense and intelligence.

I agree, Mr. Speaker, as everyone else does, that we do not want to have the whole congeries of the press gallery congregating in the west lobby, but that is not the problem. The problem is how, efficiently and with courtesy and with commonsense, we can work together to our own mutual interest and advantage.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, may I speak on this point too?

Mr. Speaker: By all means.

Mr. Lawlor: I trust, Mr. Speaker, as a member of your House committee, in which we have enjoyed great cordiality and good relationships, that the resolution of issues of this kind, which affect us most directly, will not be unilaterally established by yourself; that in reaching conclusions of this kind the wishes and needs of the members of the

House will be your prime concern and prerogative. I do detect another note perhaps. I trust this is not the case and I would be most willing to listen to the committee assertions on the part of Mr. Speaker to the contrary, that is that it is his prime purpose to meet the best wishes of the members of the House.

If we decide, in our wisdom, that we wish to speak to members of the press outside, surely Mr. Speaker would agree to that? Surely, as a servant of the House and as its spokesman, this would be very well received by Mr. Speaker? That is the type of assurance I am looking for.

Mr. Speaker: I am pleased to have the words of the hon. member for Lakeshore and all I point out is that Mr. Speaker does not, I hope, represent any particular section of the members, but the members as a whole. As in many other matters, it is the wish of the majority of the members of the House which Mr. Speaker must follow. He has tried to do so in the past and he will continue to try to do so.

Orders of the day.

THIRD READINGS

The following were given third reading upon motion:

Bill Pr1, An Act respecting Detroit Hotel Limited.

Bill Pr2, An Act respecting the City of Peterborough (1).

Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Ontario.

Bill Pr4, An Act respecting the City of Niagara Falls.

Bill Pr6, An Act respecting the Haldimand-Norfolk County Roman Catholic Separate School Board.

Bill Pr7, An Act respecting the County of Peterborough.

Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Springdale Christian Reformed Church.

Bill Pr10, An Act respecting the Township of Ameliasburgh.

Bill Pr11, An Act respecting the St. Catharines General Hospital.

Bill Pr12, An Act respecting Camp Shahwundais.

Bill Pr13, An Act respecting the City of Owen Sound.

Bill Pr14, An Act respecting The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron.

Bill Pr15, An Act respecting Toronto East General and Orthopedic Hospital.

Bill Pr18, An Act respecting the City of Toronto.

Bill Pr21, An Act respecting Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company Limited.

Bill Pr22, An Act respecting the Town of Oakville.

Bill Pr24, An Act respecting Sidney Goldstone Limited.

Bill Pr27, An Act respecting Morina Electronics Manufacturing Company Limited.

Bill Pr28, An Act respecting Fermack Bowling Limited.

Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the Town of Brampton.

Bill Pr33, An Act respecting the Excelsior Life Insurance Company.

Clerk of the House: The 23rd order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion for second reading of Bill 7, An Act to consolidate and revise The Law Society Act.

THE LAW SOCIETY ACT
(continued)

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in discussing the principle of the bill reforming the Law Society of Upper Canada, I understand that already four hon. members have taken part in the debate. They are all professionally involved, being lawyers —they are not all QCs. I had an opportunity to hear the views they expressed and felt moved to put forward a point of view from the layman's position.

We tend to forget, in this House, that the legal profession has not always been so predominant in the ordering of our affairs. Mr. Speaker, you may recall, as a student of history, one government that was elected to power in this province, which, when it canvassed its supporters, could not find anyone who had been called to the bar at all, and in order to fulfill the requirements for the Attorney Generalship it had to open a seat and have someone elected in a byelection for that purpose.

In further asserting the control over the profession by those individuals who are called

to practise it legally, there have been occasions when this House, in the case of those who had no other—or let us say, formal—preparation for this important and complex vocation, has taken the occasion to simply proclaim by Act of Legislature that these individuals were, in fact, barristers and solicitors, and in one case, they even forgot to say he was a barrister and simply elevated one gentleman as a solicitor.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): That is right.

Mr. Nixon: So, in the traditions, obviously the power that this Legislature has *in toto* and completely over the profession and how it is governed has been firmly established.

I feel that the views of other lay members of this House might very well add to the value of the consideration of the bill that is before us, because, certainly while we agree with the principle that a bill of this type is important and should be brought forward, in that there has been no reform of the Law Society of Upper Canada for some considerable length of time, and while we recognize the fact that the reforms embodied in this bill, while they have been brought forward by the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), are essentially those that have been approved by the profession themselves, we are not in a position to agree with the actual reforms themselves.

We believe that in basic fact the new bill perpetuates the *status quo*, and in the, perhaps, unfortunate impression of an unlearned outsider, it seems simply to maintain the mystique of Osgoode Hall and the profession surrounding themselves with things like historic names and references for officers of the society, and sacrosanct cow guards and fences. The QC is like an order conferred by a secret society, and just about as meaningless. In this way there has been a tendency to keep the public at large from an understanding, if not an involvement, in the governance of this important establishment, and I believe that is the correct name that it should be given.

I do not understand why the Law Society of Upper Canada, or the government, which essentially has the full, complete, essential responsibility for its governance, should have shied away from a process of modernizing, if not the profession, then at least its governing society. The talk I heard yesterday from my colleagues and from the representatives of the New Democratic Party seemed a bit dainty, if I may say so, in recognizing the great traditions of our associations with Upper Canada, and the reasons why the eminent series of gentlemen who have headed the association should be called—for reasons unknown to me and in which, frankly, I am not terribly interested—the treasurer rather than the president or the chairman or something else.

This is in no way a reflection on the abilities of these honourable gentlemen who have come down from the hoary past before Confederation, and may, if this bill goes through, continue into the unending future with this same designation. I would agree with those who say, "Well, what is in a name?" and, "What is the difference?" Other than that I cannot see any reason why, if we are modernizing this establishment, we do not modernize it and make its nomenclature understandable to those who are interested in the profession and call on its services. Without those people, of course, the members of the profession would simply be dealing with each other, and while I sometimes have the impression that that is sufficient to sustain it, that that is, essentially, not its purpose.

I believe that the legal profession and its governing body must serve the community and be seen to serve it—a turn of phrase that appeals to me since I frequently hear those words put together by my lawyer colleagues in other connotations and I would like to turn it back to them. Perhaps there is a degree of over-sensibility in those of us who deal, on a day-to-day basis, with those learned in law, and sometimes because of this close association we forget that we, ourselves, are in fact laymen, and when our ability to express ourselves otherwise is lost we even lapse into Latin, which sometimes happens to my good friends close by.

I do not want to disparage the tremendous educational and academic background that goes with this. It has been pointed out to me that if efforts resulting in a call to the bar were directed along other lines—if you will permit me, more exclusively academic—they would probably result in a PhD degree. In fact, when I learned this I felt that perhaps we were not suitably recognizing the accomplishments and the dignity of those who have been called to the bar; that it is not enough to say, "Oh, he is a lawyer because his accomplishments are, really, very substantial indeed."

But I feel that in the bill that has been put before us by the Law Society of Upper Canada, with the support of the lawyers of the province and through the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, the principle is

flawed in that it maintains this mystique, it maintains this exclusivity, it keeps the community and the public still at arm's length by means that are often, I submit, unjustifiable.

Perhaps I should say, sir, at this time, that some of my best friends are lawyers, and further, that the Law Society of Upper Canada has gone out of its way to see that it does consult with members of the Legislature from all parties. The hon. member for Sarnia (Mr. Bullbrook) in stating our party's position on this bill yesterday, and moving an amendment associated with it, read to the House a letter that was signed by the treasurer of the law society offering to consult with the official opposition in this matter. I feel quite sure the same offer was extended to the NDP, and hopefully, to the backbench members of the Conservative Party. But they have dealt with the elected members of the Legislature and this is commendable. I am sure that wherever these opportunities are offered we, in the House, are glad to accept them.

I should report to you, sir, that the law society also has, in a very hospitable way, gone out of its way to invite certain members of the Legislature—myself as leader of the Liberal Party, my friend the leader of the NDP, and others—to attend very pleasant functions that they hold from time to time, where we have the opportunity to meet the benchers personally and to exchange views on a wide range of subjects, important and otherwise. So that I feel that when I accuse them of an arm's-length exclusivity, they do bring within the confines of Osgoode Hall and certain areas there set aside for their specific use, people representing the unwashed, the laity in the community, to areas where an exchange of information and judgement can take place.

I did want to say something, however, about the attitudes that perhaps the law society reflects in the profession. I can remember being deeply impressed by a speech made by the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) on this very circumstance. I am always impressed by his remarks and am looking forward to hearing what he has to say about this bill later this afternoon if time remains before 6 o'clock. His contention, as I recall it, and it is quite possible that he will put it otherwise himself, was that the legal profession did not concern itself sufficiently with an attitude of reform and the preservation of the civil and individual liberties in our province.

Perhaps this appealed to me because it was a feeling that I had perceived myself personally—excluding all within range of my voice and perhaps all who might read my remarks, because certainly, the members of the learned profession in the House are among those who bring attitudes emphasizing individual and civil liberties to the general attention before all others, because they are aware, perhaps, before the laity, of when they are in jeopardy.

But in examining, or having a report of an examination on the courses provided in the various law schools, it appears that there is little stress indeed on a study of civil liberties, and how these in the past have been endangered, and how perhaps in future they might be endangered again. But this is surely a part of the training that I believe any person should receive before he is called to the bar and has all of the rights and privileges as well as the responsibilities of being known as a lawyer in our community.

I think perhaps this has been reflected in the way the judiciary has created a certain atmosphere in our province and in our country. From time to time, members of the judiciary have seen fit to express individual opinions on matters dealing with high policy. Yesterday in this House we discussed the speech made by Mr. Justice Haines with regard to the right of the accused to remain silent, in which Mr. Justice Haines suggested that perhaps we could no longer afford this right. I do not agree with him, I have not heard anyone yet publicly who did agree with him, and yet from time to time these statements are made.

But I feel substantially critical of the bench in its broad general form in not providing a more substantial leadership in the understanding of what individual and civil rights and liberties are and should be. And in this connection the American courts have far outstripped anything that has been a part of our Canadian—

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. leader that the bill has to do with the members of the law society and not the gentlemen sitting on the bench.

Mr. Nixon: Right, Mr. Speaker; and my point, if I might make it—and I would certainly ask for your further ruling if you feel that I should not continue—is that the law society, providing the direction for the education of those being called to the bar in this province, has a tremendous responsibility for inculcating an appreciation of what is considerably more important than simply the business of the law, rather than the justice of the law.

Mr. Sopha: And that is in the bill.

Mr. Nixon: Well, I shall continue until you instruct me otherwise, sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. leader has not—

Mr. Nixon: I do not intend, sir, for reasons that I am sure you would recognize, to talk about Oliver Wendell Holmes and Learned Hand, but I can remember, I think it was on a tour taken by the select committee on conservation—now perhaps you will draw me to order. On landing at an airport some place down in the States, we noticed a tremendous billboard, fully illuminated, which said "Impeach Earl Warren". And it just floored us that the community was finding funds to try to impeach the Chief Justice of the United States, because they felt obviously he was entirely too liberal—if you will permit that word in that context—because he follows a tradition of liberal courts in the United States which even President Nixon has not been able to stem or turn aside.

The fact that—and I shall come to the end of my remarks in this connection immediately—the fact that the Congress of the United States has rejected the nomination of Mr. Carswell, is an indication that even President Nixon cannot remove from the traditions of the highest courts of the United States, this established concept that they, as much as any legislature, are a repository for the liberal, let us say, the civil libertarian spirit.

We miss this here largely. Somebody said if they are going to get better judges in the States, they are going to have to get better presidents. We look at what is happening here—and I have been critical in my remarks—I feel that for 100 years perhaps, in the general sense of the judiciary, I am no student, but there does not seem to have been a tradition, other than this narrow mechanistic application of the responsibilities that are their's, rather than some deeper appreciation of the safeguarding of the liberties of our people and the strengthening of the democratic safeguards.

I try to associate this with the Law Society of Upper Canada. I suppose that organization, more than any other, has had an influence, a most important influence, on the legal traditions in this nation, let alone this province. And I do not feel that the bill that the Attorney General has presented to us is going to essentially change what I believe must be changed.

I mentioned earlier in my remarks that there does seem to be a certain aura of obfuscation associated with the Law Society of Upper Canada. It is quite correct to call this tradition. We, as members of this House, bow to tradition every day in many things we do and yet we attempt perhaps to withdraw from the traditions, the substance and meat of the value of the tradition, rather than its veneer. I believe that this is something that this bill should undertake more fully than it does. I, for one, feel that not only should the advisory committee—if that is the correct term—envisaged by the bill, not only should it contain much more substantial lay representation, but that even the benchers themselves should not be exclusively learned in the law *per se* but have associations with the community of a type that would allow them to participate in the governance of the profession, which does command a substantial monopoly—perhaps I am misusing the word monopoly—in the safeguarding of the liberties and the legal rights of our people.

In talking about the judicial traditions in the United States, I certainly should have perhaps mentioned that Canada—and Ontario—may be moving into a stronger, more progressive tradition on the bench with the appointment of Mr. Justice Laskin and, of course, we always turn with awe to the name of J. C. McRuer, who, as much as anyone, has provided the impetus for the establishment of a series of statutes, including the one that is before us this afternoon. The Attorney General has assured us that he has complied with most of Mr. McRuer's recommendations. There are those who are better able than I to research this and perhaps indicate that the ones he has left out are the ones that should have been complied with. We will see about that.

But I did want to say, in the presence of the Attorney General, that aside from this statute, and perhaps associated with at least a part of it, his own traditions in the award of the designation "Queen's Counsel" is a part of the obfuscation which bewilders those people in the community who deal with the members of the Law Society of Upper Canada on a daily basis and must deal with them.

I believe that this bill, in its areas where it does provide the right of the law society to advise the Attorney General on certain matters, should certainly advise him on the appointment of QCs. I believe unless this is accomplished in some way that is understood, that the designation as it presently applies should be abolished, because it is worse than meaningless. It is seriously misleading.

There are cases that we could recount in this House all afternoon, particularly where people outside the country want to have legal

advice from someone called to the bar, let us say, in this jurisdiction. They are very deeply impressed indeed if the individual they might retain is a counsellor to her Majesty, not realizing that in fact the qualifications for this designation are considerably less than they would appear to be, and that there are occasions when one can call the qualifications into serious question indeed, and perhaps there will be an opportunity to discuss that further.

I feel that the public image of the profession is essentially good. We used to have a rule of thumb for rating a lawyer. Did he do legal aid or did he not? Did he spend all his time at the country club or did he appear in court for those who were very unfortunate and had to be assisted by a professional person who put his profession first. Well, we have lost that rule of thumb, because I think we have a very good legal aid system here, where the whole community participates in assisting those who need help and cannot provide it for themselves. It has removed from the profession the very heavy responsibility to react in a professional way. It has also removed from many of us the easy rule of thumb to assess the professional conduct of some other lawyer in this province. But I was interested to read an announcement made by the treasurer of the Law Society of Upper Canada that he and his association are providing a sort of a reference committee, whereby an individual requiring special advice will be referred to the advice in a meaningful and useful way. I think this is the sort of thing that the law society can undertake if they want to provide a service to the community, other than simply the professional services from which fees are derived.

These are just a few of the thoughts that occurred to me as an individual. I feel that our amendment is deeply justified in that the bill before us, while it is welcomed in principle—it does modernize, reform and review the control of the legal profession—but still it does not come up to the minimum standards or modernization or involvement of the community. I sincerely hope the House will see fit not to reject it, but to return it to the Attorney General for further advice and redrafting so that the flaws, which we feel are basic in the principle of the bill, can be eliminated. Six months from the day in which the bill is voted upon in this House, we can have a bill in which these flaws are corrected; at that time we would be glad to accept and support them.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, in speaking to this bill, I am going to endeavour to avoid, if I can, repeating any of the comments that have been made by other members of the assembly in the course of the debate on the bill. I think the position by my colleague, the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor), reflects our position on the matters which he covered in the bill.

It is our intention to support the motion for second reading and not to support the motion made by the Liberal Party that the bill should be given a hoist. We do that because, in going through the *Hansard* record of yesterday's debate, there certainly appears to be no valid reason that appeals to us why we should support a hoist of this bill. Therefore, we will support the motion of the Minister of Justice and the Attorney General that the bill be given second reading.

Why do we take this position? I think that when a bill, such as this bill, comes before the assembly and we are asked to debate the bill in principle and to make a decision as to the principle of the bill—we should ask three questions and we should deal with them. We are being asked by the government that the Law Society of Upper Canada be continued as the corporation granted by this assembly the right of self-government. And, in a sense, they are subjecting themselves to the hazard, remote as it may seem, that the assembly would reject the continuance of the self-governance of the legal profession in the province. I think there are certain criteria to which I will return that would indicate clearly why we believe that the continued grant of self-government to the Law Society of Upper Canada should be made.

I think a second question that one asks oneself when asked to discuss the principle of this bill is whether or not the bill reflects changes that indicate that the law society is responsive, or has been responsive, over a reasonable period of time to the needs of the public interest and to the members of the public individually.

Thirdly, one must say to oneself, "What are the other areas where the bill is not so much defective?" but it just does not cover certain modern matters that require attention but on which the information is not available at the present time and the studies have not been made that would allow such other matters to be included within the bill.

We do not think there should be a delay in the bill, although there are a number of areas we want to discuss on second reading that will have to be looked into by the law

society in the next four or five years in anticipation that the government will return to the assembly, requesting further modernization of the society.

Well, let us look at the criteria by which we should decide whether or not the grant of self-government should continue for the law society. The ones which occurred to me, Mr. Speaker, are the question of the admissions policy of the law society; the question of the standards of the law society, including its role in legal education; the question of the exercise of discipline upon the membership of the society to make certain that they uphold both the educational and scholastic standards, and the character standards that are required by such a body.

The next question is whether or not the services of the profession are being made available to the public in a way that is consistent with the needs of the public at the present time and the question of the democratization of the Law Society of Upper Canada in order that it will be made democratic in the sense of being responsible to its membership at large and, in the larger sense, to the public at large. We came to the conclusion that on any fair assessment of those criteria that the law society, as a society, measures up pretty well. We do not expect perfection at any time in this kind of an operation—particularly in an old society that has many traditions which people honour and revere, perhaps long past the time they should be honoured and revered and the time when they should be, with all due ceremony, entombed and forgotten.

But, on the question of admissions, for example, I think it is fair to say that within the confines of the province of Ontario, as we know it, the legal profession is still one in which something called upward mobility is available. I think it cannot be levelled against the law society that it has been exclusionary in its admission requirements. It has had, in one respect, the fortuitous assistance of the nature of the legal system in Upper Canada which protects it from the kind of problems that the medical profession and other professions have run into in admitting persons coming to Ontario from other countries who are not trained within the common law system, and I will perhaps clarify that in a moment or two.

By and large it is not an exclusionary body, but I, for one, want to ask the law society, and I hope these remarks will be noted by the members of the law society, that within the next three or four years and in each of the next three or four years, a properly devised questionnaire be circulated to the members of the bar admissions course, designed for the purpose of finding out from what economic class, or classes, from what social classes, from what background, the members of the bar admission course, who are going to be the future lawyers of the province, come.

As I have said, I believe that the admission requirements have been flexible to the extent that they have provided an area of upward mobility for people from all classes of the society, particularly those from families who may be categorized as at the working class level, or at the lower level of an economic classification within the society.

That is just a belief. The tools and the technique of questionnaires, properly designed to find out statistically and carefully whether or not that is, in fact, true, is open to the law society over the next period of three, four or five years. If those analyses were made; if that statistical tool were used, with proper questions being asked, then I would think that within five years—perhaps sooner—it would be possible for the law society to publish the results of such a study to confirm, or deny, or confirm with whatever qualifications are necessary, whether or not the legal profession is in fact an open profession for those choosing to enter it regardless of their economic, social, cultural, or ethnic background.

I think it would be most important that this be done, and I urge the law society to undertake such a study. Within that framework or that criterion, I say that yes, the law society is an open society and that it is not exclusionary.

So far as persons coming from abroad are concerned, that is persons who are not British subjects. And I am not going to spend a great deal of time—we will undoubtedly deal with it in committee—about whether it should be limited to Canadian citizens, or Canadian citizens and British subjects, but those persons coming from abroad who are not British subjects are faced with the proposition that they have not been trained within the common law system. Therefore it is very easy for the law society—I am not imputing any motives of exclusion to them at all; I just do not believe it is a matter which has come up that way—but it is very easy for the law society therefore to say, "You men from Italy, from Germany, from the continent, from the civil law tradition, have been trained in the civil law tradition, and therefore you are

going to have to be retrained within the common law system".

I may be quite wrong in the next statement I am going to make, and if I am, the Attorney General, from his wider knowledge of this specific matter, may correct me at the appropriate time. If such a person, having been trained in the civil law tradition, comes to the province of Ontario, I would like to see the way eased for him to enter the profession of law in the province of Ontario. It must now be possible to devise a course—with the kind of study which has been made in that field of comparative jurisprudence—that would reflect that there are common principles running through both the civil law tradition and the common law tradition. There are, indeed, in the minds of some historians, overlapping origins for both systems, and therefore it may be possible—subject to correction if this has already been done—to devise a course which will facilitate the admission into the legal profession of men and women coming from Italy and from Greece and from Portugal and from the northern European countries.

I think that should be possible. Therefore, I am not going to get hung up on the question of whether or not it should be limited to Canadian citizens, or Canadian citizens and British subjects. I think that we should look at it rather from the perspective of whether, if an Italian man or woman, with adequate legal training in the traditional law schools of the continent of Europe, comes to Canada, and makes that kind of a commitment of moving from say Italy to Canada and establishing himself in Canada, I question very much whether in the practice of law it is necessary for us to require him to be a Canadian citizen before he can be admitted to practice law in the province of Ontario.

I do not really think that there is that element of patriotism which is required, or significant, in Canadian citizenship law, applicable to the day to day practice of law which needs the oath of allegiance. My thinking is not all that clear; it may be that the Attorney General will be able to convince me that yes, the oath of allegiance is an essential part of the administration of the justice, in such a way that that relationship of loyalty is required. I am not certain that it is so. I therefore think that we, who are the beneficiaries of the arrival in this country of talented people of non-British origin from other countries, should look at their position from the point of view that no, Canadian citizenship is not a necessary requirement, because that automatically means five years, and if you get a qualified lawyer from Italy coming to Canada, that means that he is getting on. If you then subject him to a long course of training through the legal system in Ontario to become a common law lawyer, and you tag that in with the requirement that he be a Canadian citizen, it seems to me that we are probably imposing an unnecessary impediment upon that man's progress in this country.

I ask if the Attorney General would comment on that particular problem in his remarks.

Within that framework, therefore, I am saying that in any fair assessment of the Law Society of Upper Canada, it has been a non-exclusionary professional governing body, and that it meets the requirement that it be permitted to continue as the self-governing body of this society.

I think the same statement can be made when we come to the question of standards, which, of course, is intimately connected with the educational framework within which a lawyer is trained in the province. I think that the law society has advanced, certainly in the time in which I have been a member of the society, which was just immediately before the war; from that time when you took a lecture in the morning and a lecture at the end of the day and you were articled in the law office the rest of the time. In fact, it was more a trade school than a profession, through the time when the crisis in legal education at Osgoode Hall took place in 1949-1950, when the teachers at the law school, whom I admired and still admire as first class scholars, felt compelled to resign from the law school and move to the recently established University of Toronto law school, which again was subject to certain disabilities in status.

Mr. Sopha: One has recently moved to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Mr. J. Renwick: One has gone to the Supreme Court of Canada. I refer specifically to the time when Dean Falconbridge resigned as dean of the Osgoode Hall Law School. Dean Wright took over. The members of the staff who I particularly remember were John Willis and Bora Laskin. There were other equally capable men on the staff but they were the nucleus—along with Dean Falconbridge—they were the nucleus of forward thinking men in the field of legal education. Dean Falconbridge had the advantage, of course, of a long connection with the legal profession and so long as he was dean, he

protected the other members who were introducing progressive methods of legal education.

In any event, the attack against an intellectualising of the content of legal education, had a very short life and subsided, thank goodness. It had its advantages, of course, that it made people realize that Osgoode Hall should no longer be the sole controller of legal education; that there would have to be law schools established at the various universities throughout the province. That, coupled with the final step of Osgoode Hall moving to the York University campus and being severed from its connection with Osgoode Hall, and coupled with the very real obligation assumed by the law society in establishing the bar admissions course in the last and final 15 months of a person's completion of his training as a lawyer, lead me to believe that on any reasonable standard the Law Society of Upper Canada has been responsive to modern needs with respect to the standards of education to be maintained, and with respect to the standards of the educational system and the responsiveness of the society to the needs of the province of Ontario up to the present time. And I want to comment later about further areas where the law society must look into the whole question of a further expansion of the educational system to meet modern needs.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I say that the law society meets the criteria to permit it, in my judgement, to continue to self-govern the profession.

The next criterion which I use is the question of the exercise of discipline. I, fortunately, have not been subject to the disciplinary procedures of the Law Society of Upper Canada, but, certainly, to my knowledge I think it is fair to say that if you were to ask the men that have been subjected to the rigours of the disciplinary procedures and been disbarred, and struck from the rolls, that they would say that there had been a scrupulous care and attention paid to assessing the evidence and the quality of discipline and the way in which the investigations were carried on which led up to any disciplinary action being taken.

I agree—and the bill reflects the more modern thinking brought through Mr. McRuer's report—that, of course, there would have to be a different procedure set up to protect persons who are subject to disciplinary procedures. But the disciplinary procedures to date within that framework, I think have shown a pretty scrupulous care for the rights of the individuals who have been brought before them to be subjected to an enquiry and in some cases, to discipline. The law society has coupled with that the establishment of a compensation fund which compensates the persons who have lost because of defalcation by members of the public. And therefore, I say again, Mr. Speaker, that on that criterion, the law society meets the criteria which I have established which would indicate to me that the right of self-government should be continued.

We come, then, to the next criterion; that is the question of the availability to the public of service of the profession, and I do not need to elaborate on that. I think the public need, recognized by the law society, led to the study which went on under Mr. Common, who sits at the table in this assembly. The basic study led to the introduction in the province of Ontario of the Ontario legal aid plan. There will undoubtedly be improvements in the plan in the future. There will be modifications of it and enlargements of it into other areas, but on the principle of the availability of services of the profession to the public, I think the law society has met that particular criterion and its right to self-government should continue.

When you come to my last criterion that I have set out, the question of democratization of the society, you do come into an area of argument and debate, but the bill goes some way towards meeting the requirements of democratization. I think, for the society, by and large, it is not a bad response.

My colleague has dealt with the views which we have on the question of the composition of the law council. Other members who have spoken have spoken on the question of the adequacy of regional representation by those members of the benchers who are to be elected from outside the metropolitan area. There is provision for the continuation of a society as a corporation without share capital and the inclusion in the bill of some of the provisions of The Corporations Act, which would indicate the need for annual meetings and proper financial statements and this kind of internal self-government, in the democratic sense, that we have become accustomed to as adequate for our society at this particular time.

So far as the representation of the public on the law council is concerned, as I say, my colleague, the member for Lakeshore, expressed the view that I support and agree with that any number, in a sense, has got to

be arbitrary. Any decision of public representation on such a body runs the risk of being branded, on the one hand, as tokenism, and on the other hand as an intrusion in matters with which members of the public cannot possibly be adequately familiar.

But I think if we realize that we are entering an experimental area which will ultimately tell whether it is just tokenism or whether, in fact, they have a real role to play and what the numbers should be, and we will, in committee, of course, want to move—as I am sure the members of the Liberal Party in that committee, will want to move their version of what is the right number of persons to represent the public.

But it is a substantial step forward and I think, so far as one can judge within the profession, it meets the profession's needs. The needs of the public, as I say, have been dealt with by my colleague, the member for Lakeshore.

The law society and its membership is really no different from the membership of all other sorts of organizations and institutions that we have in the province of Ontario. It is really very difficult to get any reasonable representation of membership to actually come out to an annual meeting, and to actually participate.

We would all like to think that an annual meeting was a real town hall meeting where people got together and were really concerned about the issues of their particular institution in society. But, whether it is voting in an election; whether it is membership in a trade union; whether it is the annual meeting of a company; whether it is the annual meeting of the Law Society of Upper Canada, or any other institution, by and large we have a great deal of difficulty in enthusing people to come out and actually participate. I think that they will come out if they are exercised about some particular issue and I do not really think in realism that we can do very much more, other than to provide the facility and make it available should they choose to use it.

I am not at all certain on the question of whether or not there should be representation through the proxy system at annual meetings and what the methods should be. I probably incline to the view that the saviour of widespread membership influence on a governing body must, of necessity, in our day and age, lie through some version of the proxy system. There should be adequate information about the items which are to be voted at the meeting; an opportunity on the proxy to indicate the specific wishes on specific issues of the person who signs the proxy; and an adequate opportunity for him to choose the person, or persons whom he wishes to appoint as his proxy.

I came just this morning from a panel with the credit union managers in this province, with the member for Armourdale (Mr. Carton) and the member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) and the same problem arose. We recommended in that report that there be no proxy vote. I have the same question as to whether or not, in fact, we are trying to live in a bygone time and that the proxy is an essential part of the proper operation of membership or share organizations.

So, on that criterion of democratization of the law society, Mr. Speaker, I would say that it meets the criteria so far as I am concerned. It has moved in the direction of democratizing itself and therefore I say that the grant of self-government should continue. And, with the changes which are reflected in the bill, I think that the bill mirrors a responsiveness of that society to the changing public needs in the province.

The future developments in which I am interested, I would like to comment about in a moment or two. I want to deal now with two or three related matters in the other bills that the Minister of Justice and Attorney General is introducing. He is now making the provision that all barristers must be solicitors and all solicitors must be barristers. Therefore, I would like to see the law society move to the point where they abolish the two terms and simply call the members of the profession what everybody else calls them, and that is "lawyers".

That is the term that the public knows the profession by and I do not see any reason why we should retain the terms barrister and solicitor, which are not really significant terms to the lay public and not of great consequence within the profession itself.

I would like to say to the Attorney General that assuming we are here at the time when one of the bills is called in committee—that is, I am not sure which bill it is, but the bill which deals with the Attorney General's right to the appointment of Queen's Counsel. I think we will move an amendment to add section 6 of the particular bill to those clauses that are going to be deleted to see whether or not we can have an informative debate with the Attorney General on just what role the honour of Queen's Counsel plays; what the purposes of it are; why it should be granted; whether it should be abolished; whether some other form of honour should be within the gift

of the government of the province; whether the role of the Queen's Counsel is in fact one that should disappear in a society such as ours; and if it is to be retained, what really are the criteria which admit some persons to that particular honour and deprive others of it.

Mr. Sopha: I think everybody in Sault Ste. Marie has got one now. Do you think he is moving down?

Mr. J. Renwick: I am sure he has not made any great inroads into the New Democratic Party lawyers in the last little while, although I was the beneficiary of one grant of Queen's Counsel.

Mr. Sopha: Sudbury does not get many.

Mr. J. Renwick: But I think that we will move that amendment so that either the Attorney General on second reading, or when we move the amendment, will give a definitive statement of his views about this question of whether the honour of Queen's Counsel should be retained.

Another matter that I would like to comment briefly on is the question of the establishment of tariffs of fees of one kind or another within professional bodies; this has been very much to the fore in the medical profession. But the law society, as I understand it—and again I stand to be corrected—really has nothing to do with establishing tariffs of fees in any direct sense. The fees that are established, as I understand it, are established by judges' committee, so far as litigation matters are concerned and, so far as the Ontario legal aid plan is concerned, by the legal aid plan itself and regulations made under it; and so far as other matters within a solicitor's practice are concerned, by the local county law associations.

Therefore, I would like to have the comments of the Attorney General as to whether he thinks fee-fixing—that is probably too harsh a term, but the establishment of the tariffs of fees and the system by which the fees charged to the public are arrived at—are really adequate? Maybe it is. Maybe it is all right to leave the areas of litigation to that judges' committee; maybe it is all right to leave the general tariff to the county law association; maybe it is all right to leave the tariff under the legal aid plan to the regulations published under the legal aid plan. But it seems a cumbersome and overlapping system that perhaps requires some rationalization. Again, I have no specific feeling about the matter, other than to say it is quite obviously not within the powers of the law society traditionally to do so, and maybe the time has come when the law society itself should have the obligation to have some interest in the fee schedules or the fee tariffs that are suggested or recommended for charges by lawyers in the province of Ontario.

A further matter that is of concern to me for future study by the legal profession—and it is not peculiar to that law profession alone—is the grave danger in a province of growing populations, such as this province, that the traditions of the past involve a continuance of elite-ism in the professions. And the elite-ism of the legal profession is indicated by the fact that you cannot now become a lawyer in the province of Ontario unless you are the holder of a Bachelor of Laws degree. Which means, in fact, that you have had to have been at a university for a considerable period of time—in most cases, to hold a degree from the university—and then to take the three-year law course at a university law school and then to attend the 15-month period of articling and bar admission course under the law society itself.

That is obviously a pyramid, and is obviously related to the previous matter I referred to, that is a study of whether or not upward mobility still exists within the profession. But I am concerned about the views of the law society on the question of elite-ism within the profession. Does it really, in all its areas of work in the community, require the high degree of skill and ultimate training that is embodied in the pyramid educational system, one apex of which is the LL.B and the final apex of which, of course, is the admission to the bar and the enrolment as a solicitor. That in itself is an exclusionary process. It has been traditionally accepted as quite satisfactory. But, for example, I have not heard anything within the profession about whether or not there is a role for the community colleges to play in legal education; whether, in fact, we must restrict ourselves to law schools in the traditional sense of the particular half a dozen, I suppose, campuses of the universities of the province of Ontario; whether it is simply adequate to say, "Yes, we will continue on that road and have in due course a law school on the campuses of each of the 13 provincial universities," and that is sufficient to ensure there is some openness within the profession. Of should the professions in fact not be talking in terms of areas of relative degree of specialization and qualification, in a vertical sense, that would be required, and courses of study that could be given at the community colleges to provide

a basic framework with which a person at a community college could enter the field—in its broad sense—of the legal profession; and in due course, if he wanted to take further training and increase his knowledge in other areas; and, finally, if he wished to do so, to become a fully qualified member of the bar of the province of Ontario.

I think that is one way of expressing it. I want to try and say that I think the openness of the profession has got to be looked at within the educational framework of the province. I do not really think that the community colleges as such can be left in the position where they are excluded from all courses of study which have any relation to the legal profession. Maybe there are distinctions with other professions; I am not so certain about that. I want to talk specifically about the legal profession.

If one can classify the areas in which lawyers operate—you can classify them in any number of ways, but let us classify them in a fairly traditional way—there is the field of conveyancing, based mainly on real property but involving conveyancing of personal property and other intangible rights as well. There is the field of commercial law in its broad sense, encompassing the operations of the commercial and business community, corporation law, taxation in the corporate sense and public financing. There is the area of civil litigation. There is the area of criminal litigation. There is the area of training within the government service. There is a growing body of lawyers, or men and women with legal qualification, as house lawyers within institutions of one kind or another. There is the area of specialization in law of men and women who are practising before administrative boards and tribunals of one kind or another. And, of course, there is the traditional area of estates, or wills and trusts and probate.

In looking at those broad classifications of the field, it seems to me that the law society has the responsibility to provide some method by which, for example, persons who are engaged in conveyancing could take an adequate course at one of the community colleges, which would make them eligible to do work within certain fields and who in turn could become members of the law society but whose classification—not necessarily to distinguish them within the society as such—but whose educational qualification or trade qualification would be conveyancer.

I think this is worthy of consideration because I am not one who is particularly happy with the proposition that most of the law firms of any size in downtown Toronto in fact now use mainly women—some men are engaged in it—with no particular qualification but self-training and training under the instruction of a lawyer. They in fact are the ones who are at the registry office searching the titles, going through the books and coming off with the abstract of title, which the lawyer in his office then reviews with the person who has searched the title and on which he gives his certificate of title and he is backed up with some form of insurance to protect himself if a serious mistake has been made by the person who did the original work in the office.

Now, I think, for example, that that is one area that should be explored. I would like to see the community colleges provide a course of two years' duration, or one year's duration, or on a night school basis, by which people could become qualified in that branch of the legal work of the profession, become eligible to be members of the law society and participate in it as well as those who are specifically qualified as lawyers.

There is another area, Mr. Speaker, in the same field. I suggest to the Attorney General and suggest to the law society, again only by way of example that law clerks become a part, certainly, of large downtown Toronto law firms. I cannot claim that I was instrumental in bringing the first one to Toronto. But certainly he is one of the early ones because it provided a field in which certain areas of legal work could be done by a law clerk, who could be paid a reasonable salary. Then the work would not take up the time of a person with higher qualifications which would, of necessity, require the particular law firm to charge higher fees.

It may be that the law clerks, who I understand have now formed an institute or society, should have some recognition as to their status and it may be that they, too, should become members of the law society and take their part in the general discussions within the framework of the legal work of the province of Ontario. I think there is certainly an area for adequate training in a community college course. Certainly it would be as meritorious, or worthwhile, as other courses which are given at community colleges for men and women who would be trained to deal with the division court so that in some way or another, in division court, there could be an expedition of procedures and adequacy in the way in which people are represented. At the present time, a person has to rely upon either a self-taught person, in the hope that

that self-taught person, who has carved out a little field for himself in a particular division court, can get his case on and get it settled adequately, or he has to rely upon a fully qualified lawyer and I do not think that that is either an economic use of the time or resources of the lawyer. Nor does it give adequate protection to a person who has to appear in division court to have a person who is entirely self-taught, even though there are some very able men and women who are self-taught working in the division courts.

Certainly the same remarks, and I am not going to labour through all the various areas that I have spelled out, but there is certainly an area in regular estate work, in probate, in administration, filing succession duty returns, that kind of work, where a good part of it could be provided as a particular course at a community college where a person would get that kind of qualification on his way, if he wanted to do so, to becoming a fully qualified lawyer and who, at the same time, would be able to both earn a good living and to provide that service to the public at perhaps a lower tariff or a lower fee than is available through the traditional legal profession at the present time.

There will obviously be questions that arise where the time would come in a particular administration of an estate where the person would have to refer it to a lawyer to deal with a specific legal question with which he was not entirely familiar or able to cope himself. But that kind of problem could be worked out if the persons with those qualifications were members of the overall Law Society of Upper Canada and participated in its activities and functions. There are obvious problems of classification of members and gradations of members which I think could be solved, however, with good sense within the law society.

There are certainly other areas. I know that there are lawyers who spend time doing work which is just not an economic use of their resources or time in making up, for example, income tax returns for clients—straightforward income tax returns—or who spend time making up company information returns or a number of procedural matters such as that.

The incorporation of companies is another area where the formal matters might well be given to a person who has the qualification to do a specific area of work and who has received that qualification through the community college, but who is a member of the overall governing body of the society and is subject to its benefits and its disciplines and its responsibilities and its rights. I think this is an area that in the next two, three or four years the law society should spend a great deal of time upon, because in that way it will be able to continue a tradition of being responsive to the public, and be able to develop a method by which the community colleges can be involved in the legal training of persons to do specific areas of legal work in the province. I think this would ultimately benefit people in the province in terms of improved service and lower fees—or certainly fees that would not escalate at the same rate as a fully qualified lawyer believes his fees should escalate—and the public as a whole would benefit because of a more efficient administration of law.

Those are the major points that I would like to comment upon. I do not think those last matters are ones which can be dealt with without further study, but I would certainly recommend to the law society that it give consideration to that kind of study and report upon it in time, so that in three or four years the assembly could again deal with further updating and modernizing The Law Society Act.

I want to comment briefly about three further areas. In committee we will speak specifically about this section 14 where the Attorney General assumes the responsibility for protecting the public interest. I have grave question whether the Attorney General, certainly in the way it is phrased, should accept that broad responsibility.

I think you find a fundamental conflict, unless it is clarified to some very real extent, between on the one hand, a grant by this assembly of self governance to the Law Society of Upper Canada, and then the introduction into the bill of this section 14, which gives the Attorney General an overriding responsibility for the profession. I do not think that within the obligations imposed already on the Minister of Justice and Attorney General he can possibly do justice to what that section states his responsibilities are going to be.

I hope in the committee that we will be able to come up with some reasonable solution to meet what is a legitimate concern of the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, but which will not muddy up the bill and muddy up the self-governance of the profession and the obligations of the Attorney General. I think there are ways in which it can be solved and I hope we will have some

useful comments to make in committee about that particular section of the bill.

The next point, Mr. Speaker, and my penultimate point, is that I do not think there is any real reason for making a special classification called student members. I think that every person who is enrolled as a member of the bar admissions course should automatically at that point become a fully fledged member of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

That person already holds a Bachelor of Laws degree so he has had considerable legal experience or background in the scholastic part of the legal profession. He is going to become a lawyer within a space of 15 months, unless he falls by the wayside. If he does not pass his examinations and drops out, of course, he would automatically cease to be a member of the law society. If he had to repeat his course then in due course he would continue as a member of the law society until he either made it or dropped out.

I do not really think that there is any legitimate reason why, at this point in time, for that 15-month period for persons holding a degree of Bachelor of Laws—all of whom are at least in their 20s when they reach the law school—should for a period almost be something called a probationary member of the society. I think the society should immediately state, and the bill should so provide, that there not be a specific classification of student member.

I could see some merit in it at the point where the law society course was a three-year course, or a four-year course, and you did not have a previous background and grounding in law. It might very well make sense to do that; but not for the last 15 months when the person is within that period of time of achieving his goal of becoming a lawyer and being admitted to the bar and enrolled as a solicitor.

We will move, in committee, that this particular requirement be dropped and that all persons who have been admitted to the bar admission course be members of the law society.

The last point that I want to make is that I do not think that the law society should abdicate to the law reform commission all aspects of law reform. I do not mean by that, that the law society should engage in deep research or duplicate what the law reform commission is doing, but I think there should be a prime responsibility on the law society to draw attention to, to focus attention upon, and to initiate in a broad sense, public discussion about areas in the administration of justice which are known to the profession, of which they have the kind of specific knowledge; and the authority to bring them before the public for discussion so as to provide some stimulus and initiative for the reform of the legal system.

I think there has been too much of a tendency to leave the initiative for law reform to the Attorney General and to the law reform commission, and I want the law society to be specifically charged with taking some initial steps—initiative, I think, is probably the correct word—to draw to the attention of the public, to bring into the arena of public debate and discussion, matters related to law reform: matters related to the improvement of the administration of justice; matters related to the protection of citizens; matters related to civil liberties; matters related to procedures for the protection of accused persons; and all sorts of matters, which could easily be done by bulletin of the law society, to solve some of the problems that come up perennially.

For example, it is not beyond the wit of man to devise a return, a paper daily return, of persons who are imprisoned in the jails awaiting trial, or awaiting appeal, which would show in a very synoptic sense, any person who has been imprisoned, for what length of time, when he is expected to be tried, what is the reason for his continued incarceration, why he has not been granted bail, and that type of thing. I think we should be long past the time where regularly, not perhaps on an exact periodic basis, but certainly regularly over a period of every three or four months, there is a newspaper story about somebody who has been in the Don Jail for an unnecessarily long period of time.

That kind of thing I think the Law Society of Upper Canada could easily draw to the attention of the public; devise a form of return by the governor of the jail which will come to some central point in the metropolitan area and which will show specifically who has been incarcerated over a long period of time, so that the crown attorney, if he is the proper one in the particular area, will make it his specific obligation, or responsibility, to deal first thing in the morning with that person who has been incarcerated for an undue length of time, or who for some reason, has suffered some impediment to his speedy trial, or his speedy admission to bail.

I think, in that kind of area, the law society can do a great deal to improve the system of the administration of justice. A weekly bulletin of one page from the law society on matters which are of concern to them would seem to me to be a most useful document to

get into public circulation. The whole question, for example, of the delay in the division courts and the whole question of improvement in the procedures of cases which are coming to trial.

For example, is it good enough that two lawyers, both of whom have got other things to do, should agree between them that the case will not be proceeded with and the judge should grant an adjournment in a civil matter, without consulting with the clients, who may very well want to get the case on and are not quite as prepared as the lawyers to consent to the adjournment?

There are a number of these matters of minute detail, but which are essential to the efficiency of the procedures of the court, and I simply say that these are illustrative of the point which I wanted to make. That is that the Law Society of Upper Canada should have an initiative in law reform; they should be wide awake and alert to the needs of the community as they see it day to day in the operation of the law, and I think they could provide a most useful vehicle for speedy reform of procedural injustices, of delays, and improvements in civil procedures.

I know that the Attorney General is working on other areas of law reform within his own department, apart from the law reform commission, such as the structure of the courts, and I understand the law society is going to initiate a study of the rules and a revamping of the rules of court, and this kind of thing. But they are all part and parcel of the main problem and that is down at the level of the administration of justice, where the administration touches upon people in the division court, in the provincial courts, at the magistrate's level, in the traffic courts of one kind or another, of certain boards, in the jail and arrest procedures of the police, and so on. There are all sorts of daily inequities and injustices which could be highlighted and remedied if the law society would take a specific initiative on those matters.

I have gone on, Mr. Speaker, at some length. I have not by any means covered all the matters which could be dealt with under such a bill. But the specific matters which I have taken the trouble to mention in my remarks, I would like the law society to look into for future study—matters which are of concern to me, and matters in which I would like to see very real progress, in which this party would like to see very real progress, and to be taken seriously by the law society, to be matters of study and report in their annual reports. This could lead up to a further revision and modernization of the Law Society of Upper Canada within a measurable period of time, namely, in my view, within the next four or five years.

I would hope that the Attorney General, in his remarks, would see fit to comment on at least some of the points, which I have raised during this debate.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, my friend from Riverdale went on at such length and found so many deficiencies in the bill, and has made so many recommendations for future study and indicated areas for action on the part of the law society, that if I needed to be, which I do not, I am fortified in the belief that the stand this party takes is a valid and reasonable one.

It is interesting to reflect and I cannot fail to do so in parenthesis, that he, having made the recommendations for future studies by the law society—since he leaves it to the future, in contrast to the sense of urgency in the immediacy that one always hears here—that they cannot be very important and may be taken up at leisure.

Mr. Speaker, as one lawyer to another, may I suggest to you, that if the walls could echo some of the criticisms and denunciations that we have heard in this chamber of the legal profession from time to time, and over the years, then it would remind you and I, or would certainly bring home to our reflection, that in dealing with an important piece of legislation such as this, one would expect in the light of those criticisms, that we would have a full attendance of the laity here who would be sitting on the edge of their chairs waiting to get up and utter their dissertations to reform our noble profession. I cannot fail to make special reference—

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I would just like to say that half of the most important ones are here.

Mr. Sopha: —our esteemed colleague, the member for Grey-Bruce (Mr. Sargent)—who is not here—who has been one of the most articulate in the criticism that he has levelled at the brethren of the law. I have often believed that in the tenor and the dynamism with which he put those denunciations, that perhaps long ago his father was bitten by a lawyer.

Mr. Nixon: One way or another, he probably was.

Mr. Sopha: But maybe, sir, it has amounted to nothing more than perciflage. It may well

be that we are a dearly beloved and esteemed group, by the laity.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, loved by all. The remarks of the Leader of the Opposition gave me an instrument to lead in, in a very satisfactory way, to my remarks. As a layman—the only layman that has spoken in this debate, and I have had the advantage of hearing all the speeches—but as a layman, the Leader of the Opposition was wondering out loud to a small audience why it is that Canada—Ontario—has not produced judges of stature. I think that is what he meant, and he related it to one of the central themes of the bill, that of legal education. I always have been, when I reflected upon this, willing to trace the high correlation of the absence of judicial stature in Canada to the method of legal education. We have not had a Lord Reading; we have not had a Lord Denning; we have not had a Lord Justice Devlin; we have not had a Lord Mansfield, Sir Edward Cox, and any number of others who could be named among those giants of the judicial bench who have graced the benches of England. We have not even had a judge of high literary quality, with the possible exception of Ivan Rand.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Minister of Justice): How about Duff?

Mr. Sopha: Treleaven?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Duff?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, Sir Ivan Duff. I would be willing to put him—perhaps Sir Ivan Duff and Ivan Rand are the two. Now maybe we have one in the appointment of Bora Laskin. I hope you will not feel flattered. Bora Laskin, mentioned by my friend from Riverdale. A man of consummate courage who, with others, broke with the benchers of the law society, departed the sanctified hall on Queen Street and ventured out into the unknown to start a new development in legal education. Laskin's reward, of course, is poetic justice, the operation of the Grecian nemesis, that finally his talents have been recognized and that the Minister of Justice for Canada has appointed him to the highest judicial office in the country.

Like Adlai Stevenson—I know Mr. Justice Laskin personally—and I hope like Adlai Stevenson, he follows the maxim that flattery is alright as long as you do not inhale. I hope, if he reads these words, that he will not feel flattered, but it is expected, in his appointment, that he will bring that broad philosophic approach to the law for lack of which Canadian jurisprudence has been so wanting.

The Leader of the Opposition made a very good point. Not only have we not had judges of the highest rank, if you like—Learned Hand, Felix Frankfurter, Mr. Justice Cardozo and others of the American bench—we have not had outstanding lawyers. We have no lawyers in this country of the stature of Marshall Hall, Sir Edward Carson, Sir Patrick Hastings, Clarence Darrow; we have not even got a Marvin Belli. Well, Clarence Darrow did not fit with some of my listeners.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Have not even got a Perry Mason.

Mr. Sopha: I am willing—as one of the central themes of this legislation, I am willing—to relate that to the quality of legal education that has existed because the benchers of the law society have always maintained that the education must be practical. You have to teach a man how to do things and they never emphasized the broad, philosophic and policy making consideration and indeed have seen the law for what it really is in a democratic society, a vehicle for social engineering. That is what lawyers are. They are a fundamental part of the process of problem-solving in the relations of citizen with citizen. That is their great contribution in the mastery of their art to the smooth functioning, not only of the democratic process but indeed of the ordinary relations of citizens with each other; within the society that we live.

Now, a word about our participation as lawyers. I think we ought to make it clear here that not all of the lawyers, of course, are participating in the debate. We have seven on the front row over there; we have three in the second row and we have not, of course—and I am not criticizing anyone for being absent, they are probably absent for reasons that are very important in the public domain—but we have not had the advantage of participation of all of the lawyers up to the point of the penultimate speech in this debate; this I assume. Perhaps I should not assume it, but I assume I am making the penultimate speech.

I would have wished that we could have had the participation of the seven that grace Her Majesty's executive council in the front row. Ten of them all told. We have had the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) here; the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Yaremko) is here. *Ater natis regis* himself is

here; the guardian of the public interest. I will deal with that more fully later.

You, Mr. Speaker, were the first of the incumbents of that office whom I identified by the historic name, *ater natis regis*, attorney of the Queen.

Well, election to this chamber, of course, in my case, and I speak only for myself, is not dependent in any way on the fact that I am a lawyer and it is important to make that clear. I never met a constituent who said to me that he voted for me because I was a lawyer. It just happens that being the member for Sudbury, I am a lawyer and it is—

Mr. G. W. Innes (Oxford): In spite of being a lawyer.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, that may be true. I am grateful to my friend from Oxford. I have been elected in spite of being a lawyer. It is important to make that clear: that, in examining a statute with which we as lawyers are so intimately concerned, we must identify ourselves in our primary responsibility of being legislators. We are legislators first. And we must answer to our constituents in respect of a bill like this from the point of view of seeing it as a matter of public concern, public interest and public policy. We must put secondary that intimate connection that we have with the profession being regulated here.

Now, I did not want to start with intemperate remarks about my friends. I would rather engage in dialogue with them. I refer to my friend from Lakeshore and my friend from Riverdale. I would rather persuade them of the error of their judgment in regard to this legislation. My friend from Riverdale said that the society is asking to be continued as the governing body. Strictly speaking, that may be true. But I want to suggest, if they have made a request to continue to be the governing body, that true impetus is the other way; it is we that have control of the chain of circumstances.

What we are doing in respect of this bill is delegating legislative authority to the governing body of the profession and we are saying to them, in effect, that we are making you an arm of the Legislature for the purpose of carrying out statutory responsibilities in an area where the public interest in intimately involved. And we must keep control of the matter from that point of view.

Once it is seen that way, then the question to be determined is the sole one: Is this bill adequate to carry it out? That is the central and overriding fundamental question. Does the bill adequately and properly, and in the public interest, carry out the task that we wish to assign to the law society and the benchers? In our view, it does not. It is too flawed. And I am going to attempt to point out, chapter and verse, where those flaws occur. And, if you like, I go to the end of my remarks. I think I will point out so many deficiencies in the bill that I might persuade my friends to the left of the view that the bill is inadequate to carry out its intended purpose and perhaps it ought to be sent back to the initiators. It ought—

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Do that and it will be out of order.

Mr. Sopha: —to be sent back to those who initiated it to determine whether it might not be improved to the extent that we can sincerely and genuinely pass it as a vehicle to carry out the purpose we seek to accomplish. That is the central question. Now, what is it? All right, then, we turn—and I hope these remarks have some sense of symmetry—to the question of what is the purpose that we seek to accomplish in a legislative way? And I want hastily to say to my friend from Riverdale that that purpose is restricted to a two-for-one, and it does not go beyond it. I sharply disagree, let me say, with his remarks about the additional responsibilities of investigation and action that he would impose upon the law society.

I say to you, Mr. Speaker—and I am going to fortify these remarks by reference to a much higher authority than my own view—that the *raison d'etre* of the Law Society of Upper Canada and its governing body is twofold only. One is to determine that competent people only are admitted to the bar to practise law in Ontario. The second is to determine and ensure that those admitted to the bar carry on their activities as lawyers within the province in a manner consonant with the public interest. Those are both sides of the coin.

And I say by way of corollary that, having defined the role of the law society in that way, it has no license, leave or privilege or jurisdiction to enter into any other area at all beyond that. It has nothing to do with law reform. It has nothing to do with tariff of fees. It has nothing to do with whether people are detained without bail in the Don jail. It has nothing to do with the other of the myriad that the member for Riverdale sought to impose upon it. Those are the functions. When they are not those of the individual practitioners of law, they are the responsibility

of the pluralistic groups identified by the title of bar associations.

Let me say, before I forget, I think it is important to remind the House that they have nothing to do with image-making; they have nothing to do with public relations. Those are the responsibilities of the Canadian Bar Association and its Ontario section.

I rather resent that every so often—I have lost the Attorney General; he is off reading some piece of fiction. But what I say is not fiction—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He is just looking at another great judge.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed. And, incidentally, he holds up—yes, he holds up—the picture of the former Chief Justice of Canada—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Right!

Mr. Sopha: —John Cartwright. And they tell me—will you permit me, in parenthesis, to say; I think it very apposite—that when John Cartwright made his valedictory speech to his brethren of the Supreme Court of Canada, he said to them, "After the two decades that I spent on the bench, I leave with the imbued sense that we are the silent service; we are like arms of The Department of National Defence. We pronounce upon the law; we decide cases before it. But on no account do we get involved in areas of public conflict. We are the silent service. We serve. We serve the people. We keep out of the arena."

Edson Haines should get a copy of that speech.

Mr. Nixon: The Attorney General nods.

Mr. Sopha: I wish he would. It rather scandalized me yesterday that Edson Haines, having made the speech, one of the newspapers called up all the other members of the bench to ask them what they thought of it. So in future, I take it, when we are battling about a matter of public policy, we will send somebody out to take a poll of them, as to what we should do. Well, I want them to be a silent service.

That was a digression. My point is that the Law Society of Upper Canada, in this bill, sir, derives its powers from this Legislature to concern itself under our aegis with the governance of the profession only. That is its only concern. I was going to say that every so often—I say to my friend, the member for Lakeshore—you see somebody making some study in some area and he says, "We will get a member of the law society. We will have the benchers appoint a member to assist us in this", which would be some sort of involvement in an area of public concern. Well, that is not the concern of the benchers. The benchers should brush aside those requests and say, "Go to the Canadian Bar Association and get your assistant from them."

That is the way the doctors do it. The medical association is the image-making public relations group; it is the group concerned in research. The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons has taught us as lawyers that its only function is the governance of the members of the medical profession. And a funny thing is that it was lawyers—

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): No, no!

Mr. Sopha: Oh, yes.

Mr. Dymond: No, no!

Mr. Sopha: All right, then the member can join in the debate if he disagrees with that. All right, in the light of the intervention of the former Minister of Health, I am going to seek refuge and comfort and assurance from the words of Mr. Justice McRuer.

Mr. Dymond: McRuer is not God Almighty.

Mr. Sopha: All right, fine. Will you hearken?

Mr. Dymond: McRuer is not God Almighty.

Mr. Sopha: Well, listen, I have said that the J.C. in his name stands for James Chalmers. Is it not possible for the member to smile? He is such a nice man when he smiles.

Mr. Dymond: I do not know how.

Mr. Nixon: Think hard!

Mr. Sopha: Do you see the way the Prime Minister leaves them when he drops them?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: All right. I may go beyond my time, but this is an important piece of legislation. I want those who would listen to me to listen to the way it is put by Mr. McRuer in volume 3 of his report No. 1 at chapter 79, and I quote:

> The granting of self-government is a delegation of legislative and judicial functions and can only be justified as a safeguard to the public interest. The power is not conferred to give or reinforce a professional or occupational status. The relevant question is not, "Do the practitioners of this occupation desire the power of self-government?", but, "Is self-government necessary for the protection of the public?"

No right of self-government should be claimed merely because the term "profession" has been attached to the occupation. The power of self-government should not be extended beyond the present limitations, unless it is clearly established that the public interest demands it.

In a statement published in 1966 of the functions, procedure and disciplinary jurisdiction of the General Medical Council of England, the purpose of the power of self-government is well stated in words that should apply to every self-governing body.

And this is a quotation within a quotation.

Mr. Dymond: That is not the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons; that is the General Medical Council of England, an entirely different body.

Mr. Sopha: Well, just a moment, I do not want the member to blur the—

Mr. Dymond: The member is out of his element there; he should stay with law, something he knows about.

Mr. Sopha: Now please! You know, the member is a reasonable man, be fair.

Let me read what he says again:

In a statement published in 1966 of the functions, procedure and disciplinary jurisdiction of the General Medical Council of England, the purpose of the power of self-government is well stated in words that should apply to every self-governing body: "The general duty of the council is to protect the public, in particular by supervising and improving medical education. . . . The council is not an association or union for protecting professional interests . . ."

Now, I must assume—

Mr. Dymond: Again he does not know everything. The hon. member, if I may interject, was talking about the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, which is concerned with specialization, the education of specialists, quite apart and distinct from the general medical council, in Canada or from the provincial colleges of physicians and surgeons, the disciplining and regulatory bodies of the profession. In contradistinction, in medicine the various associations, provincial associations, are the socio-economic bodies of the profession.

Mr. Sopha: Well, I am glad of two things. I am glad to have stimulated debate on this, and secondly, I am grateful for the intervention of the former Minister of Health. I was not saying what he accuses me if saying. I was saying that the prime purpose of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons is to determine the competence of those practicing medicine and to attend to the governance of the profession to see that they carried it on—

Mr. Dymond: No, no!

Mr. Sopha: Just wait till I finish the sentence.

Mr. Dymond: No, no!

Mr. Sopha: —to see that they carried on the practice in accordance with standards designed to protect the public. Now, the member would not disagree with that?

Mr. Dymond: Oh yes, I have to, Mr. Speaker, because this is misleading. The governance of the profession rests with the various colleges of physicians but not with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Mr. Sopha: Oh, I see.

Mr. Dymond: The various provincial colleges.

Mr. Sopha: Oh! That is what I meant.

Mr. Dymond: In contradistinction, the Royal College of Physicians—

Mr. Sopha: Oh, I did not know that.

Mr. Dymond: —of Canada is a specialized—

Mr. Sopha: Oh, come on, that is the point. I meant the provincial college and if it is not called the Royal college, then forgive me. Look at all the rhetoric we could have avoided. I mean the college under The Medical Act of this province.

Now, Mr. McRuer goes on:

It can be strongly argued, and to some extent it has been recognized in Ontario, that a power which so circumscribes the freedom of the individual to earn his livelihood by any lawful means, should not be exercised except under government control.

I invite the Attorney General to pay attention to the import of those words because I say in parenthesis here, as good a place as any to say it: Really, in my own mind when I think of the intense, intimate and pervasive aspect of public policy and government control, in the light of those considerations, I find difficulty in accepting the thesis that the

benchers of the law society should be elected. There must be some other way of determining their right to sit on the governing body, because the moment you start to elect people, they become responsible to the people who elect them. They have a constituency. And if you are going to carry out the job of determining whether the practising of law in regard to the profession is carried on consistent with the public interest, then the interests of any constituency is not only irrelevant, but it might go contrary to the salutary purpose to be achieved.

Do you see what I mean? The central issue is the public interest, not the interest of the lawyers, not their image, not their own personal and private concerns. But you must keep focused on the question of whether the practitioners are competent, reliable people carrying on their practice in an honest fashion and whether the public is assured of the optimum of service from this guild that they might expect.

Mr. Gaunt: Responsible to the people, not just the lawyers.

Mr. Sopha: That is right. The governing body—my friend the member for Huron-Bruce puts it very aptly—the governing body, the benchers, their foremost responsibility must be to the public, not to the members of the profession.

Now, I go on.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Would the member carry that out to the logical conclusion and have the benchers elected by the public?

Mr. Sopha: I do not know. I do not know how you would do it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No.

Mr. Sopha: But ultimately, the Attorney General asks me. Ultimately there ought to be some sort of appointment. Now, that appointment might be by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. Other pluralistic groups, I hasten to say—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Pretty weak stuff; all question and no answer!

Mr. Sopha: No, let me go on. You see, I become belaboured before I complete my thoughts. There may be many pluralistic groups in the society made up of apt people to make the appointment. If lay participation, as I am going to come to, was a central theme in the bill, then you might get all sorts of groups which would be qualified to name representatives to the governing body.

Now I go on to read from McRuer:

> The way to control admission to a profession of occupation and to issue licences authorizing persons to engage in the practice of a profession or occupation, confers a power to control the number who may be admitted to it, as well as to ensure competence of its members. The power to set educational standards and prescribe training includes the power to exclude persons, even though they may qualify to meet reasonable standards. Excessively high standards may produce specialists, but leave a vacuum with respect to areas of a profession where the services of a specialist are not required.

Now, in this portion of his dissertation he is pointing out to us an area of quantitive danger. That is to say, that the guild aspect—the aspect of the medieval guild that is inherent in our profession—the closed shop, might lead to some form of capricious conduct, whereby an effort is made to restrict the numbers of those entering the profession.

And that is a danger. This is an area of deep public concern here, and it must be one where there is an intimate public participation.

I say those things, your honour, in the light of rumours one hears—and I do not think they are confined to rumours, I think they are matters of public record—that down in the law society, and to some extent in the law schools, there is a feeling that the legal profession is becoming overburdened by numbers, that there are coming to be too many numbers in it and some effort ought to be made to restrict the numbers of those graduating from the law schools.

I hasten to say—and who could I say it better to than the Attorney General—that if there is a feeling there are too many lawyers, then there are too many lawyers in Toronto. That is where they are, and in this area we ought not to be affected.

We should guard ourselves against being disabled in the north country by the desires of those practising law in Toronto. Because the Attorney General will support me when I reveal to the House that in the districts of Algoma—his own—in Sudbury, in Nipissing, in Thunder Bay, to name four, all of the lawyers are in the district towns. There are no other lawyers anywhere else. People who live in those wide expanses of territory, I say to my friend from Peterborough (Mr. Pitman),

must migrate at great inconvenience and expense to themselves to the district town to avail themselves of legal services.

So, I say in reply to the law society, that if you have too many lawyers in Toronto, that is too bad, we do not have enough in northern Ontario. Furthermore, people trained in the law—not in preference to any other profession—are the very type of people that we want to attract home to northern Ontario. To provide that quality of leadership, training, and intellectual acuity—to help us in the north develop in a salutary way, that vast area and those great riches that we have up there.

I am very suspicious when we, as a Legislature, devolve upon the governing body of the legal profession responsibility in legal education. We must be watchful that they do not use that to further the guild aspect of the practice of law.

I think, for the time being, Mr. Speaker, that is the only reference that I wish to make to Mr. McRuer. So, if I may digress and get out of the way the traditional matters that have been so much referred to by our friends —and I think they are worthy of note—that somehow it is thought to be incumbent upon us to continue the traditions of the law society, this hoary, ancient, archaic group that has inhabited that building erected in 1840, down there, that we have some obligation to preserve its antiquity.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I say to the Attorney General, as far as I am concerned, we do not have to worry about their traditions. They have their fence, and we have the comfort of knowing, I tell my friends in the House, that there has not been a sheep or a cow get through those gates in more than 100 years. Not one.

They have the fence and I have often wondered about the fence, whether they have the right to foist their justice behind an abominable looking structure like that and to prevent the public from coming in and sitting on the lawns, taking in the sun and perhaps having a snooze or reading a bit of poetry. As far as I am concerned, it would be all right for our younger people to have a love-in, if they wanted, on that lawn.

I also note that when The Department of Public Works, I think, in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto is bargaining with them for a slip of land which will involve, happily, the demolition of the fence, the lawyers know how to count. They are not going to give anything away, if they give up the piece of property.

Well, the other aspects of tradition—whereas I recognize they might be trivial, I say to my friend the member for Victoria-Haliburton (Mr. R. G. Hodgson)—to me they are desperately important. I treat as a matter of principle the name of the society. I am very much opposed to the continuation of the name Law Society of Upper Canada. There has not been anything in the way of a political or geographic entitity known as Upper Canada in this province for 129 years. It disappeared on the first day of January, 1841.

What is more important, the name Upper Canada does not do anything for the Attorney General and myself. I conducted some research and I find, as a result of my research —Mr. Speaker, coming from the area of Ontario that you come from you would be very interested in this—I discovered that, beyond pure adventure, the part of the province that the Attorney General and I come from was never part of Upper Canada. It never was. We were the territories, the northwest, and, indeed, we were under suzerainty of the Hudson's Bay Company originally. Just let me press along and I will hurry on. The first division of Upper Canada by Lord Dorchester, that was Sir Guy Carleton was it not?

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): 1791! 1791!

Mr. Sopha: No. 1788. The governor and chief. That was Guy Carleton, or Dorchester? And he divided the southern part of the province in the far areas. The very part you come from, Mr. Speaker, was Lunenburg; Mecklenburg, Nassau and Hesse. You see how the Hanoverians had their influence there—all German names.

Then the next division was made—or an important division was made—following The Baldwin Act, in 1849, when the county system first was inaugurated in Ontario. Then, Mr. Speaker, your part was in the eastern district, the counties of Glengarry, Stormont, Dundas, Prescott and Russell. The next one was the Johnstown district, the Midland district, the Newcastle district, the Home district, Niagara district, London District and the western district.

In the article, "The Districts of Upper Canada", under the authorship of George W. Sprague, an outstanding Canadian historian, no reference is made at that point, 1899, to the northern part of the province at all as being included; it is excluded. At that time and date, it was still under the suzerainty of the Hudson's Bay Company, and the fight—you will recall the fight that was going on; it is one of the storied or interesting parts of

our storied history—between the Nor'westers and the Hudson's Bay Company.

All right, the Attorney General ought to be critical with—and, at this point, when I say the Law Society of Upper Canada has to be changed to Ontario, the Attorney General has got to say Sopha is right, because they owe it to him. And, because we both come from Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury. If your government will not do anything else for us in regard to this bill—and it is going to get much discussion—I implore them to take at least that step and bring the benchers into the 20th century—indeed, bring them in for the last third. It will not be too great an imposition.

Now, sir, may I deal with a little more of the tradition. I want to say, if you will permit—this will take me to 6 o'clock; I want to say something about the second section of the bill. Looking at that second section of the bill, I personally find it offensive—and I do not want to tramp on the feelings of anybody else in the House—these two references to the German Georges. Now look, "Established by an Act of the Parliament of Upper Canada, passed in the 37th year of the reign of His Late Majesty, George III. . . . Well, really, that would be 1797, and the law society has got to admit that that bill does not count because, after 1777, the madness of George III was unmistakable. No, he was not permanently insane until November, 1810. So that one does not count. But he was a much misunderstood monarch. He had many qualifying qualities, farmer George, and in the 60 years that he sat on the throne of England, he accomplished a great deal.

I do not mind him so much; it is the other bird that really grabs me in there—"incorporated by an Act of the Parliament of Upper Canada passed in the second year of the reign of His Late Majesty George IV." If there ever was a father who was afflicted with dissolute and reprobate sons, it was George III. Of the five that he ushered into this world, that George IV should never be enshrined in a statute of this province under any conditions at all. His character was absolutely beyond rehabilitation. The way he treated Mrs. Fitzherbert was shocking, to say the least, absolutely shocking. He announced himself that by the age of 17 he was much addicted to wine and women, and he continued to drag the throne into degradation until his fortunate passing in 1830.

May I just tell another little anecdote. Did you ever know, really, that Victoria rescued the throne of Britain? George III had five sons, George IV was followed by the Duke of Clarence, William IV, who came to the throne in 1830. If they had had another one, the throne of England would not exist today. Victoria rescued it.

Along in 1817, the daughter of George IV died; she had married a German, and she died. There was no heir to the throne. All there were were these unmarried four sons, then living, of George III, and no heir to the throne in sight. They were men in their 50s and that would never do. They had to have an heir to the throne, so they all got married to produce an heir.

Well, after the life of dissolution and debauchery that they had led, the effort was too great for them and only Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, Victoria's father was able to manage it, and Victoria was born in 1819. The rest of them had no success at all. Although they had all kinds of illegitimate children all over the place—the scandal of England—to do the right thing, legally, they were extremely wanting. Well, I say that it is a matter of historic record that the crown of Britain would have disappeared. She resuscitated it, revived it, and gave it that strength and character that it has had. And then it fell into the hands of Edward VII, but I will not go into that and his peregrinations.

Now really, in 1970 do we have to have that kind of thing in a statute? Cannot we just say the law society is continued?

The last two lines of that section, once I leave the monarchial digression, I want to direct to the Provincial Secretary's attention, although he has lost the corporate aspect of his department. Look what they say:

> . . . is continued as a corporation without share capital composed of the treasurer, the benchers, and other members from time to time.

Is that good corporate practice—"the treasurer, the benchers, and other members"? Now look for the members for Lakeshore, Riverdale, Parkdale, Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt), Sarnia (Mr. Bullbrook), and Downsview (Mr. Singer), and the 10 from the Treasury benches. Where are we? We are certainly dragging along behind there, are we not, the way they put it. I thought good corporate practice was that the corporation was the shareholders—they were the corporation, but we are not even specifically mentioned: "The corporation shall be the benchers and other members."

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): That is without share capital.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, a corporation without share capital. Well, I say to the Provincial Secretary we are shareholders, in a sense, without using the term as a term of art: ". . . composed of the treasurer, the benchers—" well, those people certainly are presumptuous, I would say; they give themselves airs, or are they unpretentiously pretentious?

Now that is a good place to leave off. The member for Lakeshore mentioned that he had not met any lawyers who were opposed to the bill, and I want to read into the record a letter that I got. I am not going to give the name of the sender, but I would show it to any member who wishes to see it to satisfy himself that it is valid. Here is a letter that is rather a delight, if you will listen to it. It is addressed to me, about this bill, from a fellow member of the bar.

Dear Elmer:

Re: An Act to consolidate and revise The Law Society Act.

I was more than a little saddened to see departed one of the last vestiges and repositories of the unbought grace of life yet left to us humble, and daily more humble, people in this once fair land of Ontario.

Yes, departed, and I fear departed for ever. In this day when the sun never rises on the British Empire, when that toast that proclaimed the mastery of a civilization no longer rings nightly around the world—"Gentlemen, the King"—and when even the centuries old wish for "A Very Merry Christmas" with all its wholesome fullness has become a sly exhortation for a "Cool Yule", there remains one bastion, safe and sure, of the ancient virtues and of the glories which cannot fade: the company of benchers of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

I had indeed thought them the last to abjure the proper fear of God and honour to the Queen. Yet in the very second section of the very first page of a proposed new Act to consolidate and revise The Law Society Act, I read words which destroy my last illusion. How noble would have been the section had it referred in proper terms to the illustrious ancestor of our sovereign in the passing of the Act of the Parliament of Upper Canada in the 37th year of the reign of His Late Majesty, King George III.

How unpretentiously pretentious is it rendered by the omission. The final humiliation, the *coup de grace*, comes with the letter of the treasurer, which accompanied this wretched document to all members of the law society and which announced that he was pleased to enclose it.

I trust that if there be not those in our Legislature who block passages of this bill which I fervently wish, yet can hardly dare to hope—this once will Her Britannic Majesty exercise her prerogative and prevent this objection of her great, great, great grandfather, and refuse to enact it, whether by and with the consent and advice, or not, of the legislative assembly of the province of Ontario in this or any other session assembled.

An hon. member: Is he a PC?

Mr. Sopha: No, he is not, he is a Liberal. He practises law in a law firm where one of these members is an outstanding bencher, however.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to deal, once I put aside the trivia which I felt were deserving of notice, with a number of the sections of the Act, and I hope to be able to persuade my friends to the left that in many ways the Act is wanting. A good place to begin is to draw the attention of my friends—

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member would allow me a point at this time, that he is about to start dealing with the bill in some detail. I am wondering if this might be a good point to adjourn the debate. We had hoped that we might go on after the supper hour, but the Attorney General has a commitment this evening which will prevent that. So with the hon. member's permission, if he would like to move the adjournment of the debate, I then would move that the House go into committee, so that tonight we could consider the estimates of—

Mr. Sopha: When will we resume this?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Tuesday. If there were any change in that I would certainly see that the member was notified on Monday, but Tuesday is the earliest that we can go back into it.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, I am grateful, I was about to deal with the bill in some detail.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): If the hon. member would rather, we could go on tomorrow.

Mr. Sopha moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): On a point of order, if I may, Mr. Speaker, before we go into committee of supply, can the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) tell us when the order on the standing rules might be called, before we go much further into the estimate debates, so that we have some idea in this House as to the time factors at both ends?

Mr. Speaker: I would point out that in my opinion at least, this is not a point of order. It may be a point of procedure, but I would think that a better answer might be obtained by the hon. member discussing it perhaps with the House leader.

Mr. Lewis: With respect, Mr. Speaker, it is not 6 o'clock. We are about to go into supply—

Mr. Speaker: I have ruled it as not a point of order.

Mr. Lewis: I will raise another point of order, then. The point of order is, that I, as one member of the House, do not wish to proceed further with debates on estimates—a highly personalized thing—until I have some idea as to the apportionment of time over the session, which the Provincial Secretary intends on the basis of the orders standing before the House.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that the hon. member still has a point of order. He might perhaps have a point of privilege—

Mr. Lewis: I see that the Provincial Secretary is giving a benign smile, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps he could be prevailed upon.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, in answer to the specific inquiry, we are hopeful that early next week we would be a position to discuss this with the whips, as was our plan, and so I can assure the member that this is our intention at the moment anyway, to do it early next week.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence: It was not a benign smile. It was a nice smile.

Mr. Lewis: It was not nice.

Clerk of the House: The 31st order, House in committee of supply; Mr. A. E. Reuter in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND INFORMATION *(continued)*

Mr. Chairman: Page 162. On vote 2104:

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Carried.

Mr. Chairman: It being six of the clock, I do now leave the chair. We will resume at 8 o'clock.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.

No. 34

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, April 9, 1970

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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5

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CONTENTS

Thursday, April 9, 1970

Estimates, Department of Tourism and Information, Mr. Auld, concluded 1347

Motion to adjourn, Mr. A. F. Lawrence, agreed to 1375

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1970

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND INFORMATION
(*Concluded*)

On vote 2104:

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Chairman, just before we leave this vote, there are a couple of questions that came up on Tuesday night and I did not have an opportunity to answer them, but I am also particularly concerned about the comments which the member for High Park made to the effect that I had misinformed the House about the lawsuit in the commonwealth of Massachusetts about a film which he commented on.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Sir, on a point of order: May I draw to the Chairman's attention that there may not be a quorum.

Mr. Chairman: There would appear not to be a quorum. Would you ring the bells for four minutes please.

Order please; we now have a quorum.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I say, Mr. Chairman, on Tuesday night the hon. member for High Park said that I had misinformed the House in connection with my comments about the lawsuit involving a film called "Titticut Follies" in the state of Massachusetts. Just to refresh everyone's memory, I would like to quote what I said, as reported in *Hansard*, and the comments of the hon. member. I said:

> I may say that the hon. member did not mention the film was the cause of a lawsuit. It was filmed in a Massachusetts mental institution. I am not sure yet whether the suit has yet been disposed of, but there was a lawsuit against, I believe, the producers and owners of the film on the part of—I think some 36 patients were filmed, 34 of whom were subsequently released and who sued on the basis, I think, of invasion of privacy.

The hon. member said immediately thereafter:

> On a point of order. I am so delighted that the Minister has made that comment because he has misinformed the House. I happen to have the judgment of the court here which I will be happy to send him.

And that is the end of the quote and I may say that I have been in touch with the hon. member's office and he has not yet sent me this judgment.

The hon. member has said, and again I quote: "The patient did not sue." And this is correct. The suit was brought by the state of Massachusetts which wished to prevent this film from being shown for reasons obvious to anybody—anyone who has seen the film—and the judgment of the court of appeals, and I emphasize that, was that this was not an invasion of privacy. The film was cleared; it was showing everywhere in the United States, and so on.

Well, Mr. Chairman, since the hon. member did not send me the judgment, which he said he had with him at the time, I took the trouble to get in touch with the Attorney General's office in the commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Attorney General of Massachusetts filed a suit against the producers of this film in the superior court in Massachusetts. In effect, it asked that the public showings of the film be prevented and I think it also asked that the film be seized on the basis of the invasion of the privacy of the patients of this institution. The superior court made an order to this effect. The producer, director, owner, Mr. Wiseman, appealed to the superior court—no, appealed to the Massachusetts supreme judicial court. The supreme judicial court brought in a ruling, and I will quote two relevant portions of it. I do not have the entire ruling and as I say to the hon. member, if this is the ruling—the judgment to which he referred—he has not as yet been able to send me his copy. This is the ruling, the first part:

> We need not—

This is the court, the supreme judicial court.

> We need not discuss to what extent in Massachusetts violations of privacy will give rise to tort liabilities to individuals.

This was not an issue in the suit.

> I think, in any event, Mr. Wiseman's unrestrained invasion of the intimate lives

> of those patients may be prevented by a properly framed injunctive release. The commonwealth has standing and a duty to protect, reasonably and in a manner consistent with other public interests, the inmates from any invasions of their privacy substantially greater than those inevitably arising from the fact of confinement.

In other words, the appeal court sustained to this extent the ruling of the superior court.

Now, further on in the judgment, I quote:

> Injunctive release may be granted against showing the film to the general public on a commercial basis. This does not mean that all showings of the film must be prevented. It is a film which could be instructive to legislators, judges, lawyers, sociologists, social workers, doctors, psychologists, students dealing in these or related fields and organizations dealing with the social problems of custodial and mental infirmities.

I am informed that as a result, the effect of these two court decisions means that at the present time, it is still banned from being shown publicly and commercially in the state of Massachusetts. The producer, Mr. Wiseman, has petitioned the supreme court of the United States. I am not aware of the details of his petition, but I am informed that the supreme court of the United States, first of all, has not, to the certain knowledge of the Attorney General of Massachusetts, ruled on whether they will accept the petition, much less what they will do with it.

So, I simply wanted the set the record straight, Mr. Chairman, on that point raised by the hon. member and I am not sure that we need to take seriously all the suggestions of the hon. member to the effect that various people misinform or mislead the House. This is not a major point in this case, certainly, but I did want to set the record straight in that connection.

Mr. Chairman: A point of order?

Mr. Shulman: Yes, sir. My point of order is that I hope the minister did not have all the facts, or he would not have presented this. I refer you, sir, to the New York *Times* of January 5, 1968, page 44, column 5, and I would like to read you the last—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I take the information from the Attorney General of Massachusetts rather than the New York *Times.*

Mr. Shulman: His information is quite correct, sir, but if the minister had gone a little further, he would have found that this had gone to a higher court. It is a pity he did not look into it a little further before coming in here making a fool of himself again.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the hon. member would tell me, in the United States, what higher court there is than the U.S. supreme court?

Mr. Chairman: Order please. This is not a point of order.

Mr. Shulman: This is the same point of order, sir. The minister was, to be kind, misinformed this time, not misinforming. I quote: "The commonwealth—"

Mr. Chairman: Order; order please.

This is not a point of order unless the member is prepared to allege that the minister deliberately misled the House.

Mr. Shulman: That most certainly is a point of order—if he does it deliberately or indeliberately. I alleged earlier, on yet another matter, he did so deliberately. I am being generous today and suggest at this moment that this was done not deliberately, but through a lack of knowledge which probably applies to this case.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

It was not a deliberate misleading of the House, that is, a deliberate attempt to mislead the House, and is not a point of order.

Mr. Shulman: I beg your pardon, sir, I hope—

Mr. Chairman: I have checked with the Clerk and it has to be a case of deliberately misleading the House.

Mr. Shulman: In order for it to be a point of order? Is that your ruling?

Mr. Chairman: If someone has made a mistake, an error, then it is not a point of order.

Mr. Shulman: And has misinformed the House through an error, this is not a point of order to correct the facts?

Mr. Chairman: Not really.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Let the chairman finish.

Mr. Chairman: If it is a point of order it means that he has deliberately misled the House. However, the minister has corrected any misinformation which might have been stated that particular night, so this is not a point of order.

Mr. Shulman: If you so rule, sir, I will

allow him to continue, and when he is through I will make my point.

Mr. Chairman: That is the ruling.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Now, Mr. Chairman, this afternoon, just preceding the orders of the day, the member for High Park said, and I quote from the draft of this afternoon's *Hansard*:

> My point of order, sir, is that the Minister of Tourism and Information has misinformed the committee of the whole House.

And I continue the quotation:

> Two nights ago, sir, during the estimates of this minister's department, the minister flatly denied that a pornographic movie had been prepared by his department two years ago by cutting little bits out of numerous films which they had censored, and gluing these pieces together.

And then there is an interjection by the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) and the member for High Park goes on:

> This morning, sir, I was able to reach Mr. David Coon, a lawyer, in his office.
>
> Mr. Coon, at that time, was in the employ of The Attorney General's Department. His job, amongst other things, involved censoring written material. As a result of his position, sir, he, along with three other individuals was invited to a showing at the censor's office of the movie which the minister insists did not exist. Mr. Coon is prepared to swear to this matter, sir. The matter itself is perhaps not as important as the fact that the minister has misinformed the House, sir, and I ask that you refer this matter to the committee on privileges and elections to have the conduct of the minister investigated.

I may say that I have been trying to get hold of Mr. Coon all afternoon, and as recently as five minutes to eight, and I have been informed that he has been out of town all day but I hope to reach him tomorrow.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Did he not say that he phoned him today?

Mr. Shulman: At 10 o'clock.

Mr. Auld: Well, perhaps the hon. member was able to reach him because I did not try until this afternoon and I cannot confirm that I will reach him tomorrow, but the hon. member may well have reached him today, although it is curious.

Mr. Shulman: I did not say it was in this building.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The hon. member said on Tuesday, April 7, in connection with this so-called pornographic extravaganza, as he labelled it at that time and which I have said on several occasions did not exist; there was no showing of such a film in this building to a senior group of civil servants. The hon. member said:

> Let me get this quite clear, Mr. Chairman, so there will be no misunderstanding, I did not say in this building, this was not "Bitter Ash," it had no name, because it came out of 100 different movies—all the dirty parts which your censors had cut out were put together in one movie. I challenge you to call on David Coon and ask him whether or not this is the truth.

And I ask you, Mr. Chairman, to follow me, because to follow the hon. member is like trying to nail jelly to a wall. He moves back and forth. I think someone called this Shulmanism. I read one in the paper tonight. This is the quotation from *Hansard*, May 14, 1968, by the member for High Park. This is on page 2942. I will not read the whole thing; I quote now:

> And to show you the absolute ridiculousness that can result from this, I am going to tell you two stories. One, which I am sure will make the hon. minister blush, because he said it jokingly and I presume he did not realize the truth. All of the little bits that are cut out of the pictures are put together, and two years ago they were shown in this building, in The Attorney General's Department to many of the senior civil servants, and there was much glee at seeing this very interesting film.

Mr. Shulman: You are confused.

Hon. Mr. Auld: May I go on further? I asked the hon. member:

> Mr. Chairman, I just make comment on one of the statements of the hon. member for High Park. I would like to know who, when and where? Who was present, when was it shown and where was it shown? That is the collection of cuts which the hon. member mentions.
>
> *Mr. Shulman*: I will tell you exactly where it was shown. It was shown on the second floor of this building. I believe it was approximately two years ago; there were a number of senior civil servants from The Attorney General's Department there.

Then he said: "This is not the point at all. Do not go off on a side issue. The point is," the hon. member said, "I am sending a note across the floor to you now with further information," which as I recall said that the deputy Attorney General was there. So, in the background the hon. member, as I say, this afternoon said that he never said it was held here.

But, going back to what I said a moment ago about trying to nail this jelly to the wall, I have not been able to get in touch with Mr. Coon. As I recall at that time, Mr. Coon was either a member of, or chairman of, a committee that had been set up by the Attorney General to deal with pornographic literature. And in the course of the work that they were doing in familiarization they, or The Attorney General's Department, on behalf of the committee, asked for a meeting with the board of film censors to get their views and their background and to see the kind of

thing that they were doing and what their standards were. Mr. Coon and the other members of the committee, as far as I know, were at the board—I do not know for how long—but I think they met on several occasions with the board.

There have been many times when the board has had crown attorneys and various people up there to advise them and discuss films with them. I simply make a point that here again the hon. member is trying to weasel out of something which he said so definitely had to be the case and there was no question about it. Everybody who did not agree with him must be lying or misinformed or trying to mislead somebody. I would suggest that the hon. member has a very short memory or he was misleading the House this afternoon.

In connection with some of the questions that were asked the other evening, I was asked how many films had been reclassified by the board—that is, films which had been assigned a classification when they were originally submitted, and then the classification had been changed.

There were nine films last year: "Alice's Restaurant" was originally classified as "restricted," it was reclassified to "adult" with no changes. "Coogan's Bluff" was changed from "restricted" to "adult" and some cuts were made to permit this change. "Easy Rider" was also changed from "restricted" to "adult," and there were some eliminations made to achieve this. "Gay Deceivers" was changed from "restricted" to "adult" with some cuts. "The Graduate" was changed from "restricted" to "adult," with no changes. "I Love You, Alice B. Toklas" was changed from "restricted" to "adult," with some cuts. "Lady in Cement" was changed from "restricted" to "adult," with some cuts. "A Man Called Gannon" was changed from "restricted" to "adult," with no cuts. And "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" was changed from "restricted" to "adult," with cuts.

I may say, Mr. Chairman, that these changes were made at the request of the distributor of the film and with the agreement of the owner.

Interestingly enough—and I think this might point up some of the things that we have discussed, and some of the things that the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor) and the hon. member for Sudbury mentioned—a film called "Gypsy Moth" which was classified as "adult" and, I am told, did not do very well at the box office, was withdrawn by the owners, MGM. They shot some new scenes and inserted them in the film, it was re-submitted and it was then classified as "restricted." There was one other, "If It's Tuesday This Must Be Belgium," which was reclassified from "adult" to "general" and there were no cuts made.

There was a question about advertising and what action the board had taken on advertising; as the hon. members know, film advertising must be approved by the board. In 1969-1970, 16,364 pieces of advertising were examined, 387 pieces were not approved and 42 others had revisions made to them before they were approved.

In connection with trailers, which were also subject to some discussion on Tuesday. Eliminations were made in 56 trailers in the 1969-70 fiscal year. This is an increase from the corresponding period of the previous year, when only 43 trailers had eliminations, and, I am informed that in many cases considerable trimming was necessary before these trailers were approved.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that, unless I have overlooked something, covers the questions which had been raised prior to adjournment on Tuesday night.

Mr. Chairman: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: Well, first of all, there are two points I would like to inform the House about.

The first one is about the picture "Titticut Follies" which I hope we will have some further discussion on a little bit later. The minister was quite right, the Massachusetts state courts did ban the film. But the minister obviously was unaware the film subsequently had general showing throughout the United States as the result of a ruling of the supreme court. Let me read it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think we have just had another Shulmanism. The film is still banned in the state of Massachusetts. The fact that it is showing in other states has nothing to do with the petition which is presently before the supreme court of the United States.

Mr. Shulman: Well, may I read? Was that a point of order, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: No.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I don't mind him interrupting me. Just allow me the same rights.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: All right, I will start again.

I quote from the New York *Times*, January 5, 1968, page 44, column 5:

> The commonwealth of Massachusetts attempted to block the showing of the "Titticut Follies," but on September 28, Supreme Court Justice Francis T. Murphy, Junior, rejected the Massachusetts contention that the film violated the privacy of the hospital's inmates.

It was subsequent to this that the film was shown in New York and in all other areas of the United States outside of Massachusetts.

Now, point two, in relation to our super-pornographic James Auld extravaganza—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I hope that I am not a super-pornographic James Auld.

Mr. Shulman: Well, there is a matter of opinion there which perhaps we should not go into at the moment.

The movie was available some two years ago; it was not shown once, it was shown a number of times: It was shown for the titillation and pleasure of certain civil servants and certain MPPs. It was shown once in this building, to which I referred in the estimates two years ago. It was shown in the office of the deputy Attorney General.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor - Walkerville): Name the MPPs.

Mr. Shulman: Well I can name one who was invited. He is speaking right now.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Has the hon. member ever seen a 35-millimetre projector?

Mr. Shulman: The showing that I referred to today was the one attended by Mr. David Coon and, as I said earlier today, was not in this building. Mr. Coon informed me it was shown in the censorship office, and if there is any doubt in the minister's mind, I spoke to him at his office this morning at 10.05. He said he went to the censorship office and that there were three other individuals present who also saw it at that time. There is no question whatsoever that this matter can be decided very, very easily. Just call him down here, put him under oath, and ask him the question.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, there is no question about that. The question which the hon. member raised and—as I say, the jelly is really sliding around the wall—the charge that he made at that time, which he has now repeated, that the film was shown in this building, is a technical impossibility. The films that the board would use are 35-millimetre motion picture films.

Mr. Shulman: Did it exist two years ago or are we changing our mind on that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Let me finish the point that destroys your whole accusation. There is no way that you can stick a 35-millimetre projector with carbon arcs and all the rest of the jazz in anybody's office in this building. The hon. member has again repeated this and he is now trying to weasel around to something else.

Mr. A. K. Meen (York East): Weasel is right.

Hon. Mr. Auld. Mr. Chairman, I think that the facts stand for themselves. The hon. member says that a film of this type was shown in this building. Again I repeat what I said two years ago: Where? To whom? When? Put up or shut up.

Mr. Shulman: All right, I am about to put up. Mr. Chairman, I am about to put up. The minister said just two days ago here, and he repeated it, and he categorically stated there was no such film at that time

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Shulman: Do you deny that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The minister said that no such film was shown in this building to a group of—

Mr. Shulman: Now, now, now on a point of order, Mr. Chairman, and we must get back to *Hansard* from two days ago—not two years ago, two days ago. I will dig it out in a moment. The minister has stated categorically—and I ask him to deny it if he will now, and I hope he will, because then we will have him on both hooks on the fence—he stated categorically that such a film did not exist two years ago. Do you deny saying that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I said that actually, and I am reminded that the hon. member said—let us get the *Hansard* and fiddle around with some more words—what I said at the time was that the film that the hon. member was mentioning, which he said had not been shown in this building, that was now being shown again, and the one which I showed to the press along with a feature and the part of another feature about three weeks ago, did not exist at that time. And it could not, because the cuts were from films that were reviewed last year.

Mr. Shulman: I am delighted with this. Is the minister now saying that there was another film prepared some two years ago with bits and pieces and you have been preparing a series of these Ontario specials?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think the hon. member just heard what I said.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I think all the hon. members are very anxious to know what the truth is now, since we seem to be getting a little bit closer to it, Mr. Minister, through you, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid it is not parliamentary, but all I can say is, "balls."

Mr. Shulman: I am very pleased because that is what the movie is about, apparently. Now let us pursue this a little further, Mr. Chairman, because the jelly seems to be sticking a little bit better at the moment. How many of these odd movies, made up of bits and pieces of the censored parts that the censors have taken out, have been prepared in the last five years by the minister's department?

An hon. member: That is a fair question.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, there have been no such movies prepared. On an occasion, at the request of the officials of The Attorney General's Department for the committee on obscenity, or whatever it was called, the board showed them a number of cuts that had been made from films at that time. This was not a movie; it was not shown; it was not sort of put away in the vault and shown to every guy who came along who wanted to see something that would perhaps titillate the hon. member for High Park.

I understand, as I explained to this House two years ago, the film that is eliminated from a feature is still the property of the owner of the picture. Any print that may not be worn out before it is finished playing in this province may well have whatever was eliminated put back in it to be submitted somewhere else. Films or prints are expensive So, if the board keeps what is eliminated, and if the owner or distributor wants it back within a reasonable time, he gets it back. Otherwise the cuts are destroyed. I assume they are burned; perhaps they go out in the garbage. I do not know. That might be an appropriate place for some of it.

The programme which was shown to members of the press two weeks ago consisted of a feature called "The Female Animal," which was shown in its entirety and it is one which has not yet been reviewed by the board, or at least no decisions have been reached on it. Then one reel of a film called "Coming Apart" was shown, and then a number of cuts from films which had been reviewed in 1969 were shown, I think, for some 15 or 20 minutes. And that was the programme. I cannot say how long that will be kept together. Actually, a number of hon. members have asked if they might see this, and I think it is quite proper that the members of this House do see in a practical way the work of the board. That is the only way to explain it.

But, as far as the gleaming or the grinning member for High Park is concerned, I simply say that we did not make a film which we were showing to a lot of people. I can only assume that, after the thing was put together for the obscenity people, it was taken apart, and those people who wanted bits of film back got them and eventually the other bits were destroyed.

Mr. Shulman: Well, it took a long time to get the truth in this House, something over two years, but we finally have it.

All right, let us pursue this a little further. Why in the world do you take these censored bits and glue them together? Do you think by gluing all these bits together and showing a minute of a lovemaking scene from one movie and half a minute from another movie that you truly get a picture of the work the censor board is doing? Do you think putting all those steamy bits together gives an honest picture of what you are doing? Do you think taking these out of context might show a little lack of sense? What is the purpose of this? Does the minister really think this shows an honest picture of the censorship board at work? Is that his opinion? I am intrigued.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: 2104 carried?

Mr. Shulman: No sirree, not a chance.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think what I had better do is invite the hon. member to go up and see for himself. That is apparently what he wants to do, and there is no—

Mr. Shulman: Well, I can understand the minister's embarrassment on this subject. He should have told the truth two years ago and he would not have been in this mess now.

All right, let us go back to "Titticut Follies." Why did you ban "Titticut Follies"?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I will read the review of this in a trade magazine called *Films in Review,* which is used by exhibitors and so on to get the rundown on films. This is from *Films in Review* of November, 1967, page 580:

> The commercial exhibition of this crudely photographed and edited footage of inmates in a Massachusetts hospital for the criminally insane is money-grubbing of the lowest sort. Allegations that this film's purpose is to "improve" conditions in the Massachusetts institution are eyewash, for it panders too blatantly to prurient, empathic curiosity. Why producer-director-editor Frederick Wiseman was allowed to photograph these hapless wards of the state is now being investigated by the Massachusetts Legislature. And it should be, for exploiting the derangements of the insane for profit is despicable. Equally despicable is the cinematically incompetent way Mr. Wiseman here exploits them.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): That is not of any significance whatsoever.

Mr. Shulman: May I ask the name of that magazine and where it is published?

Hon. Mr. Auld: *Films in Review,* 31 Union Square, New York—

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): What authority is that?

Mr. J. Renwick: No authority.

Mr. Shulman: This is very interesting, Mr. Chairman. The question asked was why the film had been banned. Is the minister answering that it was banned because this review was written or because he agrees with what is in the review?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I read the review, because somebody else's words in a sense sum up what—

Mr. J. Renwick: Who is the somebody else?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Whoever—

Mr. J. Renwick: Whoever, that is right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —reviews the films for the trade. But basically it sums up the views of the board, which also included nudity, violence and certain other aspects of the film.

Mr. Shulman: Has the minister seen the movie?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Shulman: There is no violence in it. It is true, there is a poor man seen nude in the movie, a mentally ill man, if that is the nudity, the pornography, the minister is referring to. I do not know where he dug this review up from. It rather amazes me, because I have—I do not have them here, but I will get them down—perhaps a dozen reviews from somewhat more prominent publications, including *Time, Newsweek,* the New York *Times,* which reviewed this movie, and the Cannes film festival, all of whom saw reasons to give it awards. But I am sure the film was not banned because of this review. Is the minister saying it was banned because of violence and nudity? Is that his answer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: And the fact that the board felt that certain scenes could be considered as an exploitation of human suffering and infringement of human rights.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): We went all through this in government commissions two years ago.

Mr. Shulman: And that is why we are going through it again now, because they make mistake after mistake.

Mr. Chairman, I am not quite through with the "Titticut Follies."

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): What the member would like to do is show everything uncensored.

Mr. Shulman: I want grading, but I do not want stupid censorship such as the minister is doing right now. I saw that movie; I saw it twice. And I offered to show it to your party, but your people did not show up.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): The member got the full support of his deputy leader—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That is the member's purpose in life, nothing else—the full support of his deputy leader.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! Will the member take his seat, please? We are getting to the point where we are repeating ourselves over and over again. I am sure I have heard the same statements many times in this particular debate. So, we are about to have a vote on this unless there is something new to present.

Vote 2104.

Mr. Shulman: Sir, it is quite true I made some comments on this before, but now I want some questions answered. This is why I am asking the minister.

Now, the minister has not seen the movie; he presumably has been following the advice of someone who did, although I have grave doubts about it, because what he has stated as being in it just is not so. There is absolutely no violence in that movie whatsoever; there is no one being hurt or hit; there is absolutely no violence. And the only nudity present is that of a man in his cell who is mentally ill.

This movie was produced for one purpose and one purpose only, and that is why I am talking so much about this movie. It was produced to increase the amount of money and the care that was being put into mental institutions in Massachusetts. That is why it was prepared. Unfortunately, the situation in Massachusetts is not unique; the situation in Bridgewater is not unique. We have some of those things here; we have the same neglect here. And that is why I was so very anxious that this movie be shown. I am still anxious that this movie be shown. I brought it up here for a showing once, and I offered to show it to any member of this Legislature who was interested. Unfortunately, no one outside of my own party saw fit to come; fortunately, a number of our members came. The press came, thank goodness.

Hon. Mr. Auld: How many were there?

Mr. Shulman: There were about 25 or 30 people there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: There were 30?

Mr. Shulman: No, I believe—

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): There was a big showing. About 25.

Mr. Shulman: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: There was a big showing.

Mr. Shulman: It was a small private showing, because if I had a public showing, we could not get a licence; because your minister has not had enough sense to look at it, and he is—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: He knew all about it.

Mr. Shulman: —refusing to bring this thing in. The point I am trying to make through you, sir, is—and I make it again—that this movie should be shown in Ontario for a number of reasons. Now, I am asking the minister a very simple thing. That is all I am asking him to do. And if he decides a mistake has been made, will he then allow it to be shown in Ontario? If he will do that, that will be the end of this discussion.

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin): If he will not, then he apologizes to you.

Mr. Chairman: Does the minister wish to reply?

Vote 2104?

Mr. Shulman: I have asked the minister a question. Is he not going to answer it?

Mr. Chairman: The minister has the privilege of not answering.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think the minister is required to answer. I am not going to get into another debate about this. I find that I have lots of things to occupy my time. If the member arranges a showing and I am able to make it, I might get there; if not, I will not.

Mr. Shulman: Well, obviously we are not going to bring a film up from New York if the minister "may get there." All right. We will leave that for the moment.

I would like to ask the minister about the showing of "Fantasia" for the teachers, which was not allowed because that particular print had not been censored. Does he have any explanation as to why that pornographic, erotic film was not allowed to be shown?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member I think is aware—perhaps all our hon. members are not—that The Department of Tourism and Information, through the theatres branch, licenses projectionists. A provision of that licence is that they must not project any film for public exhibition unless the certificate of the board accompanies the film. The screening to which reference was made, I believe, was on a Saturday morning. Apparently when the film was returned from the board to the film exchange with the certificate and then trans-shipped—or perhaps rereeled or something at the exchange—and trans-shipped to the theatre, the certificate did not accompany the film.

The projectionist said that there was no certificate and that he would not project the film because he might lose his licence. And technically he was correct, although I find it hard to believe that any of our staff would charge anybody with showing a Walt Disney

film without a certificate. But, technically, the projectionist said that he would not project it until he had authority from the board. I can only assume that the manager of the theatre was unable to get in touch with anybody of the board on a Saturday morning, and consequently the film was not shown.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I would like to pursue this a little further. In the conversation I had with a Mr. R. W. Watt, of your department, which I referred to the other night, when Mr. Hailey, myself and our children wished to go in and see "If It's Tuesday, This Must be Belgium", he said the theatre was contaminated because earlier that day a restricted picture had been shown. Now is that still your policy, or have you changed that policy?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, in that connection I would say that Mr. Watt has misinterpreted the regulation. I am just looking for it here, and I will read it to the hon. members. This is from section 23 of The Theatres Act, subsection 4. It is headed, "Persons Under 18 Years Attending Restricted Film Exhibitions":

> No person apparently under 18 years of age shall be permitted to purchase a ticket of admission, or be granted admission to, or permitted to remain in a theatre where a film classified as restricted entertainment is about to be or is being exhibited.

In my view, the information that our inspector gave to the manager was erroneous in that it was, as I recall, the second of two features, it was the last showing of the day and the restricted film had been shown. I think, technically, the manager should have admitted the under—

Mr. Shulman: The manager had no choice. Your man had already stopped him.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And I say, I think our man made a mistake.

Mr. Shulman: Have your inspectors been properly instructed on this particular matter?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Of course.

Mr. Shulman: All right. Let us come to the last point I would like to refer to, "A Married Couple," Allan King's picture. Unfortunately, my colleague from Scarborough West (Mr. Lewis) is not here, but he has told me the most amazing story, which he was going to bring up tonight. But he is not here to carry it through, so perhaps you will forgive me, Mr. Chairman, if I give it to your second-hand.

When Allan King ran into his serious troubles with the censorship board—which, incidentally, he has not run into elsewhere—Mr. Lewis was good enough to go to the minister and remonstrate with him, or try to reason with him, as to the number of dirty words—pardon me, four-letter words or Anglo-Saxon euphemisms—that could be allowed in this particular movie. And he told me the most incredible story—the reason I am bringing this up is because I am worried about the people you have as censors—which is in effect that the nude scene, the scene of Antoinette and Bill Edwards and their three-year-old child and their dog going into deep water without any clothes on, was played over and over again to the grand total of 11 times.

Now it is a most incredible story. Did they really? Did your censors really do that? Are they titillated by these scenes? I wonder. I worry a bit about them. Can the minister enlighten us?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, all I can say is our board all have eyes. I would assume if they play it once, they can see it. As I recall, the scene was not cut from the film.

Mr. Shulman: Of course it was not cut. They demanded it be removed and my colleague went to you, as I understand it, and said what "a damn fool thing" it was, and it finally was let in after the intervention of people all the way from Gordon Sinclair on up, or down, as you please. But what intrigues me, and what worries me, is that your censors are there presumably to use common sense, not to be titillated. I am worried about the whole way it is being run and these silly decisions that are being made. That is why I asked you. Are you aware—I am sure you are—how many times they played that scene for their own edification?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not, Mr. Chairman. I will certainly take note of the hon. member's concern about the board.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2104. The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr B. Newman: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The member for High Park makes mention that certain MPPs were at a showing of one of the films—

Mr. Shulman: Were invited.

Mr. B. Newman:—and I would like him to either name the MPPs or state those that were not there then.

An hon. member: You would not believe him if he tried.

Mr. B. Newman: Because I do not want myself included and painted by the brush.

Mr. Gisborn: We will take your word for it.

Mr. Shulman: This was prior to this Legislature, of course, and I was not an MPP. But I was invited, and I am still sorry that I did not go to see what this was all about at the time. But I did not go, and that was the MPP I was referring to.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2104 agreed to.

On vote 2105:

Hon. Mr. Simonett: The member for High Park is misleading the House again.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Twisting it again.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton): Is the member then withdrawing the allegation?

Mr. Shulman: I said civil servants and MPPs were invited, if you will go back and read *Hansard* again. God, you people are stupid.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. We have spent enough time on this.

On vote 2105:

Hon. Mr. Stewart: A little more decent than you!

Mr. Carruthers: There is only one man here.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2105.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: There is only one smart man in this House, and that is pinhead.

Mr. Shulman: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. The member for Riverdale has the floor.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, the comments I am going to make now are really comments my colleague, the member for Thunder Bay (Mr. Stokes), would have made had he been able to be here this evening, but he is unavoidably required elsewhere. As I understand the problem that is of concern to my colleague, it is this particular programme —and I quote from the estimates:

> This programme includes the provision of technical advice and assistance to government departments in the field of records management, and the operation of a records centre.

And then the annual report of the department refers to the branch being "the central operational agency," presumably of the whole government,

> —which provides skilled advice and assistance to all Ontario government departments in the fields of records management. The basic aim of the records management programme is to achieve maximum economy and efficiency in record filing, storage, retention scheduling and information retrieval.

They are all important, but I emphasize the information retrieval aspect of it.

> During 1969, the records management programme became an increasingly effective management technique in all departments and agencies as evidenced by the record number of schedules, destruction requests and archival accessions which were processed through the records management committee of the Treasury Board.

What my colleague is concerned about is the number of areas within the various government departments where there is now some form of central information collection operation being carried on. I refer, for example, to the fact that the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) has an information collecting centre.

Information collecting centres involve retrieval of information, and as for the educational computers—and this is part of what I want to ask the minister—the whole question of the use of computers within the government and the extent they are involved in this record management and information retrieval programme. The Minister of Education has said on one occasion, of course, that only authorized personnel have access to it. Then, in The Department of Municipal Affairs, there is this task force which is going out to deal with the whole question of assessment. And I think it was the member from Peel South (Mr. Kennedy) who raised in this House the question of there being, within the information requested in assessment matters, areas which could be considered invasions of privacy. Then, as I understand it, the Municipal Affairs department is engaged in putting together the background work and the essential manuals and techniques which will be required for the purpose of the provincial census of the province, which I believe is to be completed in 1972 or thereabouts.

We also find that The Department of The Treasury and Economics has an Ontario Statistical Centre, which is engaged in the efficient collection, storage, and production of statistical information as required by the central research units for economic analysis and

policy planning in The Department of The Treasury and Economics. The centre advises on matters concerning administration of The Ontario Statistics Act, and so on and so forth. Such activities include the development of a central information system, including a data bank facility designed to facilitate the integration of selected economic, financial and administrative data useful for research and decision-making purposes. Common information stored in the central information system will be made available to government departments and industry in a form and to the extent permitted by statutory and administrative rules of confidentiality and disclosure.

So, we see that within the operation of the departments of this government there are any number of areas where information that comes in from all sources throughout the province for all kinds of purposes are being, in one way or another, collated, stored and made available by information retrieval systems for collating information. Much of it is confidential; much of it relates to individual citizens in the province or individual organizations within the province. And here we have this department which appears to operate something called a central operation agency, and it went on in one particular place to refer, in fact, to this operation as being the central agency for the whole of the government.

Now, I draw the attention of the minister to the report of the Ontario Law Reform Commission, and I point out to the minister that this is one of the studies initiated by the law reform commission on its own initiative, related to this whole question of the protection of privacy in Ontario, and which was published a year or so ago. That report refers to The Statistics Act of the province, which again relates to The Department of The Treasury and Economics, but is involved in this information retrieval, central data accumulation centre operation of the government. This statute is of interest for several reasons:

> First, it compels individual disclosure of information to the government that might otherwise be considered private. This information may be collected and published by the ministers of every provincial department of government, acting either separately, jointly or jointly with any federal department of government, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council of joint collection arrangements and all questionnaires. Information collected may be of—

And I emphasize—

> economic, financial, industrial, commercial, social or general welfare.

And there are various other aspects of that report. The quotation I have just read was from page 58 of the original mimeograph report as published by the law reform commission.

Well, what that all adds up to is that all the information which comes into government from all sources—whether from statistical information, from these assessment surveys, from any number of areas—is now, because of modern techniques, being stored and recorded. That which is useless is, I understand destroyed and that which is useful—because of the tremendous accumulation of information which the government does have—is indexed, filed, recorded, stored, whatever you want to call it, and use is being made of computers within the government. This department appears to have taken on the job of being the main area where these records officers, who have been trained either by in-House sessions or by special courses offered by The Department of the Civil Service, are working throughout all the government departments to provide the methods by which this information can all be funnelled into some central operation.

I do not purport to know all the ins and outs of how computers operate and how this information is stored, and what its purposes are, but I take it that this Department of Tourism and Information is in fact going to be, if not the only one, at least one of the principal operations of government by which all the information of all the departments can be funnelled into some central operation. Systems can be developed which will facilitate the funnelling of that information into a central operational agency.

Yet I know of nothing within the government, or within this particular department, which provides any protection for the individual citizen. In other words, so far as The Statistics Act is concerned, so far as The Department of Treasury and Economics for questionnaires which go out, requiring the persons who collect the information to have immediate access to it within, say, that particular branch of that particular department, to take certain oaths and develop certain other techniques for securing the privacy of that information.

But here we have funnelled, presumably from that department, through to some kind of a central agency, the same kind of information where the security protections and the privacy protections become totally diluted.

Therefore, over a period of time, information can be used and indeed misused, or abused, by any number of people within the government. It can be used for purposes which are inimical to the interests of the citizens or the organizations to which they relate.

I recognize that there is a general oath that an individual civil servant takes about the internal matters of the government and the privacy of those matters. That is traditional. It is not that kind of oath—if, in fact, information can be collected through these modern, sophisticated devices to collate all the information about a particular organization, a particular individual or a particular range of activities in such a way that they could possibly be used against the interests of individuals or organizations.

I hope I have made my concern clear. I think, basically, it is that there appears to be a multiplicity of data collecting procedures which are being adopted by the government in various departments. There now appears to be a systematized method, under this minister, for collating the information from all the departments and organizations of government. There does not appear to be any adequate general provision for protecting the security of people and protecting the individual rights of citizens against misuse or abuse of the information which is so retrieved, or any guidelines for the correct use of information.

It seems to me that these techniques begin to have a hypnosis of their own. People get involved in and are fascinated by the ability to retrieve information and collate and collect it, whereas in years gone by it may well have just been in various files scattered among various government departments and if you could find the file you could find some of the information. Certainly it was not the kind of project that any individual could embark upon with any sense of getting a complete picture.

But with these facilities and with the statement in the minister's report, and with a very real concern—about which I have heard nothing further from the government—expressed by the law reform commission on the question of invasion of privacy, I would like the minister to try to throw some light upon his role, how he sees the roles of his fellow ministers under the various information retrieval operations and recording operations in which they are engaged, and how he sees a way in which the individual citizen or organization or institution within the province can be protected both in a space sense and in a time sense, over a period of years, against an unnecessary intrusion on his position.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I am really quite interested in the comments of the hon. member on behalf of the hon. member for Thunder Bay. Perhaps what I should do first, very briefly I trust, is just refresh our memories as to this part of the operation. This is not an archival function as such. The reason that it is in my department, or at least in the public records and archives as part of my responsibility, is because eventually those records of enduring value which are required for our specific purposes are going to wind up in the archives. We felt, I think properly, that the records management section, being a step between active use in a department of its own records and their subsequent destruction for inclusion in the archives, is a logical function of the department.

The responsibility for records at our record centre, which is what is covered in this vote, is still that of the department; it was a service provided. For instance, if department A had records at Cooksville and department B, for some reason, wanted to get them, department B would have to go through department A to get them. It is not like a library where anybody can walk in. It is really a specific process for what we call less active or dormant files in much lower cost space than prevails in the buildings in Queen's Park and the other buildings the government occupies.

To my knowledge there is no effective way of storing the kind of information that is involved in these records on paper in a computer. Whether that will come about some day, I must admit, I am not competent to say. But as far as the privacy of the material contained in the documents which are stored in this programme and in this operation, they are in exactly the same position as they would be in the department itself under the direct control of the minister and the staff of the department.

I would agree with the hon. member, and I think he asked his question as to what philosophy would prevail if, in fact, it was possible to put all government information—say civil service application form information, all the departmental records, financial details, and so on—on tape, or on cards or in some kind of an electronic device. I think the whole question of privacy and so on is extremely important and I think that as we get into these sophisticated things we are going

to have to be very careful not to make available to anybody, in effect, private information. I think I can assure him that as far as our operation is concerned it is really an extension, at a lower cost, of the operations of the various departments we serve, and the material which is in the record centre at Cooksville is only available to the department to which it belongs.

I could just give the hon. member a small rundown. As long as records are operational they are entirely the responsibility of the department concerned. Storage security arrangements, persons to whom they would be shown, and so on has nothing to do with the archives. We do give advice with regard to scheduling, filing, information retrieval, forms control, microfilming, and so on. We also provide a low-cost housing and security records centre for their less active records, while at the centre the records are still under the department's full jurisdiction.

As far as their final disposal is concerned, The Financial Administration Act has certain requirements about the length of time which these documents must be kept. The Archives Act, of course, gives the archivist the final say. No record can be destroyed until the archivist approves this destruction, and we also have the records management committee, which has tried to set, or is in the process of setting, and has set, a number of yardsticks or standards for certain types of records which are not included under The Financial Administration Act.

Mr. Chairman, I wonder if that answers the concern that the hon. member mentioned.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, again, my colleague, the member for Thunder Bay, because this problem arises in a number of departments, will have an opportunity, I am sure, to follow it along. What I take it to say, and it perhaps goes some way to confirm my concern about it, is that what one can really say is that, to use an analogy, it is like a manufacturing operation starting from raw material and coming out with some kind of a finished product. Throughout all the government departments, traditionally, people have filed and they store material, and like all human beings they tend to collect more stuff than they need. It just expands and expands.

If we call that raw material—the process to which I refer—then I say get your records analysts and these officers that are assisting in this process—that are providing the techniques and methods by which you sort out that raw material—and bring it to something which you might call a semimanufactured state.

In other words, you try to provide for what can be destroyed as being superfluous to it and the other parts which should be kept, and where it is going to be stored, and so on, and so forth, and you indicate to me that then it is only available and I can understand the need for that. I can understand the need for storage. I can understand the need for systems of maintaining what is considered to be essential and what has to be maintained and what has to be destroyed. I can also understand when the minister says, "Well, yes, but it can only be available to the particular department which has funnelled it into this particular storage area".

But there you have got that semi-manufactured material all available in a much more orderly form, so that an individual department—through the use of data processing I assume, through the use of computers or other systems—can make an even more sophisticated use of it.

You can almost envisage the time and theory where you take an individual citizen who, in the course of his lifetime has had various things happen to him—and I certainly know that the member for Scarborough East (Mr. T. Reid) has indicated his concern about this problem.

You can have information which is, for example, to a very high degree protected, in terms of the registrar of births, to when a person is born, and so on. Then you can have the educational information and data on an individual person; you can have a great deal of his employment information, his financial information, through the tax returns which he has to file and through the assessment questionnaires which are going to go out, through the regular census which takes place, and if he falls on relatively difficult times, through, say, The Department of Social and Family Services, his whole story—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Driver's licence.

Mr. J. Renwick: —his driver's licence, his criminal record, all of it. So you could envisage the time, without drawing a horrendous picture, when in fact it would be possible to produce an almost complete dossier on any individual made up of some accurate, some semi-accurate, some useful, some useless information.

What I am saying, perhaps, to this minister, because he is at that secondary level of the processes by which it is going on, I am really saying to him will he interest himself in this kind of a question of what the protection of the privacy of the individual is going to be? Having regard to the function

which he performs, there will be an ongoing system of invasion of privacy if the government itself does not take a very affirmative stand to do something about an overall protection of the confidentiality of this mass of information which is in the hands of the government.

Mr. Shulman: A point of order, sir.

Mr. Chairman: Point of order. State your point of order.

Mr. Shulman: The point of order is that the minister has deliberately misled the House.

I now have here the draft *Hansard* of two nights ago that we referred to. On page 782-5, I was referring to the movie which you heard so much about tonight and I refer to the "super sexual picture prepared for God knows what reason, which he denied ever existed two years ago. Well, he cannot deny it now." And the hon. minister replied, "Because it did not."

Then I refer you again to page 783-2 where the hon. minister says:

> Mr. Chairman, I said two years ago, and I say again tonight, it did not exist. If the hon. member wants to prove it, it is his challenge, let him. I am not defending something that does not exist.

Sir, that was his position two nights ago. Today I came up with a witness to prove that it did exist and tonight he has changed his story and said, "Well, there was such a film."

This is a very serious matter, sir, and I ask you to report to the Speaker for proper action to be taken. We cannot allow ministers to come in here and lie until they are caught in the act.

Mr. Chairman: The Chairman will take this under advisement and report to the Speaker.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, the fact that the minister's department here is assembling all this information certainly does present an extremely frightening picture, to say the least, of what could eventually happen, were all of the information to be made available to individuals and organizations that we would not like to see receive that information. This sort of brings me to the point where The Department of Transport comes along and makes it available to insurance companies, to auto agencies and to Polk and Company. I think they give it only to Polk and then Polk distributes after that the information concerning those who do have drivers' licences from the department. I shudder at the thought of what could happen in this department if the minister does not at this time have some type of policy as to what is going to take place once the information is compiled.

I will leave it at that. I will ask of the minister, concerning the distribution of news releases to radio and television, are the news media provided with tapes and cassettes and are the television studios likewise provided with videotapes? Are these provided free of charge, or are these simply provided to the news media and then returned for a second use?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could give the hon. member a brief rundown of the activities of the broadcast news operation here in the main building. The record shows that for the combined years of 1968 and 1969 the facilities were used by government departments, press gallery, members of the government, members of the opposition, for a total of 2,163 times; the various departments, 780 times; television network and independent stations such as CBC, CTV, CFTO and out-of-town stations from Windsor, London, Kitchener, Wingham and Sudbury, 650 times; CBC radio and private stations, 70 times; and government members' reports and spot news items to their local stations, 400 times.

I assume that this is the part to which the hon. member refers, and the policy is that the operation supplies the facilities at no charge. A station telephones in, either by prior arrangement where it is a member's report, or it telephones in and pays for the toll charge, or receives a tape which it plays and returns, at no charge to the station.

Mr. B. Newman: But the tapes are returned?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The tapes are returned.

Mr. B. Newman: And videotapes too?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do not do any videotapes. We do not have any videotape equipment. This would all be done on film. The facilities are available there as the newspaper press facilities are. They are supplied by the government through The Department of Public Works. No charge is made for the use of the studio to a radio or television station.

Mr. B. Newman: Do James Lovick Ltd. have anything to do with this vote at all, because in checking the public accounts I notice that they receive a sum of $1,272,713.27 for one item?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That has nothing to do with this vote, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. B. Newman: Nothing at all?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is in the advertising vote which we have covered.

Vote 2105 agreed to.

On vote 2106:

Mr. Shulman: I see in this morning's *Globe and Mail* that apparently there were a number of pictures taken by safety inspectors for The Department of Public Works showing unsafe conditions in the science centre. I wonder if the minister can inform us if all those conditions they were portraying which were described so well in the *Globe* have been cleared up?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member some time ago raised this subject in the House, I believe—I think this was November last year. Mr. Chairman, I assume that the member for High Park is referring to the *Globe and Mail* on page 3, headed: "Shulman Produces Pictures to Back Claim of Fire Hazards in Public Buildings."

I have not seen the pictures referred to by the member for High Park, but I can assure him that every recommendation from a responsible authority which concerns the safety of either the public visiting the science centre, or the staff employed there, has been implemented.

As the hon. member will recall from the comments I made last year in connection with a fire door that allegedly opened on to a precipice, I believe that some of the items in the report of the inspector of The Department of Public Works were made during the time of construction, or previous to the opening to the public. I think that I said at that time that the inspecions had been made by the Ontario fire marshal, by the fire chief for North York, by the electrical inspectors, The Department of Labour inspectors, and that there were no hazards that had been reported to us. Anything which had been a hazard had been resolved.

All the fire doors now open on to flat patios or pathways that have suitable rails and steps to provide easy and safe departure from the building. All recommendations concerning the storage of paints, solvents, and volatile materials have been implemented and the staff has been instructed by competent authorities concerning the handling of these materials.

Discipline in this respect has been rigidly enforced. The complex is regularly inspected by the safety branch of The Department of Public Works and by the North York authorities, and any recommendations arising from these inspections have been implemented.

We are all very conscious of our responsibilities to the public who have visited the science centre in the hundreds of thousands since its opening six months ago. For this reason, the staff has always been instructed to implement immediately any recommendation concerning conditions that could constitute a hazard to either the public or the staff. Instructions to the staff with respect to maintenance or alterations which may affect the safety system are that the area concerned is kept under supervision and the public excluded therefrom. Where there is any interference with the safety system by visitors to the centre, there are standing instructions that this is to be reported forthwith to the officer in charge by any member of the staff. In addition, there is continuous supervision of the public galleries, with emphasis on the conduct of visitors, particularly with respect to interference with the safety measures in the various buildings that are open to the public.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I am very pleased with this—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Chairman, if I might just speak on this. It was reported in *The Globe and Mail* that these pictures came from our files in The Department of Public Works. This I doubt very much; in fact, there are no such pictures in The Department of Public Works. My people this morning checked.

Mr. Gisborn: What has this to do with these estimates?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Well, who started this? I want to just clear up a point here.

Mr. Gisborn: That minister, under his estimates.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: I want to clear up a point here. I checked with our people this morning, and we checked with the news media. We checked the pictures; there are no such pictures in our files. And I think that the hon. member who has raised this question and went to the press—

Mr. Gisborn: What did you do with them?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: —should tell this House and The Department of Public Works where he got his information and the pictures.

Mr. Shulman: Am I allowed to answer? It is not the estimates—I would be pleased to answer.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Well, I wish you would.

Mr. Shulman: If it is applicable, I would be pleased to explain to the minister where I got his pictures.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, the member for High Park has the floor.

Mr. Shulman: Oh, fine. Well, I will come back to the Minister of Tourism by and by. But, to the Minister of Public Works, I understand that your deputy is in Japan at the present time. When he comes back in two weeks, he will be able to tell you where the pictures are now. I could well understand why the minister does not know what is in his department, because—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I resent that very much. My deputy minister is in Japan; I will admit that. He is trying to insinuate that he knows where these pictures are, which is wrong—

Mr. Gisborn: Your cabinet is collapsing. You do not know what you are talking about.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Those pictures were never in our files. We can prove that. Now I want you to tell this House and the people in the province of Ontario where you got the pictures.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I would be glad to. If you want the name of the person who brought them, obviously I am not going to give you that.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: I know that, because you will not tell the truth.

Mr. Gisborn: Of course you do.

Mr. Shulman: Those pictures were taken inside three buildings by one of your inspectors, by one or more of your inspectors—perhaps two of your inspectors. They were filed in your department, and your deputy knows exactly where they were filed. He is at the New Otani Hotel, if you want to contact him over there, and if you will ask him—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Chairman, again on a point of order. I want to clear up this. My deputy did not know where they were filed, the pictures we saw in the *Globe and Mail* this morning were never filed in our department. I want to clear up that point once and for all.

Mr. Shulman: There were no pictures in the *Globe and Mail* this morning.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: You have told too many lies in this House. You are known to do that, to mislead the public and everyone else. Those pictures that you gave to the *Globe and Mail* were never in our files.

Mr. Gisborn: They were never in the paper either.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Chairman, I am a little puzzled. The minister says he saw the pictures in the *Globe and Mail*. The pictures were not in the *Globe and Mail* this morning; there was an article about the pictures.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: But they were in our office—that was the way you left it; there was that implication.

Mr. Shulman: I would be only too happy to send a copy of the pictures to the Minister. They were brought to me last Friday, if the minister cares, by one of his employees.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: By whom? Tell us.

Mr. Shulman: Ha, ha. You would really love to know. Why do you not go out and fire some more men in there?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: Of course, I am not going to tell you. You would have to fire your whole department. They are not going to have any respect for you, you are doing such a bad job. These pictures were brought to me by one of your employees—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Not any employee—

Mr. Shulman: Those pictures were copied by Charles Able & Company and the pictures were returned to the employee.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Is he employed in the Public Works department now?

Mr. Shulman: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: He is, eh?

Mr. Shulman: Yes. And I did not say it was a he. I said your employee.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Were they coloured or not.

Mr. Shulman: Is he coloured? You are asking if he is coloured?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: I would like to ask him, Mr. Chairman, were they coloured pictures?

Mr. Shulman: Are you asking me if he is coloured? Is that the question?

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Are you going to call for a lie detector test?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Well, we have got to give somebody in this House a lie detector test, because he has been misleading the House since he came here. We know that. We have proved him wrong so many times.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Chairman, I am not going into whether he is coloured or not.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2106.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: The pictures were returned to the employee. The employee has assured me he has returned them to the files and I am sure, when the deputy returns from Japan, he will be able to advise the minister as to where his files are.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Do not blacken my deputy because he is not here.

Mr. Pitman: He is never here.

Mr. Shulman: Now, to come back to the Minister of Tourism, if I am to get back to the estimates. If we may—

An hon. member: He does not sit in this House.

Mr. Shulman: The only thing I am worried about—thank you, Mr. Minister, for assuring us that everything is fine and safe at the science centre. The only thing that disturbs me is that last November—if you will recall, Mr. Chairman—when we had this discussion about the safety factors at the science centre, the minister assured us that everything had been fixed up then. And following that day, when he gave us his assurance, I went to the science centre, was given a tour of the centre by the director or the deputy director—I am not sure what his title was.

At that time I pointed out to him two or three or four—I do not not recall the exact number—of the fire exit doors which opened onto the precipice; it had not been cleared up at that time. I am glad the minister has assured me that it has been cleared up now. I will go back and take a look and see if he is more accurate now than he was then.

I would like to ask you one more question. The combustible materials that were on the walls—have they been sprayed in some way to make them non-combustible?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: You had better look at your own office and see what is on the walls before you—

Hon. Mr. Auld: If we had any specific details, I might be able to get an answer for him.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Pitman: You are putting me on.

Mr. Lewis: Will you tell the Whip to—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps you do, but one of your colleagues never listens.

Mr. Shulman: I am listening. I am trying to hear, but—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I was interested in the discussions of a moment ago about the privacy of documents. It is rather an interesting contrast to what has been discussed. However, back to this vote.

Mr. J. Renwick: Entirely different.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The hon. member will give me details of a specific problem he believes exists, I will be glad to find out, but I would just say to the members of this committee that I have confidence in the people who inspect the premises—the fire people, the electrical people, the labour people—and it is possible, but I would be surprised if they have overlooked anything.

Mr. Shulman: Will the minister find out and let me know?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If the hon. member will tell me specifically, in what room and what material—

Mr. Shulman: I understood that a number of the walls in the areas where the public go have been carpeted wtih materials which were combustible and I understand further that it is possible—

Hon. Mr. Auld. No.

Mr. Shulman: —to spray these materials in a way to make them non-combustible. I ask if that has been done, and if it has not been done will you have it done?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The centre is some 460,000 square feet and virtually all of it is open to the public.

Mr. Shulman: Yes, I am asking if the material on the walls has been sprayed to make them non-combustible?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Which walls?

Mr. Shulman: All of the walls.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What about your walls?

Mr. Shulman: In other words, the question is, is there still combustible material on the walls?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Does the hon. member consider that concrete is combustible?

Mr. Shulman: No, of course not.

Hon. Mr Auld: Well, most of the walls are concrete.

Mr. Shulman: I am not talking about ones that are concrete, Mr. Chairman. For heaven's sake use a little common sense.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is like nailing damned jelly to the walls. Tell me the walls.

Mr. Shulman: All the walls that have had the concrete covered over with a combustible material. Since he received the complaint six months ago that they were combustible, has the minister done anything about it? It is a simple question; can he not understand it?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Have they burned yet?

Mr. Pitman: Nobody put a match to it yet.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Who said that they were combustible?

Mr. Shulman: The Department of Public Works.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Who in The Department of Public Works?

Mr. Shulman: The safety inspector.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Yes, who there?

Mr. Shulman: I will send you the report.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Yes, who from? Tell us.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would prefer, Mr. Chairman, to accept the advice and the approval of the fire authorities—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): What do you mean by that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed by members of my staff that Public Works have never told us that there were any combustible materials on the walls.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. We cannot hear the minister.

On vote 2106:

Mr. Shulman: Have I still the floor, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: If you have not completed that line of questioning, you have it, yes.

Mr. Shulman: To the minister, through you, Mr. Chairman, I believe there is a special programme at the science centre whereby certain schools are invited to send groups of students, and they are allowed in free, is this correct?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not correct, Mr. Chairman. The policy of the centre is that the centre will admit free groups of students who apply to their school and come at a time specified by the centre between the hours of 10 and 6. I think we can handle a maximum of about 2,000 students in groups.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Chairman, what I really wanted to ask the minister is, in these groups that have been coming in, have you had any occasion to ban any particular schools?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, Mr. Chairman, there have been schools which have asked to come on a specified day and we have not been able to accommodate them because we have limited capacity, as I have said, but no school has been banned. Now, again, I find one has to be so careful with the meaning of words with this member. As I understand "ban," that means a school could not come; there is no ban.

Mr. Shulman: I do not want to haggle with words with the minister. Has there been a banning of certain classes? Is the minister suggesting that schools, as such, have not been banned but perhaps certain grades have been banned? Have you had a problem?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am sorry, I did not hear the last part of the hon. member's question.

Mr. Shulman: Well, then, perhaps I had better explain to the minister. Several teachers came to me from one of the schools in this city, and they said they had taken a group of students to see the centre. They said the students did not behave according to standards that the centre's officials felt were

proper, although the teachers thought they had behaved reasonably for children of that age, considering the boring course that was given to them. But subsequent to their visit they were told that they would not be allowed to bring students back in this programme from that school.

I contacted an official at the centre, who told me it was not a permanent ban, it was just until next September, as he put it. I presume as a result of my intervention it was changed from next September until the next day and the school was given a second chance. What I am asking the minister is, how many schools have run into this difficulty?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I wonder if the hon. member would tell me to what school he is referring?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: And what teachers?

Mr. Shulman: I did not wish to mention the name of the school here as I did not wish to cause the school trouble. The minister has the director in front of him; he is supposed to be able to lean forward and he will whisper in your ear, or if you want, I will send the name across to you.

Mr. Lewis: He has already written the name on a piece of paper.

Mr. Shulman: I will send it across to you and you can know it without my mentioning it here, for obvious reasons. I should hope it will be obvious.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: There were several now, the teachers' names as well.

Mr. Shulman: And the names of the teachers, I will give you also, gladly.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I really—

Mr. Shulman: What I am asking is how many schools ran into this difficulty? Is that a difficult question? Goodness, you are a bad minister.

Mr. Chairman: Does the minister have anything further to add?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I open this with bated breath. I feel like being—

Mr. Pitman: The academy awards.

Hon. Mr. Auld: On the awards show last night.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): And the winner is.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What school was it? How many teachers?

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is a very secret operation; I just ask my colleagues to bear with me. I am informed that the school to which the hon. member alludes has since had some 500 students visit the centre.

Mr. Shulman: How many schools have had this difficulty? Is that a difficult question?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed, none.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 2106.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): What is the proposed income for the science centre for a year? Do you have a proposed income as a budget, in other words?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I can give the hon. member an estimate, but actually the estimate was made prior to the opening and I am happy to tell them and to tell the Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) that the estimate looks as if it is somewhat too low. The estimated revenue for the fiscal year which has just passed is $456,700. Of course the centre was only open from September 24. It is very difficult to give an accurate estimate. For instance, I think it will probably be, in the current fiscal year, something in the neighbourhood of at least $1.5 million to perhaps $2 million, but a lot will depend on what kind of attendance we have in the summer time and we have no experience of that.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, Mr. Chairman, may I ask of the minister what the hours of operation are?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Monday to Friday they are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday evening until 10; Saturday, 10 a.m. until 6 p.m., and Sunday, 10 am. until 6 p.m. We are considering at the moment the possibility of opening a couple of other evenings a week, particularly as we get into the spring weather.

Mr. B. Newman: I was going to make the suggestion, Mr. Chairman, that the facilities be open as often and as long as possible, provided there are sufficient people who would come down there to view the exhibits. I do not think we can put up an institution or

a centre like this and put it in the same category that we have put gymnasiums and school facilities where we operate them solely from nine in the morning or eight in the morning until 4.30, five or six. I think if the public are going to coming down and view the exhibits, the hours should be very flexible, provided a certain amount of revenue can be obtained where, at least, we are not expending too much funds and losing more than we should be, possibly, on the operation of the facility.

I would like to make a few suggestions to the minister, and one is that the centre be publicized a little more widely than they have to the schools across the province of Ontario. Coming as I do from 250 miles away from the city of Toronto, I know that our students have attended the Legislature in ever increasing numbers and they would likewise attend the facilities at the Ontario Science Centre if there were some type of transportation available from Union Station to the centre, or if there were some other method of getting the students to the centre.

I know some of our students do come by bus and, as a result, there is no problem but the thousands who do come by train find that this is a handicap. It takes them approximately two hours to get to the centre and back to the station. When they are only in town from 12 o'clock noon up until approximately 7.40 in the evening—a seven-hour stay—they actually cannot afford to take the two hours off travelling when they could be seeing something that is extremely worthwhile such as we have at the centre.

You could provide some type of transportation. Maybe it would have to be chartered by you people or rented by you people or you would have your own type of transportation system to accommodate the hundreds and I would say, yes, thousands who would be coming in by GO Transit or coming in by rail.

Is the minister or the centre considering the feasibility and the advisability of providing some type of transportation for out-of-town people who come in by rail?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not at the present time, Mr. Chairman. Of course there is the matter of cost, but the question of providing transportation from, say, the station to the centre is really part and parcel of providing transportation from wherever it is to Union Station. Arrangements can be made with the TTC for chartered buses and so on, and all I can say in direct answer is that there is no plan at the moment to provide transportation.

Mr. B. Newman: May I suggest to the minister that he take into serious consideration—seriously take into consideration—the suggestion I made, because I know you can make arrangements with the Toronto Transit Commission but the school that makes arrangements to visit the centre has to make too many other types of arrangements that it complicates the whole procedure for them. Whereas, if they made only the arrangement with the centre and the centre carried on everything else after that, I think you would get a lot more students from other parts of Ontario who would come to the centre. Mr. Chairman, we cannot afford not to have these students visit this centre. This is something most unique. It compares most favourably with the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago and likewise with the Smithsonian in Washington, even though it may be a slightly different type of centre.

Mr. Lewis: Remember what the Liberal Party said?

Mr. B. Newman: —and we have to come along and make the centre available to as many out-of-town students as we possibly can by making it as easy as possible for them to get to the centre. I would like, at this time, to ask the minister the reason for the 25 per cent increase in the maintenance costs for the centre this year over last year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Primarily, Mr. Chairman, it is because we will be operating for a full year rather than just a portion of the year. We had maintenance, of course, when we moved into the building partially and then maintenance costs starting September 24 when we were open to the public 60 hours a week.

Mr. B. Newman: In spite of that, Mr. Minister, your vote for the operation of the centre this year is $3.4 million, as opposed to $3.6 million last year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I did not hear the question.

Mr. B. Newman: The vote for the operation of the centre this year is $3.4 million as opposed to $3.6 million last year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The other point, Mr. Chairman, I should have explained a moment ago, is that comparing the estimates from last year there was $1 million in exhibits. Now this $1 million has been transferred to the maintenance item.

Mr. B. Newman: I ask the minister, how many full-time employees there are at the centre?

Hon. Mr. Auld: 183.

Mr. B. Newman: 128?

Hon. Mr. Auld: 183.

Mr. B. Newman: 183. Are they members of the civil service association?

Hon. Mr. Auld: They are either group 1 or group 2 civil servants. There are some contract employees; does the hon. member want the breakdown?

Mr. B. Newman: No, no.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Peterborough.

Mr. Pitman: If I could just say a few words on this estimate, I am saying this especially in view of the fact that the former Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs is in the House, who has, I think, a particular interest and responsibility in this science centre.

I think we must consider the fact that the science centre is going to be far more than a building here in Toronto housing a great many exhibits. It is going to have a very profound effect on the teaching of science right across this province.

That is the particular theme that I am concerned about. I am wondering what plans the department has for an on-going development of the various kinds of exhibits—the widening of the spectrum. Already, I think, there has been over the last number of months a kind of euphoria about the science centre. It is a magnificent structure.

I think we are all extremely interested and excited by it, but I was just looking through the newspaper the other night. I think perhaps the minister saw this. I am sure the former Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs noted the statements that were made and the criticisms that were expressed by Harley Parker, a man of some eminence. His views should be taken cognizance of, because I think he is expressing a point of view that bears some concern. There is some comment here, that in a sense it is science in the raw which is being expressed and articulated through the various exhibits. Perhaps this is what we need more of—the relationship of science to human beings and how we cope scientifically with the kinds of problems that we have.

I was hoping that, perhaps, the minister might be able to say a few words about the future plans of the science centre—what kinds of programmes you have in mind, what kind of extensions, how you change. I have been to the science centre a couple of times. I have had my kids there, and it is tremendously exciting.

You know, I do not need to pass on any bouquets tonight. You have received altogether enough from the rest of the province. What I wonder is how you take the next step. That is, how do those kids come back to that science centre next year and not feel that they are seeing what essentially they have already seen, at least in some way or another? In other words, how do you make this a continuing exhibit, an on-going operation?

The other point that I wanted to bring up —and I think this is very closely related to that theme—is how are you planning to increase the input of teachers, administrators, educationalists, and, indeed, the general public, because I think this is a major problem? I am sure that the minister who is responsible and the former minister, whose chief concern this centre is, at the present moment, realize that it is only with this kind of continuous input of all these various sources that you will be able to keep the science centre relevant.

I am sure you have some plans for increasing this kind of input and it is really those two problems that I would like to discuss with the minister tonight.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, in connection with the hardware, if I can put it that way, in the centre. As I have said before, we expect to be constantly changing some things because we want to be current and we want to have what look we can at the future. I am speaking very generally.

As far as specific areas are concerned, here again, this will relate to change. For instance, one of the things that has been discussed by the board of trustees and by the advisory committees that work with our very competent staff, is that there is something more needed on environment, because of the growing interest and a need for people to understand what we are doing to our environment —how we are changing it, and how it is changing us, this kind of thing.

We budget for funds for exhibits for the hardware, the mechanical things, the graphic things and so on, and through discussions and interplay between our own staff and the scientific and educational and advisory people

who work with us, who are still functioning, even though the centre has opened, we anticipate that we will continue to change and to update.

If understand the hon. member correctly, as to the question of arranging to have more organized groups of students, classes and so on, our basic problem at the moment is the matter of our own academic staff. We have had, as I mentioned before, to restrict the number of students in classes per day to roughly 2,000, because this is about all we can handle. We think we can handle more when we get more of our own staff. We have the physical space, although it may take a little juggling in terms of hours and things. But, here again, it is a matter of so many things in our budget, to a degree. I am just reminded that we are asking for five additional teachers for our own staff for the next academic year, so that this will mean an addition.

Mr. Pitman: I think perhaps I meant more in terms of input, the intellectual input of ideas from the whole spectrum of, you might say, the outside world. I think you do have a structure for making it possible for teachers to provide suggestions and for the community to supply suggestions. I would like some explanation of what the structure is. For example, how do you get new ideas into the works in that kind of a structure? Who do you go to? What committees are there? When do they meet or how often do they meet? What relationship do they have with each other and to the permanent staff? That is the kind of structure I am concerned about.

Let me give you an example of a suggestion that came to me at one point. I do not know how you get into this, and I do not want to wait for the estimates of the minister to come up every year to throw suggestions across the aisle, but I think there should be a continuing input of suggestions. For example, one of the things the Royal Ontario Museum does with a considerable amount of success, I think, is it sends exhibits out into the province. I am quite aware of the fact that some of the exhibits at the science centre are so massive that it would be absolutely impossible to try to do this. But certainly some of these exhibits, I think, could be very easily put into a very large van—the kind of Centennial vans we have seen before—and could be sent around the province from school to school. Not in a way of putting off young people from coming to it, but indeed to encourage it and to provide, you might say, an on-going activity out of the province, particularly some of the more remote parts of the province. That is a suggestion which perhaps has already been thought of, but the essential concern is about the structure for intellectual input in the science centre and how it works.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, as I mentioned, Mr. Chairman, this is done through the various committees that we have. Some of them meet quite frequently; some perhaps once or twice a year—

Mr. Pitman: What committees do you have?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid I do not have a list in front of me at the moment.

Mr. Pitman: Would the minister, or perhaps the former minister, send me over some idea as to what function of the board and—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would be delighted to, but of course the board itself is a policy-making operation. The scientific advisory committee is the one continuing group. Dr. Swinton, Dr. Porter—Arthur Porter—and Harry Thode, and Dr. Llewellyn Thomas are the scientific advisers to the board and to the minister in terms of the validity and the accuracy of what is done. We have had literally hundreds of committees that have dealt with various aspects of the various disciplines which are involved in the several main divisions of the exhibit age. This is continuing, and we have continuing contact with educators. Professional development days are held there by teachers and so on, and there really is a formal input, to use this term, and an informal input. And I think the informal input may be the most important, because it is sort of screened and filtered through before it goes into the formal end. But I will be delighted to give the hon. member a breakdown and to invite him to come up one of these days and sit down with both our educational and our scientific people just to see how in fact it works. Sometimes this is a lot more meaningful than a report or chart with lines.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Niagara Falls.

Mr. Pitman: If I might, just in a word or two, say that I would appreciate that opportunity. I have been to the centre and I have spoken to those heads for other purposes, but I have not had a chance to do what you suggested.

Is there any thought at all in the sense of extending the centre, as I suggested, in sending out exhibits?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, Mr. Chairman. As a matter of fact, when we first announced the concept and the fact that this was going to be the province's Centennial project, I recall saying I hoped that once we were functioning there would be an opportunity to take at least some of the things around the province. We considered—and I am not sure whether we ever discussed this in the House before—putting in a railway siding to the centre so that we might have a train to do this. But the costs and so on were prohibitive at that stage, and there were some other problems as well.

There are a whole host of things that we may be able to do, but our policy at the moment is primarily to get one year's operation under our belt to see where the peaks and valleys of our workload are going to be to make everything childproof. Some of the children are still baffling our engineers, although our downtime is really pretty good —something in the order of two per cent. Our policy is to work out the inevitable problems that come up once you get in the operating stage, and then take a look. Once we have the headquarters running well, we can see what we can do to expand our operation around the province in the way the hon. member has mentioned.

Mr. Shulman: Only two per cent out of order now?

Mr. Chairman: The member for Niagara Falls.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Chairman, I am sorry that the member for Essex South (Mr. Paterson) is not here tonight. He was telling me just the other day about an experience that he had at the science centre with the food that he was purchasing at the time. Three or four of the customers in that particular dining room at that time found fault with their bill, and it seemed to be in favour of the caterers or the company that runs that particular establishment. It would create no good feeling toward the science centre if this continues or did continue. Is the minister acquainted with any problem of that nature at all?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, there have been some comments about the prices of the food, particularly in the cafeteria in the lower level, which is primarily used by children, I think. We have been having discussions and are going to have some with the concessionaire about this, but I am informed that the prices appear to be in line with operations like the CNE, although of course they are considerably higher than those prevailing in cafeterias that are subsidized by school boards. The operation is not subsidized at the science centre.

Again, it may be a question of ironing out problems and getting used to operating. There have been fewer comments in this connection, about prices, service, and so on, in the last month or two than there were when we first opened. I think some of the problems related to the fact that the concessionaire put in his own equipment; there were some strikes in the various trades involved and there was quite a period when the concessionaire did not have all the kitchen and other equipment that he required.

Mr. Bukator: If the food is equal, by way of comparison, to the Toronto exhibition, and the portions are equal and the prices are about the same, then I would say that they are not getting large portions and they are paying well for them.

I understand it is the Versafood company. It is so easy for an individual, just to qualify what I have to say—and I tread lightly at this point—to get up in this House on an issue and actually be very deceptive and detrimental to a company that is trying to do a job. However, I know of Versafood and I know of some of their concessions. And I would say this, that their food does not come cheap.

Now then, having known that for quite some time—and you people who gave them this contract; someone had to sign a contract with them. Is it your department or whom?

Hon. Mr. Auld: My department. The board. The board of trustees, with my knowledge and approval, of course.

Mr. Bukator: Very good. Then, under the circumstances, you would be acquainted with how they got the contract? Did you advertise?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Bukator: Call for tenders?

Mr. B. Newman: Invitation or public?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We advertised, I think, on two occasions—that is right—the first time we called for tenders it was too far in advance of the completion of the building, which all the hon. members here will recall was delayed a bit. But we finished it one way or another, with one thing and another. So we returned

the deposits and we called again, I think, in the spring of 1969. We advertised in the paper. We had four people who actually qualified and were prepared to do what we asked. One of the provisions was the investing by the concessionaire of a substantial amount of money for furnishings, equipment and so on. In effect, the highest tender, the highest offer was by Versafood, and they were the one who was selected.

The following companies submitted tenders: Dalmar Foods, Cara Foods—excuse me—Canterbury Foods and Versafood. Then all the tenders, the first time around, were rejected because they did not comply with the tender specifications and/or the furnishing layouts. Then it was decided to conduct identical negotiations with each of these companies to establish who would provide the services and equipment to the standards established by the Ontario Science Centre. Also, to establish who would pay the highest revenue as rent. After considerable negotiations, Versafood presented the most acceptable proposal and this was the one that was accepted.

Mr. B. Newman: What do you mean by the highest?

Mr. Bukator: You cut in on the percentage of the take. Is that the way the rent is determined?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is a minimum, a guarantee, and then a percentage on the amount in excess of a certain volume.

Mr. B. Newman: Is it on a volume basis?

Mr. Bukator: I see. They would give you a minimum of money, regardless of whether or not they did business that particular year. And beyond that, you would get that amount, plus a percentage over the amount.

It would be a good figure for the members of this House to have. I am interested in the restaurant business. I have something to do with it in the Niagara Peninsula.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if it might be handiest for all concerned if we simply tabled the agreement. This would be best.

Mr. B. Newman: Very good.

Mr. Bukator: That would help.

I have a little more that I would like to hear from you about. You say that in the first instance you had them tender, and then we know that the Centennial project did not finish when it should have, to celebrate the Centennial year. It took a year or two after that to complete the project, I gather.

So you withdrew and returned the deposits for the first tenders. Then you retendered and you found, I gather, that they did not meet your requirements. You sat down and negotiated with them on how they would come up to the standards that you wanted.

How would that happen if you were sure of your ground in the first instance? By having certain requirements in the tender, why could they not have met it in the first instance?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid I have not got the details here, and I prefer not to try to give it to the hon. member from memory.

Basically it appeared that the requirements that the board first set in the tender call were too high, or just impractical. Consequently all these people tendered, but none of their tenders met the requirements of the tender called.

We were then faced with some problem in time, because we had to decide on the successful tenderer, so that he could contract with somebody to put in the equipment that he was required to do. As I recall, we had to be able to tell Public Works where the facilities that the centre had to supply, like water pipes and sewers, specifically would come out, because that would be included in the contract that they had.

So it was recommended by the board and agreed to by me, that we would negotiate identically with each of the four bidders, to see who we could get that would come closest to the requirements that we had. As a result, the contract was made with Versafood.

Mr. Bukator: That is why you did not retender to the general public, which would have been the fairer way to do it? There was a time element there, you believed.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, there was the time element. I suppose in theory it would be fairer, but I doubt that, in a period of a month or so, there would be anybody else big enough in the food business who had not bid, who was likely to come along and bid this time.

I think the hon. member, who knows something about the food business, would perhaps agree that the four I mentioned are probably the only likely firms that would be efficient to bid on something like this.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2106?

Mr. Bukator: I would like to pursue this a bit further. I said before, and I say again, that to speak of a company in a detrimental way does not help your science centre, or that company. I have gathered in my information, that at the moment, at least—and I will give them the benefit of the doubt—it is a new experience for them. There has been a certain amount of experience by trial and error, but they must go through that. They have a lot of substantial investment in the place.

They may be trying to recoup their minimum of revenue or profit, or maybe losses, by cutting the portions and charging more, in many cases. I am not saying they are doing this, but they may. I would think that if they treated their customers a little better than the four that I speak of—and I am sorry my friend is not here, because he told me quite a substantial story about it—I would think that they would treat their customers just a little better, to have them come back again, so they would be pleased with what they got for their money and tell it to their friends, because that is the only way to get them back.

I will pursue it further. I will be happy to look at that contract when you table it. I am going to watch this one very closely to see how this experience will profit you—the government and in turn the people of this province—to assist us to put this over and not have any particular company thinking of only one thing. That is, "How many dollars can I make out of the public in this institution, because we have got them here?"

They are not a captive audience. They are a captive group of customers who have no place else to go for their food in that particular institution but to those concessions. They feel, maybe, that they have them where they want them and therefore another dime, or 20 cents, or 25 cents on the bill would not hurt.

I say for their benefit, and for everybody who hears me, that they should take a good look at that and try to make the customers who come into that institution happy. Because —I would not want to miss an opportunity like this—the member for Scarborough West said something to my colleague about the praise that he was giving you. "That is not the song that the Liberal Party sang a while back."

Certainly it is not the song we sang a while back. We felt the science centre would cost them $5 or $6 million.

I remember the lady Liberals—the lady Lions—you see how I get my party mixed up with a service club. The ladies' auxiliary of the Lions Club in Niagara Falls asked me to speak to them and I found a paper on the science centre. The Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) himself made this statement in this House, and I said, what a fine speech, celebrating our Centennial year—

Mr. B. Newman: All prepared.

Mr. Bukator: —to read this to these fine ladies to show them what the province and we are doing to celebrate our Centennial year. I talked about the fact that we are to spend some $6 million.

That $6 million turned into maybe $36 million. Do you have the figure on the cost of the science centre that you could also submit to us? I would like very much to know that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can give the hon. member the total, but not, perhaps, with the total Public Works figure. It includes last year's operating costs and so on. As I recall it is about $31 million.

Mr. Bukator: $31 million?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would just like to check and be sure, but I think that is approximately it, up until March 31 of this year. The revenue started coming in in September, and as I say that was, I believe, $416,000. I will give the hon. members our figure—that is other than the building. The expenditures to March 31, 1971, $14,127,319.

That is made up of: to March 31, 1966, $1,032,250; 1966 and 1967, $1,307,000; 1967-1968, $2,078,000; 1968-1969, $2,620,069; and our estimated total for last year, 1969-1970, $3,608,000. For the current year the estimates that are before us are $3,482,000. So that it is a little over $10 million, up until March 31, 1970.

Mr. Bukator: Well, Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It was the building—as I recall, the contract price was estimated at $21.7 million.

Mr. B. Newman: That is the final figure?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I cannot give the hon. member the final figure. He would get it in the estimates for The Department of Public Works.

Mr. B. Newman: Would it not be much more than that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I cannot say, because there were some deletions that were made from the contract at our request. There were some additions and I cannot tell him just how they meted out.

Mr. B. Newman: A little bit over.

Mr. Bukator: That is the point I was trying to make. We started out to spend $6 million —and that is what I understood it would be. As I said, I read this fine statement to the ladies in the city of Niagara Falls, giving the Prime Minister all the credit that was due him at the time. Mr. Chairman, I wanted to celebrate our Centennial properly, without starting a fight on our 100th birthday. And then, with tongue in cheek, I do not know whether I want to speak to them again, because if I could be $25 million out on an estimate in one building alone then someone miscalculated along the way. However, the cost of—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps I can send the hon. member a copy of my remarks of, I think, two years ago, when we went through this.

An hon. member: Do you think it was worth $25 million?

Mr. Bukator: Would you elaborate on that? It might be interesting.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, we have gone through it, to my recollection, three times in this House. I would be delighted to send an—

Mr. Ruston: Morty runs things two or three or four times.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —autographed *Hansard* of my statement about the history of the science centre and actually what figures were announced. But if he has forgotten it, or if he missed it, I think it would save everybody time if I sent him a copy.

Mr. Bukator: If you had pointed it out to him for your benefit, because one day you might speak in the House, I would have read it at that time. However, there has been a considerable cost, no doubt, to the government and to the science centre for the exhibits in the place. For instance, the Hydro exhibit —well, Hydro would pay for that, naturally. That would not come cheap. Have you many other organizations such as Hydro who have put exhibits in there, or were most of them borne by the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I have not a breakdown in front of me, but as I recall, the industrial participation would be something in the order of $1 million — between $1 million and $1.2 million thus far.

Mr. Bukator: From Hydro alone?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, no. The total for everybody. Ford, the oil and gas people—there are lists of contributions that range from a few hundred dollars up to several hundred thousand.

Mr. Bukator: There are people like Ford and Hydro who have paid for their own. Now, there must be exhibits that are put in by the province itself to take up some of the vacancies.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Those are the figures that I just gave.

Mr. Bukator: Yes. Oh, I see. These are capital costs.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The figures that I gave comprise the total expenditure, which includes the capital cost, that is, the construction of all exhibits, the administrative cost of the centre itself—everything except the building—exhibits, administration, cleaning and the whole thing.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, far be it from me to condemn a project such as the one we have. It is just enlightening to one in the small business world to see these figures continue to mount. I can see where even $3 million or $4 million to the province of Ontario to pick up the popularity that you have with that particular exhibit, that science centre, is good. I do not think too many people in the province would complain about it, so that is a plus in your favour.

The ones that I do not like are the people who are doing business, such as Versafood; if they are offending many of the people who attend that particular institution for the knowledge, for the excitement, for the experience of the day in a fine institution. I would say to this minister that if this particular group is not giving us the good public relations that are required, they ought not to be in that institution. And I would ask you if you want to do business with someone else when their contract runs out?

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2106?

Mr. Bukator: No, I did not get my question answered yet.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is 10 years.

Mr. Bukator: They have a 10-year contract.

Mr. B. Newman: A 10-year contract for food? Is that generally the policy, Mr. Minister, that—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Because in this case, Mr. Chairman, as I said, they have a substantial capital investment in it, something in the order of $600,000. Now there are provisions as I recall in the—

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, is this saleable to anyone else who wants to take over?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I beg pardon?

Mr. B. Newman : The cost of the installations there are saleable to anyone else who would get the tender in the ensuing years?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Of course, but from the point of view of how you sell them—whether it is at distress prices. You know, if you put in $600,000 worth of equipment and you have a two-year contract, and at the end of two years your contract is not renewed, your equipment is not quite as saleable as it would be if you had the contract with somebody who wanted to buy it.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, did you think of installing the equipment yourself and then letting the tender?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We did, and one of the reasons that we did not was because of the question of the cost.

Mr. B. Newman: You certainly limited those who could tender on a thing like that if you come along and require $600,000 for equipment solely before they can get in operation. There are not many tenderers in the province of Ontario that could get into this, and you were extremely selective in your choice.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, we were in effect limiting the number of people who could tender—

Mr. B. Newman: You are darn right you were limiting them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And we realized that, but we felt that with four reputable people tendering we would get a proper arrangement.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, if there is a 10-year contract and they have another nine years to go, let us say, on it, then there must be clauses in that agreement, as all agreements should have, so that there is some protection to the science centre, or to your department, and some to them if they meet the necessary requirements of that agreement. Can the minister tell us, Mr. Chairman, if he remembers any part of that agreement giving you some safeguard or authority over their operation if they do not meet the requirements or the standard that you would have them provide for you?

There must be a safeguard there. Let us say that they decide just to take the public, you must have some clause in there that would protect you against that particular point, which is a good one. Again we are all looking out for the same thing, and that is the benefit of the people of the province.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If the hon. member will permit me, the agreement is 36 pages, and I will just find the provision that is relevant.

Mr. Bukator: That is fine.

Mr. Chairman: While we are waiting for this information, are there any other comments on vote 2106? The member for Dovercourt.

Mr. D. M. De Monte (Dovercourt): Mr. Chairman, how are the items for maintenance broken down—$1,262,500? I understand that has nothing to do with salaries, but where are the items for maintenance broken down? For what purposes?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, the maintenance amount includes $557,500 for finance and administration, $149,000 for marketing and promotion—

Mr. De Monte: Pardon me? I did not hear that figure.

Hon. Mr. Auld: $149,000 for marketing and promotion; $66,000 for education and professional services, and $475,000 for interpretation, that is, the actual construction of the exhibits and so on, as I mentioned a while ago, which was changed and put into maintenance this year. It used to be in a separate item of construction last year. Breaking that down further: printing and stationery, $25,000; furniture and equipment, $53,000; maintenance and rental of furniture and equipment, $35,000; communications, $25,000; personal services, $12,000; vehicle expenses, $5,000; books and magazines, $10,000; honoraria, $3,000; building maintenance, cleaning,

$37,000; building maintenance, grounds, $10,000; miscellaneous, smaller items, $17,000.

Mr. De Monte: The $475,000, is that for new exhibits, Mr. Chairman? Or is that for exhibits—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would be mainly for new exhibits, but some redesign of existing ones and also some repairs to existing ones.

Mr. B. Newman: The minister made mention of $37,000 for cleaning. I look in the public accounts from the previous year and I see Modern Building Cleaning was paid $7,600. Is the cleaning taken care of by the staff there, or are there some type of Manpower services that come in and take care of the maintenance of the building?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have both; we have our own staff which do the sort of hour-to-hour cleaning and general tidying up, and we have a contract service which is primarily there after the place closes, but we also have some people who are doing current cleaning throughout the day. Basically, our staff cleans exhibits and the contract people clean the floors and the rest of the place.

Mr. De Monte: How much is the price of that contract?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If the hon. member would be satisfied just to have it with the contract itself, I think we might save time because there are provisions for buying back the equipment if we throw them out and so on. Actually, I can give him a copy of the contract tonight.

Mr. Bukator: I would appreciate that very much, because I knew there must have been some kind of a clause in that particular agreement to protect you and to protect them. I think that if you have a 10-year contract, you should have something in that contract if they are not meeting your requirements and not creating the public relations they ought to in that kind of an exhibit. I think there should be a way out of that contract to get someone else in there who would.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can assure the hon. member that I was assured by our legal advisers at the time that the contract was negotiated and before it was signed that the problem that he mentions is covered, because I was concerned about exactly the same thing even in a two-year contract but particularly in a 10-year contract.

Mr. Bukator: Then that being the case, you must have someone in that organization who is the manager—or whatever position he holds —to supervise and work with Versafood to see to it that they are meeting the requirements of that agreement or the conditions of that agreement. If you do not have anybody in that particular spot who should be filling that bill properly, looking out for the people again, you should have a man in that spot to see to it that they are living up to the terms of their contract.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, the deputy director general is charged specifically with the supervision and the liaison with Versafood as far as the food operation.

Mr. Bukator: What was that title again?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Deputy director general.

Mr. Bukator: I think, maybe, Mr. Chairman, having pursued this as far as I have this evening, that I can get much more information by checking with that individual. I think we members in this Legislature should take a little more interest in that large investment we have and we ought to protect the people against the possibility of not being treated the way you would like to be treated and the way I would.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2106. The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, in the midst of this vocal and inflammatory debate, I rise to say to the minister that there is one member of the House who has visited the science centre with child in tow. I regard it as a magnificent achievement and something worth whatever you can put into it, and I certainly would not want to cavil with some fringe criticisms. It is a notable achievement and you should give it even more than it already has.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, may I just say one more thing? This man who has just spoken before me is blessed with a little more criticism and sarcasm than any man in this House. I do not mind that. Once in a great while he gives credit, and since he has done this this evening, maybe he has mended his ways and is heading in the right direction.

Mr. Lewis: Whatever that may have meant, Mr. Chairman, I am sure the minister at least will support the charitable observation.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2106 agreed to.

This completes the estimates of The Department of Tourism and Information.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, it may be out of order, but before I am accused of bribing anybody, I would like to tell all the hon. members that they will be receiving an annual membership for themselves and one other very shortly, within the next few days, valid until the end of 1971 and I hope they will have many opportunities to go up and talk to the staff and see the place.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence moves the committee of supply rise and report certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report it has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that tomorrow we will proceed with the estimates of The Department of Transport.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10:30 o'clock, p.m.

No. 35

ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Friday, April 10, 1970

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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CONTENTS

Friday, April 10, 1970

Sweepstakes, casinos and lotteries, statement by Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence 1379

Chemical analysis facilities at the forensic centre re testing for mercury, questions to Mr. Brunelle, Mr. Nixon 1379

Impending shutdowns or operation curtailments of industries in Metro, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. J. Renwick 1380

Investor protection re control of Seaway Multi-Corporation Ltd., questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. J. Renwick, Mr. Shulman 1380

Exhibits used at presentation of province's brief at Guelph, question to Mr. Haskett, Mr. B. Newman 1380

Petition in relation to Highway 17 and Kenora, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Shulman .. 1380

Sending mediator to Essex county to avoid closing down of schools, question to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Ruston 1381

Premature deaths from cigarette smoking, questions to Mr. Robarts, Mr. Burr, Mr. Shulman 1382

Meetings as to locating farm and other buildings with regard to pollution, questions to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Ruston 1382

Charges made by OHC on discharging a mortgage, questions to Mr. Randall, Mr. Singer, Mr. Trotter 1383

French-speaking secondary school in Sturgeon Falls, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. Nixon 1384

Submission by independent accountants' society, questions to Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, Mr. Shulman 1384

Rates for students in residence in Ontario, questions to Mr. Davis, Mr. T. Reid 1384

Provincial assessors giving out information, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. Deans 1385

Extending municipal franchise to landed immigrants, questions to Mr. McKeough, Mr. J. Renwick 1385

Changing voting days of municipal elections, question to Mr. McKeough, Mr. J. Renwick 1386

Consumer Protection Act, 1966, bill to amend, Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence, first reading 1386

Estimates, Department of Transport, Mr. Haskett 1387

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Welch, agreed to 1409

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1970

The House met at 10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We now have in the west gallery, as our guests, students from King Edward Public School and the Oak Park Junior High School, both in Toronto. Later today there will be students joining us from Ridgetown District High School in Ridgetown, from Fairview Memorial Public School in Brantford and members of the Salvation Army.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in view of an article that appeared in the press yesterday on the subject of Quebec casinos and international crime, I thought it might be appropriate if I briefly reassured, or assured, this House and the people of Ontario at this time that the government of Ontario is giving no consideration to permitting either sweepstakes or casinos, or reversing its decision against a provincially-run lottery.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): About three days ago, I think, I asked the Premier if he was preparing to take any action on behalf of the government in the problems that are being faced in the Nipissing district with regard to the school system and the implementation of the principle of Bill 141? I wonder if he has had a further investigation undertaken in this connection, since the schools have not been in use now for three days and there seems to be some question as to just how the resolution is going to come about.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, after the Leader of the Opposition raised this matter in the House I discussed it with the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) and he was prepared to reply to any question that might be asked, but the question had not been asked to date. I do not know whether he will be here this morning, but I am sure that when he is he will be prepared to tell the House what the position is, as he sees it. He was going to go into this matter.

There has been a problem in this area for some some continuing period of time; this is, perhaps, a more recent incident in an ongoing problem there. I am sure the minister will be in a position to give the House up-to-date information when we have the opportunity to question him. I know that he was ready to answer it yesterday or the day before.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Lands and Forests. Has he consulted with the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) on the possibility of using the chemical analysis facilities at the forensic centre that comes under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Justice for the analysis for mercury that is concerning the minister and his colleague, the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr)?

I understand the forensic centre has a neutron bombardment analysis apparatus which is the sort of thing needed for the tests for mercury.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): I will be pleased to discuss this with the Attorney General. I was not aware of this information. I would like to say to the member that the federal government, which has been doing its analysis at the Winnipeg laboratory, are giving serious consideration, and may be doing this now, to moving this to the Wheatley laboratory. The Ontario Water Resources Commission have stepped up their sampling and they are doing, at the present time, I believe, close to 30 samplings per day.

Mr. Nixon: Thirty samples per day?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Maybe not per day. They were doing somewhere in that vicinity, I believe. I think they have intensified and stepped this up to about 30. I think it is per day. This is done through the Ontario Water Resources Commission laboratory here in Toronto. I will be pleased to discuss it with the Attorney General.

Mr. Nixon: Is there a federal analysis laboratory at Wheatley now?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: There is a laboratory at Wheatley, but only Winnipeg has the neutron activation apparatus. They are in the

process of trying to move this to Wheatley and to do the analysis there which of course will certainly expedite the samplings.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Does the Prime Minister have any knowledge of any impending shutdowns or substantial curtailments of operations by corporations in the Metropolitan Toronto area that are not of public knowledge at the present time?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not think so, Mr. Speaker. None has been drawn to my attention.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question: Has the Prime Minister any knowledge of the shutdown of the sheet glass manufacturing operation of Pilkington Brothers (Canada) Limited, which is one portion of their operation in the Scarborough area of Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No. I am afraid this is the first information I have had in this regard. No one has been in touch with me about it.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Does the minister consider that some steps should be taken for investor protection in view of the continuing battle for the control of Seaway Multi-Corporation Limited?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, I am in close and almost daily touch with the securities commission, and they, of course are in equally close touch with the exchange itself. Although it is a battle among those in the market no-one has presented me with evidence of a risk of public injury as such.

Mr. J. Renwick: By way of supplementary question: Is there not a risk of injury to the public and those persons who are investors in Seaway Multi-Corporation but are not those who are engaged in the battle for control?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, I cannot define the risk except on fairly broad terms. My advice is that of course there is a risk for investors and there is a risk for those who are embroiled in the financial battle itself, but I have no substantial evidence that there is a public risk as such.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): A supplementary: Have the minister's advisors informed him that a corner has taken place on the stock of Seaway; and if so does the department intend to intervene in relation to the problems of those who have sold the stock short and cannot deliver it?

Mr. J. W. Snow (Halton East): How does that injure the public?

Mr. Speaker: Did the member for Windsor-Walkerville have a supplementary? Was it a supplementary you wished to ask?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): No.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Riverdale completed his questions? The member for Windsor-Walkerville has the floor.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Transport.

Would the minister table the set of exhibits used in the April 9 presentation of the department at Guelph so that we could use the exhibits in the discussion of the estimates of the minister's department?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, what exhibits is the member asking for?

Mr. B. Newman: The province's presentation during the hearings at Guelph.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the presentation of the province's brief at Guelph, which was made yesterday and is being continued today, should be available; and as soon as it is I will be happy to table it. It will be public matter anyway and probably widely reported in the press.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: I have a question of the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker.

What action has the Prime Minister taken in relation to the petition signed by some 1,700 residents of Kenora which was forwarded to him on March 23 last in relation to Highway 17 and Kenora?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, it is being dealt with as these matters are. It is an expression of opinion, and we get many expressions of opinion about highways in various areas of northern Ontario. The point they make will be considered in our highway planning.

Mr. Shulman: Perhaps the Prime Minister has not seen the petition. The petition is a request that a vote be taken. Is the Prime Minister going to give any reply to the people

of Kenora, as they have been unable to get a reply through their member?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: What was that?

Mr. Shulman: There was a request to the Prime Minister, sir—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, I realize that—I missed the reference to the member in the remarks.

Mr. Shulman: My question is, sir, is the Prime Minister going to give a reply to this petition?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, I will answer it.

Mr. Shulman: When?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: When I am ready.

Mr. Shulman: I am sure the people of Kenora will be pleased.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well they will hear from me. I answer requests that come to my desk, Mr. Speaker. I get a great many of them and they are all dealt with, they are all considered.

The point of view the citizens put to the government in this type of thing has to be considered. There are many ramifications to a request of this type; they have to be looked at and they have to be studied.

Mr. Nixon: In other words when the Premier is ready.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: And when consideration has been given, then I will be in a position to give them what will be a reasoned, considered answer.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Kenora.

Mr. L. Bernier (Kenora): Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege here, I would inform the member for High Park that the person who sent this petition in has been in conversation with me on a number of occasions and they have heard from me, contrary to his remarks.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Public Works): He is misleading the House again.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Speaker, I have a question, and I am reluctant to ask the Premier but I am sure that with his good grace he will accept it in the absence of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales), who we are sure is on other important business. I wonder if the Premier could—

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member would ask the Premier if he would accept it.

Mr. Ruston: If he would consider having a Department of Labour mediator—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Perhaps the hon. member would ask the Premier if he would accept a question which should go to the Minister of Labour?

Mr. Ruston: Would the Premier accept a very brief question that should be directed to the Minister of Labour?

Mr. Speaker: Now the member may put the question.

Mr. Ruston: Well I was sure he would, in his very jovial mood. I think highly of him, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Am I not always?

Mr. Nixon: No.

Mr. Ruston: Would the Premier consider consulting with The Department of Labour on whether they would send a mediator to Essex county in the very immediate future to try to avoid a major closing down of all the schools? It is a very serious strike and apparently both sides are reluctant to come together. The saying is that a telephone call to Toronto may resolve—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked his question, now he might allow the Prime Minister to reply.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour will be back on Monday but I would be quite happy to go into this matter. I might say, for the information of the House, that when some of these matters are brought to my attention that I might not necessarily know about, they are all noted from *Hansard* and the discussion here and an action is taken on them. The fact that the member has raised this with me means the point he makes will be looked at.

Somebody says Monday will be too late—I do not know whether it is that urgent. I do know that The Department of Labour stands by at all times to assist in any way it can, and in all probability when I check into it I will find that they are on top of it. But I will check it this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Speaker, a question for the Prime Minister: inasmuch as the fishing and allied industries around Lake St. Clair have been closed down by government action, although there is, as yet, no report of any damage to the health of anyone in that area—

Mr. Speaker: That is not a proper part of the question.

Mr. Burr: —why does the government permit the cigarette industry to continue to flourish, although it is known that it has already caused countless premature deaths?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, there is a large conclusion contained in that question. Some people will dispute scientifically that the conclusion the member draws in his question which, of course, was out of order is, in fact, so. We are immediately led into a debate as to whether the use of tobacco is, in fact, as harmful as some advocate that it is. And, of course, others advocate—

Mr. Shulman: Only the cigarette manufacturers dispute that.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —that it is not. This government has no fixed policy of restricting the use of tobacco. I do not know whether it is something that could really be dealt with on a provincial basis. No doubt the Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) could tell the member what research and so on the department has done. I am quite certain that they do evaluate the various reports. But we have no policy at the moment of restricing the use of tobacco.

Mr. Burr: As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: why has the government permitted the phosphate detergent industries to continue to flourish—

Mr. Speaker: This question is not supplementary to the original question.

Mr. Shulman: May I ask a supplementary?

Mr. Snow: No.

Mr. Shulman: Will the Prime Minister not agree the vast preponderance of medical and scientific opinions state that the smoking of cigarettes shortens life?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not know. Being an ex-smoker myself I do not know that I would accept what the member says as gospel truth. There is a great variation of learned opinion. I am not a medical man myself, but I am aware of the variations of opinions on the subject. I do not think one can automatically jump to as complete a conclusion as the member is trying to force me to accept.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): It is pretty obvious.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): The Premier looks better since he stopped.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member does not know when I stopped, so how does he know how much better I look?

Mr. Speaker: The member for Essex-Kent.

Mr. Ruston: I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Has the Minister anything to report to the House on the pollution problem with regard to some meetings The Department of Agriculture and Food is holding as to where buildings, farm buildings and so forth, can be built with regard to pollution?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): I assume, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member is referring to disposal of animal waste and the proposed code of practice that was discussed and established between representatives of The Department of Energy and Resources Management, our department and the University of Guelph. There has been a code of practice established, and I believe the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management will likely be making this available to a good many people very shortly.

I should stress, however Mr. Speaker, if I may, that the proposed code of practice is simply just that. It is not to be implemented as regulations under legislation. It is simply to be a guide for farmers who may wish to remodel or rebuild, or in fact to build new buildings on their property. It is a guideline on how they may avoid running into difficulties with air pollution and soil or water pollution with those around them.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary: the minister is saying that, in fact, there are not going to be regulations as such. I am wondering, because it is in the press now, to the effect that they are classed as regulations. I will send the minister a copy of it so that he can read it.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, if it is in the press in that way it was a misinterpretation of what has been said. The Department of Energy and Resources Management has made it abundantly clear that the proposed

practice will simply be that and not regulations.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Wentworth.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Could the Prime Minister indicate to the House what particular programmes are underway at this time and what programmes are going to be inaugurated in the near future to meet, or to combat, the rising unemployment in the Hamilton area and the many plant closings that are taking place at this time?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would have to take that question as notice.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Trade and Development has an answer to a question from the Liberal caucus which he was prevented from giving yesterday by the expiry of time.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Trade and Development): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A question was asked on March 6 by the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) with reference to the charges made by the Ontario Housing Corporation on discharging a mortgage. I would like to suggest that the charges made to the Ontario Housing Corporation for the discharge of a mortgage by the Housing Corporation Limited are in accordance with the minimum tariff of the County of York Law Association as follows:

Item 11 of the minimum tariff states: (a) discharge of mortgage or assessing of charges, $20; (b) for computing the amount due to pay off the mortgage and drawing any releases for insurance, $10. The Ontario Housing Corporation does not require mortgage owners to use its services. Any mortgagor may, if he so chooses, use the service of his own solicitor for this discharge and submit it to the corporation for execution. Under such circumstances no charges would be made by OHC.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, by way of supplementary question: when the Ontario Housing Corporation is the mortgagee, they use their own lawyer. The mortgagor does not have a choice. They are required to use the OHC lawyer.

Hon. Mr. Randall: They are not required to use our lawyer. They are charged the same fee as laid down by the Act. I do not think that either the member, as a lawyer, or the member for Downsview, would expect us to cut the prices and do it for free.

Mr. Trotter: But I think, with all due respect Mr. Speaker on a point of order, the minister is completely wrong if the mortgagor has no choice to pick the solicitor who draws the discharge.

Hon. Mr. Randall: He has a choice. He has a free choice to go where he wishes. Where he wants to use the Ontario Housing Corporation lawyer we will do it for him.

Mr. Speaker: While the chair takes no part in debate, the chair would agree with the minister.

Mr. Trotter: That is something new. I am just telling you the mortgagor has no choice.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Brantford.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): I have a question of the Provincial Secretary. Can the Provincial Secretary give the reasons why wives of service club members are permitted to attend the club only one night a week in the year?

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I would have to have more details than that about the particular club. There are special regulations that deal with different clubs.

Mr. Makarchuk: Any particular service club, the Canadian Legion, the air force, army, navy clubs and so on.

Mr. Nixon: Oh, that!

Hon. Mr. Welch: Which one?

Mr. Makarchuk: All of them in the province of Ontario, according to regulations in The Liquor Control Act.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Then the member has answered his own question. I suppose the regulations are this way but I would want some specific examples of where that is happening.

I mean, the hon. member is generalizing with respect to this. The regulations are as published and, perhaps, as the member has said; but if he thinks there has been some violation of the regulation or some misunderstanding of the regulation, I would like to have some detail.

Mr. Makarchuk: By way of a supplementary question: Would the minister indicate what is the reasoning behind the regulations, outside of divine inspiration?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, we could eliminate the editorial comment there.

Mr. Speaker: Would the minister and the member not consider that this would be more proper for the estimates rather than for the question period?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Perhaps we could go on further. It could be put on the order paper, Mr. Speaker, and I will get a specific answer.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Leader of the Opposition a supplementary or a new question?

Mr. Nixon: A new question.

Mr. Speaker: Any further supplementaries? The Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: I have a question for the Minister of Education. Has he some plans to assist the people of the Nipissing district and the school board there in resolving the problem associated with the call for the establishment of a French-speaking secondary school in Sturgeon Falls?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, the advisory committee of the board met, I believe, on Wednesday evening. There were some further discussions yesterday. I understand it is going to the board itself on Monday. I have had some discussions with the member from the area. We are very hopeful that the meeting Monday will bring about a resolution to the problem.

Mr. Nixon: As a supplementary question: Since the students have not been attending the schools for the last three days, could it possibly be that the minister would offer his assistance, or perhaps intervene, next week if it is not resolved?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, we deal with these situations as they occur. I am not going beyond the meeting Monday evening; we will see what Monday evening brings about.

Mr. Speaker: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: A question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, Mr. Speaker. What response has the minister made, or is he about to make, to the submission which was sent to him last week by the independent accountants' society?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well broadly speaking it would be an encouraging response, encouraging to the extent that this department is always pleased to see organizations for members of professional occupations interested in raising their standards and their internal discipline. Any particular response I cannot suggest at this time.

Mr. Shulman: Has a response been sent?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No response has been sent from my desk. Whether there has been a response internally in the department or not I cannot assure the member.

Mr. Shulman: Could the minister find out for me please?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough East.

Mr. T. Reid: A question of the Minister of Education and University Affairs: do any other students in the province receive the special rate for students in residence that students at the New Liskeard agricultural college receive, as outlined by the Minister of Agriculture and Food on April 11 in the House?

Mr. Speaker: On what date? Today is April 10.

Mr. T. Reid: On April 3, sorry!

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, in that I am not totally familiar with the rates that are charged by other institutions not under the responsibility of The Department of Education and University Affairs, I cannot relate as to whether or not there would be a valid reason for a differential in rates. I would be delighted to look into this matter further, but I would think the rates charged by the various institutions, no matter under whose responsibility they might come, would be quite valid for the circumstances.

Mr. T. Reid: A supplementary question: does this mean that the minister would think it just and fair that the Indians of this province would have fewer incentives to attend post-secondary education, as students enrolled in agricultural colleges?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I do not really see the relevance of the question. Quite obviously, we as a government, and I as minister, are most anxious to find ways and means to increase the number of students from the Indian communities, not only attending post-secondary institutions but secondary institutions.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The member wants to charge the farmers in northern Ontario more money.

Mr. T. Reid: I do not think they should receive preference over Indians in this province simply because they are going to agricultural college.

Mr. Speaker: Order! There have been sufficient supplementaries. The member for Wentworth has the floor.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Was it a conscious decision of the department that the new provincial assessors should not follow past practice in giving out information about assessments to lawyers and interested persons by telephone and that they may only give information out to the owner upon his appearing before them and requesting it in person?

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister of Municipal Affairs): I think I was asked a question about this by one of the Hamilton reporters yesterday, and I am not familiar with just what has happened; I assume I will hear about it in due course.

I think broadly speaking, it can be said that assessment information is privileged information—I do not know whether that is the correct term or not—and I think you can make some pretty good arguments that somebody, a lawyer, for example, should not be allowed to get that information over the telephone.

However, I think, particularly in the smaller communities of Ontario—in the smaller registry offices, smaller assessment offices—undoubtedly this has been going on over a great number of years. And despite the legal principles and the assessment principles involved that you probably should not do it that way, I am not altogether convinced that all that much harm has been done in some communities by doing it that way. And I have undertaken to have a look at it.

Mr. Deans: By way of a supplementary question I would ask the minister if he has considered the difficulty that will confront any person who believes his assessment to be too high but is unable to compare it because he cannot find out anyone else's assessment?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Yes, that is of some concern to me. You know what this stems from, I think. In some municipalities perhaps, the assessors' feelings about this are they resent giving information out over the phone when there are probably some lawyers who then charge their clients $5 for that information.

An hon. member: Shame!

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Shame, the Minister of Mines says.

Hon. A. F. Lawrence (Minister of Mines): Never, never!

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I think assessors resent doing somebody else's work for them, but I am not all that convinced—and I say frankly to the members—that all that harm has been done. I am going to take a look at this one.

Mr. Deans: One final supplementary, just so that we clear it all up. The minister does then recognize, I am sure, that it would be very difficult for any person who is employed in a daytime job to present himself at the assessor's office?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Right.

Mr. Deans: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick: Sir, I have a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Will the minister give consideration to extending the municipal franchise to landed immigrants residing in the province of Ontario after a period of residence of one or two years?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Well Mr. Speaker, this is a recommendation which has been made from time to time. Frankly I do not think we should differentiate—this is my opinion without having fully considered it—I do not think we should differentiate between the right to vote federally and provincially.

I would put it this way. If the federal government, in their wisdom, see fit to change their Acts so that citizenship can be bestowed at an earlier date, then I think our Act should follow forthwith.

On the other hand, I do not know that we should extend certain privileges to newcomers to our country at the municipal level when there are not comparable privileges extended at the provincial and the federal level.

Mr. J. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question: Is the minister open to the suggestion that different considerations apply in the elections at the municipal level than at the federal and the provincial levels? And that a person who has made the effort to come from a country such as Greece, or Portugal, or Italy to this country and establish himself here should be entitled to vote on municipal questions, which are of direct concern to him in the government of the area in which he lives?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I think then perhaps my colleague the Provincial Secretary might want to speak on that. But I do not think you can put citizenship in the broad sense of the word, into little compartments. I think what we, hopefully, are talking about and working towards, in this country of ours, is total citizenship. And citizenship, more than anything else, to me means the right to vote.

If you are going to bestow that right on one class of people, or in one compartment, I think it should be across the board. But I am open minded, I am always open minded.

Mr. J. Renwick: I have a further question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Would the minister give consideration, in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, to changing the voting days of municipal elections from December 1 to some more favourable time of the year, in order that the New Democratic Party canvassers could canvass under more favourable weather conditions?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Well, I was prepared to give a most affirmative request, but I hesitate. The report of the minister's committee on municipal elections suggested that there should be a common date for elections across the province. And I think personally that this is terribly important. We are working towards it in regional government or local government legislation. Our target date is that the elections in December of 1972 would coincide also with school board elections.

My own view, and I think the view of the government, is that we would dearly love to have everyone in this province going to the polls, municipally and in terms of education, on one day, every two or three years, or perhaps every one year, so that the election day across the province would be standardized for all purposes at the municipal level. We think this would do something to encourage interest in municipal elections.

If you talk to some people they would tell you that that date should be in the summer. There are some private bills, Windermere being an example, which have, by private legislation, an election in July. Other people think that is not such a good thing for a variety of reasons.

My own view is that I think we could accomplish what the member would like to do and still try to stick to the principle of standardizing the election day by perhaps coming into November. We do get better weather in November than we do in December and I think we could broaden out the time between elections and the taking over of the new council.

There have been many suggestions made that we might move the elections to September. Then you can have a "lame duck" council sitting for a long time which creates problems, or can create problems—very serious problems.

The next step is to change the fiscal year of the municipalities. That is an enormous can of worms. The calendar year probably is as appropriate as any. It is tied in with budgetary considerations.

But all I can say to the member is that this is under active consideration and probably between now and 1972 it will be sorted out in some way or another. But not for the purpose the member suggested.

Mr. Speaker: That ends the oral question period.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1966

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Consumer Protection Act, 1966.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, this bill, first, defines the status of unsolicited credit cards and unsolicited goods. In the case of unsolicited credit cards there will be no obligation, unless the credit arrangement is accepted in writing by the person receiving the card or unless the person receiving the card actually uses the card.

Mr. Shulman: Was that not true up to now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In the case of unsolicited goods there is to be no obligation to pay for them, even if they are used.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The 12th order; House in committee of supply, Mr. R. D. Rowe in the chair.

ESTIMATES, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Chairman, in presenting for the approval of the Legislature the estimates of The Department of Transport for the year ending March 31, 1971, I would begin by outlining a new and important development in my department that will equip us to deal more effectively with the present and future transportation needs of our citizens.

A few weeks ago, The Department of Transport was reorganized into two divisions: the registrar's division and the transportation division.

The registrar's division: the registrar's division is basically the former Department of Transport. It groups together a number of related responsibilities in the field of private and commercial road transportation—motor vehicles and drivers, highway safety programmes, the administration of The Highway Traffic Act, The Public Commercial Vehicles Act, The Public Vehicles Act, The Motor Vehicle Transport Act, The Motorized Snow Vehicles Act and The Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act.

The consolidation of these services into one clearly defined functional structure will enable us to improve upon the high level of service that we have always been proud of providing.

This division will be headed by Robert H. Humphries, registrar of motor vehicles. Mr. Humphries has worked in the Ontario public service for more than 30 years with The Department of the Provincial Secretary and, as a lawyer, with The Departments of the Attorney General, and Transport. He was appointed registrar of motor vehicles in January, 1967, after serving as vice-chairman of the Ontario Highway Transport Board for two years.

The transportation division: since the enactment by the government of Canada of The National Transportation Act, it has been realized that the province must look more critically at those forms of transportation that are regarded as being constitutionally under the jurisdiction of the federal government. Only by so doing can this province assure for its people the transportation mobility so essential in today's society.

For this reason, the transportation division has been formed. It is responsible for expressing the province's interests in those areas, whether or not they are constitutionally under federal jurisdiction, that economically and socially are of vital concern to Ontario and the well being of its citizens.

The province has been involved in transportation matters under federal jurisdiction for some years and this involvement can be expected to intensify. Perhaps I could refer to a number of matters with which the transportation division is currently dealing, to give you an indication of why this division was formed.

Passenger train service: the first is passenger train service. The Canadian Pacific Railway has applied to discontinue all passenger train service in Ontario. The Canadian National Railways has applied for the discontinuance of its passenger train service in Ontario, except for the runs between Montreal and Toronto and Windsor and Toronto, and Ottawa and Toronto. Hearings have already begun in respect of these applications.

The transportation division, on behalf of the province of Ontario, will urge the Canadian Transport Commission not to take any action on these applications, until such time as an overall train network has been developed for the whole province.

Railway costing: in 1969, the Canadian Transport Commission published an order outlining the methodology the railways would use in costing passenger train services and branch line operations. The CTC, in its order, agreed with the position of the provinces that economic, rather than accounting, methods be used in calculating the substantial factors of depreciation, money costs and income tax.

The CPR disagreed with the CTC order and has appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada. This appeal is pending and will be opposed by the province of Ontario. On the general topic of railway costs, the province will continue to urge the CTC to update the methodology of determining railway costs as economists improve the state of the art.

Air services: we are also concerned about the development of a regional air service system in Ontario. As you know, Air Canada is converting its fleet to all-jet aircraft and proposes phasing out its turboprop aircraft. The turboprop aircraft at present serve routes between Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Toronto; Sudbury and Toronto; Timmins and Toronto; North Bay and Toronto; Ottawa and Toronto; London-Toronto and Windsor-Toronto.

We believe that before any of these routes is spun off to a regional carrier, it is essential that an overall plan of regional air services be established. It was for this reason the

province opposed the Transair application for the Thunder Bay-Sault Ste. Marie-Toronto route. Our request for a public hearing on this application before the CTC was denied and the application was granted. The province of Ontario is now appealing that decision of the Canadian Transport Commission to the federal Minister of Transport.

It is the position of the government of Ontario that no city in this province presently served by Air Canada should be faced with a reduced service because of Air Canada's intention to operate an all-jet service. Nor do we believe it is in the interests of Ontario citizens for a piecemeal and unco-ordinated regional air carrier network to emerge, which will frustrate the introduction of new services.

It is also vital that the role of third-level carriers be established if they are to participate in existing air services in Ontario and assist in opening up northern Ontario.

Sunday trucking: I announced recently that Ontario has opposed applications by highway common carriers to operate trucking services on Sundays. I understand that the Quebec government has taken an identical position. It is our intention to ask the Canadian Transport Commission to review the authorities already granted exempting two carriers from the prohibitions of The Lord's Day Act, with the expectation that these authorities will be cancelled.

The transportation division will continue to express this province's strong opposition to Sunday commercial trucking operations which would seriously congest our major highways and impede access routes to and from the most popular recreational areas.

The structure of the transportation division: These and other actions by the transportation division clearly demonstrate the need for, and merit of, establishing a forceful provincial body to represent the province's interests in transportation matters under federal jurisdiction.

The transportation division is being formed from the base of two existing branches—the transportation studies branch and the legal branch, augmented by engineers and economists who are currently being recruited. By regrouping certain intradepartment functions, the new division consists of four branches.

The transportation division will also assist the registrar's division in the development of departmental programmes in matters of driver improvement, vehicle safety and highway safety.

The transportation division has as its acting executive director, Mr. David M. Duncan, QC. Mr. Duncan was a practising lawyer in Hamilton for 13 years before joining The Department of Transport as senior solicitor in November, 1963, and serving as director of the department's legal branch.

The Registrar's division: Though the creation of this new transportation division is an important step forward, motor vehicle administration remains the primary responsibility of the department. We are still faced with a variety of complex and difficult administrative problems created by over three million licensed drivers operating almost three million vehicles over a staggering total of 28 billion miles annually. And with a net increase in the driver population of almost 120,000 a year and, in the vehicle population of about 100,000 units a year, it can only be expected that these problems will continue to expand in the future.

The recently completed programme to convert driver records from a manual operation to electronic data processing is typical of the kind of complex problems with which the registrar's division is faced. More than three years of planning and programming were required for the completion of this project.

Hon. members will appreciate the magnitude of the work required to merge some five million additional records into the file containing the histories of more than three million drivers on the computer system.

During the past two years, new legislation has been introduced concerning safe operation of motorcycles, including the mandatory use of helmets by operators and passengers. A decided improvement has been achieved in the safe operation of these vehicles in both 1968 and 1969. A 37 per cent decrease in fatalities has been achieved during the two-year period.

Another area in which the registrar's division has been very active is in the identification of drivers with physical or mental conditions which would make them a potential hazard behind the wheel. The 1968 legislation requiring medical practitioners to report cases to the registrar was broadened in 1969 to include optometrists. And we are now planning to delve deeper into this problem area.

The Department of Transport is sponsoring a special seminar in Toronto next month to discuss the relationship between medical and psychiatric impairment and the safe operation of a motor vehicle. Experts from the United States and abroad will join with

the Canadian delegates to discuss problems, to develop recommendations aimed at identifying problem drivers, and to establish levels of medical fitness related to driving competence in line with today's medical opinion.

The restructuring of the registrar's division and the emergence of the new transportation division are logical and necessary developments to meet the new transportation challenges during the years ahead.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, in rising to be the lead-off speaker for the Liberal Party in these debates I would first like to commend the minister on the brevity of his remarks and likewise on the fact that he has finally listened to us on this side of the House and made The Department of Transport really the type of a department that it should be. That is, seriously concerned and interested in the overall transportation picture in the province of Ontario.

It was a long struggle from this side of the House, but we finally did convince the minister and the government to react to our stand in the past. Even though it may be a little late, we are still pleased to see that we have finally stirred them to action.

One year ago today, Mr. Chairman, I made the following comments in the House. I would like to repeat them, because I feel exactly the same way today as I did then:

> At this time I should like to commend the members of the department for the courtesies which they extended to me in the many problems that I have presented to them. I have found them at all times to be extremely co-operative, very polite over the telephone, even though I did not identify myself, and always working with speed and efficiency.
>
> I think the minister has a very excellent staff there, Mr. Chairman, and I commend them for their co-operation and their diligence to their responsibilities.

I will stop right there, Mr. Chairman, and simply add that any dealings that I have had with the department have always been taken care of in the best of fashion.

Mr. Chairman, this one department is a department that licenses more weapons that kill more people than any of the wars in history, and I refer to the automobile.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Correctional Services): Probably cancel all the licences for those weapons.

Mr. B. Newman: I am not saying that. I am saying they are licensing these weapons.

I am pleased, Mr. Chairman, to lead off the opposition attack on The Department of Transport on this occasion. I use the word "attack" advisedly, because the first and main issue I want to raise is a fundamental policy question which goes to the very heart of provincial autonomy.

I believe that the minister, by his inaction in the past while events were occurring around him, has seriously jeopardized the chances of this, or any other department, successfully implementing a master plan for Ontario built around a rational transportation and land use policy. Only the most vigorous action at this late date will reopen the question and permit the assertion of jurisdiction in the field which is absolutely vital to the future of the province.

Had the provincial Department of Transport shown the necessary initiative and leadership we would not today be faced with a stalemate in transportation jurisdiction.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): How true that is.

Mr. B. Newman: It is fundamental for any workable plan for Ontario, and certainly to our master plan as enunciated by my leader, that there shall be implemented an overall policy for development involving best land use, recreation, habitation, industry and binding and linking the whole in an integrated homogeneous system of public transportation by rail, road, sea and air.

Furthermore, we believe that in matters of the master plan for Ontario, the province should be master in its own house. This means that, apart from the interprovincial aspect of transport which is, quite properly, a federal concern, transportation jurisdiction should be vigorously asserted by the province. Unfortunately this has not happened and we see the consequences today.

One such consequence is that the province had to go to Guelph yesterday and plead with the federal regulatory agency for the retention of railway service which ought, we feel, to fall within provincial jurisdiction if a master plan for Ontario is to be in any way meaningful.

Now that the province's case has been put at Guelph for the retention of various passenger services that railways wanted to withdraw, I should like to repatriate this issue and bring it into this forum, the Legislature, where we have heard hardly a word of it so far.

It is surely significant that The Department of Transport took such an interest in Ontario's highways and that The Department of Highways, which had looked as though it would absorb The Department of Transport, took no initiatives in regard to the provincial

presentation. What can we read into this, if anything?

After all the economic gobbledy-gook is boiled down to language the man in the street can understand, what the government of Ontario seems to be saying is: "Will the federal government please grant an 80 per cent subsidy to the railways under the terms of the 1967 National Transportation Act, so that the cost of maintaining Ontario's roads to class C standard can be held down?"

In other words, Mr. Chairman, the government of Ontario is after yet another subsidy from the federal treasury. This time, just about as obliquely as one can get. The figures presented at Guelph by the economists show that, indeed, there will be substantial savings to Ontario in keeping rail service going at federal expense.

There is a multiplier effect at work too. It is significant that people who presently choose to travel on trains, that do not necessarily run at the best times for them, nevertheless would go on to highways at the peak hours, using the flexibility of their cars to steal another half hour in bed perhaps. This is the effect that overloads and degrades the roads and pushes up the cost of their maintenance to class C standard. That is why Ontario wants the railways to continue service, so it will not have to spend so much on the roads.

Mr. Chairman, let me explain that I am speaking of the highway situation only in the overall transportation context and that it is the government of Ontario that has chosen to put this issue under the aegis of The Department of Transport, rather than The Department of Highways.

However, since highways' estimates may not be called for some time, it is important to relate these comments to what has been going on in the transportation hearing in Owen Sound and Guelph, in which the government, the opposition and the NDP have all taken part.

I am quite sure that the Metropolitan Toronto press has not yet seized upon the fundamental issue of these hearings which is, of course, that of provincial autonomy over its internal transportation policies. I hope that one effect of my remarks this morning will be that the editorial boards of the Toronto dailies will take a fresh look at this story and weigh its significance in terms of the overall urban and rural development of Ontario.

A perceptive analyst rereading the transportation story of the last nine years would now see new significance in the events that have been passed over as routine, simply because we have not, until recently enjoyed our present perspective on events. A perspective which includes environmental degradation, through pollution, as well as overall land use and mobility policy.

The point I am making, Mr. Chairman, is that there were voices within the provincial Department of Transport that were expressing such concerns from their specialist viewpoint over the years. Had I, or any one of my colleagues, been Minister of Transport, I am sure we would have listened to this advice, far out though it may have seemed years ago.

The moot point is that other provinces were listening to their experts and Ontario was not. I deliberately had warning about this comment passed to the minister yesterday, so that he would come forward with a considered reply. I hope that he will do so before we get on with individual votes in these estimates, because what I want to say now amounts to a most serious criticism of the minister and his predecessors, and, of course, of the continuing transportation responsibility of a government over the years in question.

Here, then, is the charge I make, and it is a serious one. In all the six years between the tabling of the McPherson report on transportation and the enacting of The National Transportation Act of 1967, this province did little to assert its jurisdiction and to demand the right to run its own affairs.

So today, a unilateral decision by the Canadian Transport Commission can make a mockery of the master plan for Ontario. This is an intolerable situation in the climate of the EIO programme—symbolized in this instance, by the forgivable loan to Hanover Kitchens in the heart of disputed territory—the HOME programme, the Ontario Development Council programme, and regional development generally and the programme for regional government with its emphasis on transportation and land use policy integration.

This, of course, is one reason why the Ontario Liberal caucus took such an active role in the current hearings, not only because of the recommendation the commission may make, but also to highlight the fact that had this government made its transportation representations to the federal government at the proper time, these hearings would not now be taking place, with the province in the subservient role of respondent.

The record shows that, during October and November 1966, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the Maritime provinces jointly made representation or submitted briefs to the federal committee chaired by Mr. Joseph MacAlusso—the Commons standing committee on transport and communications. Their presence had the effect of causing Bill C231 to be subsequently amended in their interest, which happened to be largely freight oriented.

However, the Ontario government, which had such a vital interest in mass transit, stood aloof from these proceedings and consequently is squarely to blame for the humiliation Ontario faced yesterday in having to beg an appointed commission of the federal government to keep passenger services going in a prime development area of southwestern Ontario.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): That is right!

Mr. B. Newman: If the minister has any spark of leadership left in him, he will seek federal-provincial talks at the ministerial level aimed at getting back for Ontario those aspects of transportation policy that ought wholly to be of provincial concern.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Hear, hear!

Mr. B. Newman: This includes all factors which are concerned with the proper development of regions.

It is a shocking thing that the Midwestern Ontario Development Council, MODA in short, told the hearing that it was not consulted at all about the proposed withdrawal of any of the services now in question. It is as though the minister had abdicated a great part of his responsibilities. I would remind him that in addition to his ministeral responsibilities, he is also an elected representative of the people and it is elected people and not appointed people, who ought to be making these major decisions of public policy.

This year's estimates, again, do not show provision for further study of mass transit. One would hope that this matter would be covered by the Premier's (Mr. Robarts) announcement of yesterday of a Metro regional conference on May 5, at the Canadian National Exhibition, and we look forward to it.

If we do not undertake a far-reaching study now, more complete and more detailed than the MTARTS—a study that will enable us to set a transportation policy—if we do not set a policy today, think of the crisis that will confront us in 10, 20 or 30 years' time. We are now in the midst of an ecological crisis that no one would believe could happen, when we were warned 10 years ago.

We are faced with a drug problem that could have been headed off, if people had been willing to listen a dozen years ago. Surely, Mr. Chairman, we can learn from our mistakes and start to plan now in the areas which have not yet got out of hand. Traffic planning is not keeping up with urbanization, but it is not too late to do something about it.

I would now like to say something about the automobile, and put to you a side of the matter which is often ignored. Despite the current trend to label everything as obsolete, cars are most emphatically not obsolete. As Ontario society becomes increasingly suburbanized, the need for, and the use of cars grows daily.

Not too long ago a car was considered a luxury. Some of the members here commute daily; do they consider the car a luxury? But would they not rather have a thoroughly integrated and comprehensive system of transportation that would allow them to leave their cars at home and "leave the worrying to them," to paraphrase a well-known slogan?

Apart from the obvious and well documented case for leaving cars at home, rather than idling in the morning and evening traffic, with the resulting air pollution, consider if you will, the mental and physical health of the driver. A very good commercial stressing highway safety illustrates what can happen if the driver of a car is tired, angry, drunk, or all three. You know the one. You become the driver, seeing the other car heading straight at you, hypnotized by your headlights. It is a terrifying thing to watch, and far more common than we may think. It may even have happened to you.

The most common cause of such an accident is not drunkenness, but fatigue. It may have started with the drive to the office in the morning. Anyone here who has driven south on Avenue Roard or Keele in Toronto during morning rush hours knows the symptoms. You may leave home well breakfasted, fresh, and ready to face the day, but the frustrations endured on the way downtown to the office leave that familiar knot at the nape of the neck and a slightly nauseous feeling.

Not the best way to face the challenges of the day. By the time evening comes, your reflexes have slowed, your tolerance has narrowed and you may well fall victim to the hypnosis of oncoming headlights.

Let me summarize and recommend as follows:

First, to make his colleagues' efforts meaningful and to make possible the production of a master plan for Ontario, the Minister of Transport must play his part by asserting provincial jurisdiction over forms of transport that have a direct bearing on provincial growth and which are mainly, or wholly, operating within the boundaries of the province. Recognition of the federal jurisdiction over interprovincial traffic ought not to extend to a craven acceptance of federal domination over all traffic, passenger or otherwise.

We are not sitting here for fun. We have a job to do and, when we form the next government, we shall not sit back and let Ottawa take all the initiatives if the federal decisions have this paralyzing effect on our ability to develop and grow as a province.

The second point I make—the minister must not only treat with Ottawa afresh, he must also engage in the physical aspects of a truly provincial transportation policy. In particular, he must initiate a revival of mass transit by rail and bus.

The minibus concept, described by the Premier in his statement on the northern extension of GO Transit, is a good start. There is no point in having rapid transit without feeder buses.

The present GO line is a good example of this. If you take a train to the east end of the line, Pickering, you have to be met by someone with a car, arrange to be met by a taxi, or take your chances on flagging one down—an arrangement which can be pretty disheartening on a cold snowy night, when the few taxis at the station are snapped up immediately. Taxis are expensive and not everyone can be met by someone with a car.

Lest this sound like a visitor's view of one station, may I point out that more and more young couples are moving to the suburbs of Toronto, serviced by GO, and not all of them can afford cars. We must strive toward a balanced transportation system, getting passengers swiftly and smoothly from one mode of travel to another. As it is now, links between systems are almost as nonexistent as that described at Pickering. We will either solve the problem, or find our downtown areas strangled.

A third point I would like to make, Mr. Chairman: we must find a new approach to driver safety. I do not think we are starting to lead young people toward the kind of attitude that will make safe driving early enough. I have a great admiration and respect for the driver education programme in our schools, but I would suggest that if we were to start earlier—at the bicycle age, to be exact—we might achieve more lasting results.

Mississauga has recently started a programme of licensing bicycle drivers, which I think is a remarkably good idea. Issuing an eight-year-old with a licence after he or she has proven that he or she knows the rules of the road and how to handle the vehicle will not only ensure that he or she knows how to handle the bike, but it will also be the first step toward teaching that person that driving a car is a privilege to be earned.

The fourth point, Mr. Chairman. The minister must introduce reflectorized licence plates at the earliest opportunity.

It is all well and good for the minister to come along and say that there is no safety value in them. I would like to point out to him that the department insists that slow-moving vehicles have the reflectorized triangle. The amount of reflectorized surface on that 11-inch equilateral triangle is approximately as much as the amount that would be on a licence plate. So if it is good for a slow-moving vehicle, surely it must be good for an automobile.

The Department of Highways, I understand, is going to use 200,000 gallons of high-quality paint and 1.3 million pounds of minute glass beads to provide reflectorization for night driving under adverse weather conditions, so one department says reflectorization has safety value, is extremely important, yet the other department absolutely refused to be convinced of the value and the merits of reflectorization of the licence plate.

The Ontario Motor League have, time and time again, as have junior chambers of commerce and as have—I think it is—35 states in the union, taken the opportunity, the advantage, of reflectorizing. The various organizations I have mentioned have supported the idea of reflectorization. The numerous states in the union have shown their concern by reflectorizing licence plates.

This province, for some unknown reason—and I must assume that it must be the reason of the leadership in the department—does not want to reflectorize the licence plate when they know well that it has a definite advantage and is a safety factor, especially in night-time driving.

The fifth point that I would like to make, Mr. Chairman, is that we must not forget our geographically larger nonurban area in our transportation planning. This brings in the

more exotic modes of transportation—hovercraft, air cushion vehicles—and I understand that the new type of air cushion vehicle will, or may, completely replace the snowmobile in the not-too-distant future. The vertical take-off aircraft, helicopters, land/water vehicles and the snowmobile. I mention snowmobile last, because I would like to devote some time to the issue of the snowmobile.

Back in 1966, that is some four years ago now, I asked the minister about safety regulations for snowmobiles, so you can see it is not a new topic. As we all know, almost every member in this House—on the opposition benches and even on the government benches—has asked similar questions. We have received only vague implications that regulations are forthcoming.

In the meantime, our children see commercials on television, showing snowmobiles operating in the most dangerous manner possible. Naturally they will try to emulate the glamorous drivers they see in the ads.

We have seen a steady stream of headlines over the past winter season; headlines such as "Boy Dies in Snowmobile Sleigh". Another headline: "They Had No Chance in Snowmobile Crash", and this story tells of a mother left with no husband and no children after a snowmobile-car crash. Another headline: "Snowmobiling—a New Way to Life and Death", and it tells how strangulation and decapitation have taken over from drowning, now that snowmobiles venture farther and farther.

Another headline: "Wife of Roads Minister Killed on Snowmobile, 1970 Toll Rises to 37". This is a Quebec comment now. And on and on until the editorial that sums up the feeling of all of us is headed: "Take Them Off the Roads."

Mr. Chairman, concerning snowmobiling, I have a suggestion that was made by Frederick Kamp, a Windsor police staff-sergeant, and the quotation of his comment says, "a blind man can operate a snowmobile under present Ontario law." He says that Ontario's snowmobile Act gives the machines more freedom than legislation in Michigan, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

He makes a whole series of good suggestions concerning regulations for the licensing, and so forth, of the snowmobile. For the sake of time, I am not going to read them into the record. However, I certainly hope that the minister is able to look into this article. It was written by Mike Keating and it was in the June 16 issue of the Windsor *Daily Star*. I understand Mike Keating is in the press gallery these days.

Another article on snowmobiling, the article written by Bob Mayer, headed "Open Seasons." "The latest machines being designed will reach an estimated speed of 135 miles an hour." Another: "The Ontario Safety League says that snowmobiling may have the highest fatality rate of any recreational activity in the world."

Coming from an area that does not have too much snow, we generally are not as concerned with the problem of the snowmobile. However, the press in the community was so concerned that they even editorialized concerning the snowmobile, its use and the inactivity demonstrated by the government in coming up with some type of sensible rules and regulations concerning their use.

In the Detroit *Free Press* on January 11, the headline was: "Snowmobile Boom Brings Headaches for State." Another editorial: "Snowmobile Deaths Demand New Curbs".

Mr. Chairman, I could read a lot more than I have brought to the attention of the minister, but I certainly do hope that he does not delay any longer—that he comes through with regulations now, so that for the ensuing snowmobile season, the purchasers of vehicles in the future and those who presently own them, will be able to make themselves aware of the rules and regulations and will abide by them in the manner that we expect them to abide by them.

Mr. Chairman, I am going to touch only very lightly on the balance of the various topics and will bring them up when we come into individual votes. A recent comment made by a Grant B. Brown of Toronto, president of the Canadian Automobile Association, is one that really deserves reading into the record.

Mr. Brown, speaking in Edmonton, made mention that traffic accidents claim 5,000 lives in Canada, yet only $25,000 is spent in researching the cause of these accidents. I think it is incumbent upon the department to research the cause of a lot of the vehicular accidents which do take place within the bounds and the confines of the province.

I, likewise, think that the department has to give its encouragement to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice (Mr. Wishart) so that the police in the province have a vehicle that meets their requirements. A presentation was made by John F. Garswood, Jr., director of the Police Association of Ontario, to the International Conference of Police

Associations, delivered in Detroit, Michigan, on Thursday, February 12.

Mr. Garswood's submission makes all kinds of proposals concerning the type of vehicle that police departments should be provided with. He likewise was one of the individuals who presented a brief to the hon. Minister of Justice and Attorney General. It was a brief submitted by the police association of Ontario on January 23, 1970, requesting a specialized type of vehicle.

We have all kinds of vehicles when it comes to pleasure riding, and I can refer to the hovercraft and snowmobiles. Yet we do not have a specialized vehicle for one segment of our society which certainly should have all of the tools at its disposal for the implementation of equality of justice to all.

Another problem that does concern me—and I find no leadership from the department—is concerning junk cars; cars that have seen better days and which we find littering the streets literally throughout the length and breadth of the North American continent. I think it is time that this department show some leadership concerning these cars so that we could get rid of them once and for all after they have served their use, rather than find them on the roads, in residential sections, in back yards, junk yards and all over the community and communities; a real eyesore in the province.

I made mention of this last year. I think the minister should be in consultation with the manufacturer—I know it is a federal responsibility—but I think the minister should be insisting that car manufacturers come along and improve the type of vehicle. I am going to make only the one suggestion, and that is about the bumper.

The Allstate Insurance Company in the United States made mention that a better bumper or bumpers provided on cars, a better system of absorbing shock, could save the motorists in the U.S. $925 million. If we take the dominion of Canada as being approximately one-tenth that size and Ontario one-third of that, you can see that the savings to the province of Ontario could run into the $30 to $40 million range. If the minister, through the co-operation of other ministers in the dominion of Canada, and the federal minister, approach The Department of Transport and ask that regulations concerning bumpers, standardized bumper heights, type of bumper and so forth, be implemented on all new cars, think of the saving as far as the insurance premiums are concerned. Think of the savings as far as loss of lives is concerned.

Then again, think that some of the bumpers on the cars today are such that a car travelling at two and a half miles an hour, hitting a wall, can cause up to $400 worth of damage—at two and a half miles an hour. It is a real condemnation of the ability of engineering and the manufacturers, being confronted with a problem and not coming up with a solution.

I think there is another problem that is of ever-increasing importance and that is the idea that plaza traffic is not controlled. I think plaza traffic has to be controlled. We have fire lanes in shopping plazas, yet you can go to any shopping plaza and find vehicles parked in the area that is marked prohibited for parking for a fire zone.

You never find the plaza operator removing the vehicles because he wants the business. So I think plazas will have to be put into The Highway Traffic Act so they can be regulated by the department.

Another suggestion is the use of either two-coloured or three-coloured tail lights, so that the driver following the car ahead can readily know whether the driver of that vehicle is in the process of taking the foot off the accelerator and ready to press it on the brake, or not. I think the minister, in co-operation with his confreres on the federal level and, likewise, those on the American side, should come up with a better system of tail-lighting on vehicles.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to conclude my remarks fairly shortly and make mention that I will bring up a lot of other points that I brought up last year—nothing has been done concerning them—and repeat them this year in the hope that the minister and his department come up with some answers for me.

However, I would ask the minister to seriously consider some type of advertising scheme or some type of notification to drivers who are driving cars that are two years old. The reason I make mention of that is the statistics provided by the department indicate that vehicles of 1968 vintage have the highest percentage of fatal collisions and the highest percentage of all collisions of any of the vehicles right back to the days that vehicles are listed in the department statistics. 13.7 per cent of all accidents are caused by vehicles that are approximately two years of age. 14.4 per cent of all collisions are caused by vehicles of 1968 vintage.

In other words, a vehicle, after approximately a year and a half or two years of service, has reached a point of disrepair or of senility or age that things start happening to

it. Maybe we should be warning our drivers, or owners of these vehicles to have a good check at that age of the vehicle. Because the number of accidents that occur to vehicles of that age is by far the greatest of any of the age groups.

I would like to complete my remarks by simply stating that the accident ratio, as indicated in the comparative statistics provided by the minister on page two, is rising faster than the number of vehicles registered, or even the miles travelled. It is certainly indicative that there is need for a new approach in the idea of selling safety and selling a greater concern toward our fellow man by the individual driving the vehicle. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, in opening the estimates for this party, I would say that we are very interested in the statement of the minister this morning of the reorganization of his department. This kind of reorganization has been long overdue. I could only say that I agree with the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville when he throws a bouquet to the civil servants in this particular department, as in many others. It must be a frustrating job in this department, as in many others, because so many of the employees do have a concept of what is needed, and they see far ahead of action at the ministerial level, the kind of reorganization, the kind of action, that should be taken in order to upgrade their performance and to make the department more efficient.

The bottleneck, in a case like this has always been in the minister's office and in the offices of the treasury bench members. I think that that experience of frustration sometimes gives way to some feeling of satisfaction as some forward move takes place because of pressure from outside, and in large measure because of pressure within the department itself, as people there see the need and finally make a breakthrough through the minister and through the treasury benches.

When I saw the ad the other day in the *Globe and Mail*, on March 26, of the need for certain people in the department, I felt that this looked like progress, and the minister's announcement this morning backs up that search for a better organization within the department.

There is no question that one of the extremely unfortunate facts, as far as the future of Ontario is concerned, is that this department, up to this time at least, completely has lacked any coordinated transportation policy. Perhaps it is not entirely the fault of that department, since it has been given a largely administrative job to do as an adjunct to The Department of Highways.

What has happened in Guelph in the last two days, which has been commented upon by the member for Windsor-Walkerville, is again an illustration of the frustration that is felt because of the lack of a transportation policy. Hearings have taken place and the department has presented its case. Unfortunately I was not there for the departmental presentation, but I gather from what the minister said that they are asking for a delay, as far as the cancellation of these runs are concerned, a delay until the minister and this government can make up its mind in respect to an overall transportation policy.

If I am wrong on that, perhaps the minister would set me straight, but I think this is what he said, that they are asking for delay. Now they are having to ask for this delay, Mr. Chairman, because of the lack of that policy—this is what he says—a policy which should have been outlined years ago. Now they are up against this problem and because there is just no way under heaven to get a policy in a very short time, then the department goes as a petitioner and says "please wait until we can outline something for a frame of reference in which you can act".

This is the crucial thing—the frame of reference which should have been made. Because if there had been such a frame of reference, a transport policy on the part of this government, then those who are hearing the case would, I think, have co-operated in fitting their decisions within the four walls of that framework. But lacking it, all they can do is either to go ahead and make a decision under the present circumstances, or do what the minister asks and which some of us have asked as well. I asked the same question: "Will you wait until such time as things are clearer" then give your decision?

This is too bad because it simply shows the complete lack of action in the past by this government. Of course a rational transportation policy must eventually come from combined cabinet action and such action has just not been evident.

It depends upon several factors and fundamental to it, of course, is a provincial land use plan which will sketch in broad outline what kind of development will take place

and where; this is a thing which has been talked about a great deal on this side of the House. Stemming from that should come the determination of where growth centres should be encouraged and some indication of rough priorities and where land should be held for agriculture, large recreation areas and provincial parks.

We have had some indication that background data is being assembled to give us some indication as to how this process might be started. This background data is being assembled many years too late; the start should have been made long ago. It is again a case of government reacting to crises.

The economic atlas of Ontario is now a reality and we are glad to see it. The computers are receiving detailed information which is vital to orderly planning for the future. That information bank is being set up. Some regional governments are now coming into existence which will at least indicate future growth patterns, but meantime, helter-skelter development proceeds in too many parts of this province. Industrial giants like Dofasco and Stelco buy up land and determine future development while the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) goes his merry way, handing out EIO grants and buying land without any understanding of what he is doing, planning-wise.

So this merry process goes on and it is going on at too rapid a rate for the health of future planning. So this department is pretty helpless to do any genuine overall determination of policy. That is the way it has been up to this date and we hope that the minister's indication this morning means some change in this. If it were merged with The Department of Highways perhaps more co-ordinated action could take place but as things now stand at this time, the department fulfills no policy function of any great import. So far as overall transport planning is concerned, it just has not counted.

This is too bad because we need, and need desperately, the formulation of a transport policy for Ontario which will give positive direction to the development of transport facilities during the remaining decades of this century and beyond.

It is in the cities of course that the transport problem is most obvious. Desmond Morton, professor at the University of Toronto, points out and I quote:

> Simply because cities exist to satisfy choices, they involve movement. The shape of urban development has usually been dominated by the available means of transportation. The heaped-up, over-crowded rabbit warren of a medieval city was limited by its walls and by the range of a pedestrian.
>
> The radial corridor cities of our own recent past were pushed out along the projecting fingers of street railways. The exploding anonymous suburban city is a direct result of the privately owned motor car.

The internal combustion engine has changed the face of our cities in more ways than sprawl.

> Today we maybe are more conscious than our ancestors of the dynamics of a city and we are certainly more critical of uncontrolled consequences of technology. To a growing extent the dominance of the automobile as the basic means of urban movement is challenged. Whether or not it may be irresistible, the private car is no longer accepted as an unmitigated blessing.
>
> Canadian cities have incurred enormous capital expenditure — and uncalculated social costs — in widening roads, flattening homes for parking lots, and more recently in engineering expressways, flyovers and other devices to speed automobile traffic. Yet despite the investment, we still often find that our speed through a city varies between the walking pace of a healthy man and the trot of a well-bred horse.

We have done all this and yet the speed in the cores of our cities is not much greater.

> If the choices of a city are available, however slowly, to those who own cars, what about poor people who either do not have cars or who have an utterly undependable worn-out machine? How do they shop for bargains, for example, in the outlying discount houses. More important, how can they find work in the factories which increasingly locate in the outskirts?

Mr. Morton goes on to say this.

> The plight of poor people is due to the familiar story of the erosion of public transit. The dismal cycle has been described innumerable times. More and more cars clog the streets. Transit vehicles are jammed in the rush. Service deteriorates. More people take cars to work, which clogs the streets. The transit authority, faced with a deficit, raises fares. More people take cars. Fewer buses run. More people take cars. This has been the record of Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton and, in varying degrees, of

every Ontario town that ever boasted public transportation.

Clearly, there must be a change. It is not simply that expressways, like Toronto's controversial Spadina, impose enormous financial and social burdens without remotely solving traffic problems. It is simply that movement, the essence of a city's being, will cease to be possible.

Without movement, especially into and within its core, a city as a humane, civilized organism will die. We shall simply reproduce in Canada the appalling megalopolitan sprawl of the eastern seaboard of the United States or of southern California. The car and the core are incompatible. The technology which has shaped the modern city is in the process of strangling it. Indeed, it is a classic example of the consequences of technological *laissez-faire* in a free economy. The cure, as for other strains of the same disease, is rational, human planning.

So says Professor Morton.

Public transport is part of the answer, of course. If people can be weaned from cars to use buses, it helps get cars off the street and to that extent it makes more room for the buses to move. But in our growing cities, unfortunately, with our growing population and increasing affluence, experience shows that buses still get tangled in the increasing car traffic and move with the same speed as cars and the cars, of course, are encouraged by parking facilities and otherwise to crowd into the city centre and the strangling process goes right on.

The big problem is to get the cars off the streets, particularly in the city cores, as far as possible. I do not think we will ever completely succeed in that and perhaps it is not desirable that it should be done 100 per cent. But also, while we do this we must provide rapid, comfortable and cheap transit if the cities are to be viable in the future.

Donald Kirkup, research and public relations director for the Toronto Real Estate Board said, in a speech to the Canadian Institute of Realtors last year:

> Balanced transportation, featuring rapid transit as the main component has always been the key to fantastic growth. For any major urban area, mass rapid transit as the main base of a balanced transportation system creates and enhances property values like nothing else on earth.

Mr. Kirkup was, of course, interested in property values, you see. But such values are created as people crowd into cities because they find those cities favourable to living or business or both. And so anything which keeps the cities growing and healthy must be looked at very carefully. Modern, fast transit frees the city centres from choking to death on the internal combustion engine and gives it a new lease on life.

Mr. Kirkup says this:

> The amount and intensity of new development and the volume of retail sales at a given point on a rapid transit line are directly proportionate to the passenger traffic to and from the closest subway station.

What he is saying, of course, is that retailers particularly should be very interested in building up the passenger traffic on rapid transit lines. He goes on to say:

> The maximum integration of all forms of transportation must be sought—transit, train, private car, truck and air—to achieve the best use of each and the best overall result. A system must be established that will permit continuing growth without congestion. Downtown, the heart of the region, must be accessible from all parts and the entire region should offer its residents attractive surroundings to live and work in.
>
> The combination of long distance, high speed mass transportation systems, such as commuter train service, between city centres, and an expressway network for regional circulation would be efficient, attractive and flexible. It could accommodate continued growth in old and new cities by increasing commuter line capacity rather than relying entirely on new expressways. In the long run the commuter train system can be as important to the region as the subway is to the central city.

Mr. Kirkup speaks of maximum integration of all forms of transportation.

It is interesting to note that within the past few weeks both Metropolitan Toronto and Ottawa have moved to establish supercommittees to study regional transportation problems. They are facing now what many United States cities faced a quarter of a century ago.

A great difficulty in most areas is that there is no overall authority handling all aspects of transportation. In Metropolitan Toronto we have two railways, the provincial government with its GO system, the TTC, including the Gray Coaches, city-operated and private parking lots and, of course, a very large private taxi fleet. Even when these bodies are public

they have different management and different standards.

It is a strange fact, for example, that we encourage cars to park on the street, designed for traffic movement, by charging one quarter as much there as we do for off-street parking on a lot owned by the city, the same owner. Transit authorities would like to discourage cars in the downtown area by charging higher parking rates there and lower ones at suburban terminals, but those operating the parking lots often will not agree with this kind of philosophy.

For comprehensive transport policies in our cities, co-ordination of the bodies is essential. And only the province, and this is a responsibility ultimately of the minister, only the province can see that this is accomplished.

More than this, the province must accept its responsibility to the cities and assist more generously in construction and maintenance of rapid transit. Now this is something we have talked about in this House a great deal and while The Department of Highways, maybe, has primary responsibility here, this should be part and parcel of an integrated transit policy. Adequate rapid transit cuts down on the necessity for freeways and society gains all round.

Then we come into The Department of Municipal Affairs just a bit here. In official plans, provision should be made for transit corridors, just as we make provision for streets and for water lines and sewer trunks. Transit must be looked on in official plans as one of the necessary services.

In European cities, rapid transit is often there when the subdivision is put in. People get used to using transit rather than buying a second car, and you get used to commuting downtown with the one or the two cars, as the case may be.

In these plans, stations should be designated where the rapid transit or the transit position is going to stop, with high-rise densities strategically placed to support the transit lines. This is where we have made a great mistake in the past. We have allowed our cities to sprawl, then we have put in the transit lines and we have wondered why they have not paid. We have forgotten that we must have high-density areas around the stations or the future stations, and plan our cities and our whole development with transport in mind, as well as the car, the sewer, the water main, the electric light and all the other facilities that we talk about.

Sprawl cannot support rational transit. There will always be people who want to live in single-family homes and we do not object to that. But in the past we have, helter-skelter, built our high-risers along main arteries, on certain corners, without reference to the construction of rapid transit and the location of rapid transit stations. What I am saying is, that part of the transit policy should be co-operation with The Department of Municipal Affairs and the creation of official plans of the future with this as a vital part of those plans. And more than this, in this kind of planning, adequate provision must be made for the movement of goods.

When we look at a complex like the Toronto-Dominion Centre and others which are going to be coming up like this in the heart of our cities, and realize the tremendous amount of goods that must flow, even into an office complex, then certain provision must be made in the plans of these complexes for the movement of goods and the easy access for trucks into the buildings concerned. The container age is here and I suppose the containers will help in this whole process, but this is part and parcel of an adequate and proper transit policy.

The federal government, of course, has responsibility here as well, and I would simply point out that in the federal Department of Transport certain things are going on today which are of real significance for the future. I suppose that the minister is perfectly aware of what is going on there and I do not need to point it out to him. But, certainly it is in the whole field of experimentation and development of transit systems, that the plans of the federal government can come in.

Transit is an interprovincial thing and certainly the whole matter of building and experimenting with new modes of transit must, I think, ultimately be in the hands of the federal department, in co-operation with the people at the provincial level. Of course, along with this, the province must provide certain fundamental services and I have mentioned some of these.

You see, the municipal tax base cannot possibly provide adequate transport for our urban centres. The fare box cannot do it either. When that is tried, customers disappear and cars proliferate.

Cities are wealth-creators for the province and for the nation. More of that wealth must flow back to make the cities more efficient and more liveable. The motor car is here to stay—one would hope with modifications which made it less dangerous to lungs and life. It is essential for movement throughout our less congested areas, but more and more

it should be transient in our city centres—there to do a specific job and out again—rather than all-day resident in parking lots and parking garages.

Professor Morton makes a suggestion which I would like to pass on, if I can find it here. He says this:

> Much more important is to demonstrate to people who are now very skeptical that public transit can really be comfortable, quick and frequent. At relatively low capital cost, the core area could be flooded with transit vehicles of various sizes and purposes.
>
> There is no reason, for example, why huge and expensive buses should be worn out during off-peak hours, carrying four or five passengers. Why not use minibuses, operating more frequently over shorter routes?
>
> Taxi service could be cheaper if operators were allowed to use smaller, foreign-made cars. Public transit will never be be acceptable to Canadians as a whole as long as it is associated with long waits in winter weather, dreary straphanging and long trudges through the slush.
>
> In the central core area at least, these are miseries which can very largely be alleviated.

Provincial and federal action to set up experimentation of this kind is long overdue.

Then there are, of course, all the new modes of rapid transit which are now being developed and experimented with around the world. Dial-a-bus systems, which is a hybrid between a bus and a taxi, picking up people shortly after they have dialed for it at their own homes or at a nearby stop. The computer would know the location of its vehicles, how many passengers were on them and where they were heading. It would select the right vehicle and despatch it to the caller.

Then, of course, we have the other modes that are emerging, the Starr car and the Urbmobile, that point to the development of individual people capsules which start and finish on their own, but link up on guideways for various times for the main part of the journey.

Air cushion vehicles are on their way and, as I mentioned in the House the other day, already The Department of Transportation in the United States has given a contract for the development of an air-cushion train in the United States. Some discussion has taken place between our own Transport minister in Ottawa and the secretary of transport, John Volpe in Washington, in this respect, and I hope that some international development here will take place.

Dual mode buses, which run either on roads or rails, are now being developed. Transit expressway systems too, are coming. These driverless, rubber-tired vehicles operate over a concrete guide, on two-minute headways at speeds up to 50 miles per hour. Further development is still needed in the switching of these vehicles, as in monorail, but this will come. We need to keep our options open when we think of rapid transit of the future, and at the same time we have to work with the present modes which have proven themselves and with which we are now familiar.

All these modes of transport are possible for the future, and we have to keep them in mind as we plan for our transport policy.

In addition to transit planning within our cities, of course, there is the whole field of transportation for the intercity movement of people and goods. The old concept of passenger train service is passing and new ones, like the GO system, are emerging. This was, of course, one of the factors in the hearings in Guelph, which are still continuing today.

Highway transport is moving a lot of freight, but the freight train still survives and prospers. Where is the balance to be found in these modes of transport for both people and goods? This is the great question.

Certainly in west central Ontario, with the new international airport which is almost certain to be located somewhere in the vicinity of Milton, in my opinion then the whole field of transport in that area has to be looked at very carefully. Will this government meet the need for fast transit between Toronto, Malton, Guelph, Waterloo? The Hamilton area is already being met, but from the new airport down to Hamilton, and the link-up of the present airport and the new airport, is involved in this.

I would hope in the planning for the new airport—and I hope that this minister has been kept fully aware of what is going on in the Ottawa minds here—I hope that we do not have to build as much parking space there, because of the kind of rapid transit that will feed passengers into that complex and bring them out.

This, of course, is just one of the problems that is faced today. The Lake Erie shore is another one, and I am not going to dwell on that too much now, because it will inevitably come up later on. But in the report on the Lake Erie shore we have the statement that

future corridors of heavy industrial development for the next 30 years have to be provided there.

> The widely spaced site plans of the Steel Company of Canada, Dominion Foundry and Steel Company, Texaco and Ontario Hydro, demonstrate the urgency of planning lakeshore development and conservation as a continuous system from Windsor to Port Colborne requiring collaboration among three closely related economic regions.
>
> One element in this lakefront planning must be the conservation and development of water-oriented recreation resources.

Since that is true, then the transportation policy from Niagara Falls right along to Windsor, particularly in the area which is now threatened with great industrial expansion, that transport policy must be cleared before many months have passed.

If we are going to preserve the waterfront for recreational use as it should be preserved and some of it, which has been alienated, brought back into the public domain, then access to those recreation areas must be determined. The very large interindustry transportation, the transportation from the inevitable burgeoning towns and cities which will service the industries must be planned now.

I would hope, as official plans are laid out, that the Minister of Transport has a chance to take a look at them and that that policy is going to be not only outlined now, but is going to be adhered to, in spite of the tremendous pressures that are almost inevitable in that kind of dynamic growth.

On the Niagara escarpment itself, of course, we will come to that in more detail during the estimates and the detailed consideration of them, but the Gertler report, now two years old, demanded that some policy be outlined for transit there. Are we going to have the scenic expressway or are we going to have rapid transit along that line?

I mentioned in the House the other day my concern about the very thing that this minister mentioned this morning, when he said that some comprehensive plans must be outlined. I have forgotten his words, but I gather that the public concern must be paramount here.

When we are going to build a monorail system along the Penn railway line in Niagara Falls, a privately operated one, which does not, in any way, get cars away from the brink of the falls and relieve that kind of congestion, then I think the minister must be concerned. He must be concerned that some sort of public transportation facility be developed there along the falls and the escarpment, so that people can at least leave cars away from the brink of the falls and have some way by which they can reach the view.

There is no question that, as numbers increase in that area—and numbers will increase as more and more people emerge with higher incomes—those people are not going to find parking places. So we want, not only a means by which they can park somewhere outside and come in, but also a means by which the people coming from the United States can easily cross the border to the Canadian side, where the view is much better. We hope when they come across they will remain and spend some money here, so it seems to me that that kind of integrated transportation policy must be outlined soon for the area around Niagara Falls and along the escarpment.

If we are going to have a policy we also have to have land to implement it and so the acquisition of land into the public domain must be undertaken. This matter, as Gertler pointed out two years ago, is not only urgent, but it is crucial.

I had some remarks to make on the fringe area of Metropolitan Toronto, but in view of what the Prime Minister said yesterday, perhaps I would leave those for a later time. I gather that some action has now taken place, belatedly, but still, it is going to take place, and a major announcement is going to come early in May on this whole matter. So I think I will be content to await with bated breath the great wisdom that is going to pour forth on that day about the fate of the area surrounding Metropolitan Toronto.

It is too bad that we had to wait this long, and it is too bad that much of the planning that should have been done by this government—and again, this minister should have played a vital part in that—has been done by private interests concerned only with the profit in land. This trend, I hope, can be arrested and reversed to some extent, but certainly vital transport corridors have already been lost. The land can only be brought back into the public domain at very great cost. One of the great penalties, Mr. Chairman, of having a Tory government in power too long in the province of Ontario.

There are a couple of other matters that I want to mention in passing and that is the slow development of air transport in the north. We thought, when this was announced with a great deal of fanfare, that there would

be much more rapid development. I think perhaps some of my colleagues from the north want to say a word about this, but leaving most of the onus at the local level is, perhaps, a major mistake here, but we will discuss that later.

The ONR, of course, is not the responsibility of this minister, but again we come to the transport policies. What is the policy underlining the ONR, its present function and its expansion? Have we a transport policy which says that the ONR is to play a vital role in the whole development of the north, or is the policy that it must pay for itself and break even in the black?

These are questions which I think we will come to in good time and perhaps have quite a discussion on when we do face up to them.

As far as the report of the minister is concerned, there are a couple of things which I was delighted to see in that report. It has been mentioned before, on page 8, the decline in the deaths in respect to motorcycles. This is something which has given me a great deal of satisfaction and again, a bit of regret that it was not done much sooner, because a saving of life might well have taken place if the minister had moved with a little more rapidity in this field.

There is one other thing here, though, that disturbs me. While the death rate *vis-à-vis* motorcycles is going down, on page nine I read these words:

> Department statistics show that there were more than twice as many bicyclists killed in traffic collisions in Ontario during 1968 as in the previous year.

I understand that increase has been maintained in 1969.

I wonder, Mr. Minister, if your research people are looking very carefully into the cause of this. The construction of bicycles in recent years has been, let us say, revolutionized. The high handlebars and the new seating arrangements, perhaps, have much to do with this kind of death rate in our province.

While the number of people involved is not great—not in comparison to the car accidents—at the same time those children are very important to the community and to the people who are next of kin to them. To send them out with a dangerous machine of this kind, is something which this department should not do. I would hope that a very careful look is being taken into the matter of handlebars and the construction of the bicycles our youngsters are now riding.

I think Mr. Chairman, that pretty well completes what I want to say this morning. I do congratulate the minister and the department on the breakthrough which they have made in reorganization. I think this has a tremendous potential. But only if the treasury benches are going to allow the civil servants in this department and, I hope, the minister, to do the job that they ought to be doing.

I would expect that, within the next two or three years, we should see the outline of a policy which is meaningful in Ontario—a policy which will answer some of the questions that are here today. The questions about rapid transit versus the automobile in our cities. The questions about commuter trains and the whole future of GO transit. The question of the direction of development which the transport policy largely determines in many of the key areas like Niagara Falls, the Lake Erie shore and other places.

These are responsibilities which must be accepted by this minister and by this department. While other departments will certainly have to co-operate, the fundamental transport policy must be laid down, and that policy will determine in large measure, the kind of growth and development and the direction of growth and development, not only in our cities but throughout the length and breadth of this province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: Does the minister wish to make some comments on the last two speeches?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Chairman, these offerings by the lead-off speakers for the official opposition and the NDP have been, as I expected and hoped, both thoughtful and well-presented. I think we have come to expect that of these two members of those groups, from their long association with and concern for traffic safety.

I appreciate the things that have been said. We have made very careful note of many of them. I distinguish between those that have substance and those that are on the verge of being frivolous, but I will deal with the former, and take serious regard for the suggestions they have made.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Are you sure of that?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Now, respecting the words of the member for Windsor-Walkerville, he was kind enough to comment on the efficiency and the courtesy of the service that has been rendered by the members of

our department, down through the staff to those dealing with the public. The member for Yorkville likewise—

Mr. Young: Yorkview.

Mr. B. Newman: I like Yorkville.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I apologize. The member for Yorkview was kind enough to comment on the competence and the forward view of the senior staff members who play a significant role in helping us determine the course the department will take. I appreciate these comments on the work of the members of the staff of The Department of Transport who, in my view, render a very splendid service, both in their senior capacity as advisors and in their service to the public.

Because we meet and deal with so many of the people of Ontario it is important that we give good service. When we fail, I am happy to have hon. members bring such instances to my attention. I think they know that we check them out carefully and if correction is needed, correction is made. I have to separate the operations of this department from politics as far as it is possible, because—

Mr. Trotter: As far as possible?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Right; because traffic safety does not recognize political lines. I am very careful about that and I hope I have the continued co-operation of all the members of the House.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Let us not overdo this.

Mr. Trotter: He is trying to butter his bread on both sides now.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: There were two significant matters raised by the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville that I think I should deal with at this time. The first is with respect to a provincial plan built around a rational transportation and land-use policy. I think we recognize immediately the significance, the primary importance, of that.

Indeed, when we started with our Metropolitan Toronto region transportation study, it was intended to be, as its name implies, a transportation study. How quickly we came to recognize that a transportation study could not bring forward a transportation plan in isolation. A useful transportation plan for this area covered by that review could only go ahead when determinations were first made with respect to other matters, to land-use and goals.

What were the long term goals that we should be seeking in this area? Then, in concert with my colleagues, the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme), the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough), the Minister of Trade and Development, the provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) and so on, the committee came forward with, its very thoughtful and very useful report. The report was not a blueprint of transportation. It was the necessary forerunner, namely: "choices for a growing region.

Those choices would have to be predicated on the goals that we were to seek and hope to attain. Those goals were social and economic. There followed from the presentation of that MTARTS report, which the hon. member knows well, a period in which all the municipalities and interested parties concerned within the area were invited to make their submissions to The Department of Treasury and Economics.

Those submissions have been in course of coalescing, and it is as a result of all that effort that we are looking forward to the presentation of the report that the Prime Minister has alluded to. He will be bringing it forward within the next month. It is called "Design for Development; the Toronto Centre Region."

This has been, admittedly, slow but I think we recognize that that is what was necessary; an admittedly slow development, but one that is evolving in the way the hon. members indicate we need to. We have to predicate a transportation plan on an overall land-use plan, and those land-use plan factors are slow in emerging and difficult to meld. Until that is done, I think the House will realize the laying-down of a transportation plan is not realistic.

Mr. Trotter: We have been trying to tell you that for years.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I made this very frank statement on that because that is where the matter stands now. We look forward hopefully to the presentation by the Prime Minister, I think he said on May 5, of this "Design for Development" that is taking into consideration all these factors that have been brought together.

With respect to the other matter that was raised by both members, perhaps more particularly and in detail by the member for Windsor-Walkerville—that of the provincial position *vis-à-vis* the federal government in matters of transportation. He related in an oblique way to historical background but I

think he misunderstands the situation when he infers that there has been a deterioration of the provincial authority as a result of The National Transportation Act. I do not agree that that has occurred.

The federal government's over-riding authority in matters of transport in rail and water and air has been clearly asserted in the past and these have not emerged as a result of The National Transportation Act. They did not result from the McPherson royal commission. They have been historic and they can be traced through the past.

That position is augmented by the intrusion, if I can use that word, of the federal authority into even road transport of an interprovincial nature. That was determined firmly about 15 years ago in the Winner case that went to the Privy Council. I say to the House that in my view the provincial authority has not been downgraded in consequence of The National Transportation Act. But we are keenly aware of our responsibilities that have been pinpointed.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister would allow a question. Has the federal authority interfered with the GO system in any way? If so, I would like to know where. They should not interfere but I would like to know if they have.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Chairman, it is my belief that the federal government has authority with regard to rate setting in—

Mr. Trotter: Where have they affected the GO system? The rates?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Railway transport.

Mr. Trotter: Get somebody to send you a note.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I do not need a note.

Mr. Trotter: You are giving us nothing but hogwash.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I am not giving you hogwash.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: These authorities were clearly established, under The National Transportation Act. Realizing the impingement that that Act will make on our welfare and on our social and economic life in this province—we are asserting our authority and making sure that we are acting in the best interest of the people of Ontario.

It is for that reason that we have been active the last couple of years in our relation with the federal government and preparing for this very eventuality that we foresaw. That is why we are in there now. That is why we entered, as I mentioned in my opening remarks, into the consideration of the initial costing order that was to be used in procedures before the railway committee of the Canadian Transport Commission.

We made our presence felt there to such an extent that we did impress upon the Canadian Transport Commission our views on costing. When their final costing order was brought down, the CPR was opposed to it and has carried its case to the supreme court and the province of Ontario is taking its position there.

Mr. Trotter: Well, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister could give us any examples of where the GO Transit continues—

Mr. Chairman: Order please! I think repartee could take place under 2301.

Mr. Trotter: I would just like to know. We are on 2301.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Chairman, it might be more proper under 2305.

We were dealing with the specifics of the transportation policy. I was just speaking to the House in reference to the matter that was raised and put before us very clearly by the member for Windsor-Walkerville. I related specifically that, even in highway transport, where the federal authority has been established by the Privy Council, we had particular concerns because, under part three of The National Transport Act, the federal government gave indication that it was going to resume its position.

Following the Winner case, the hon. members may know, the federal authority, having no way of dealing with highway transport, immediately enacted The Motor Vehicle Transport Act (Canada). It then deputed its authority under that Act to the provinces and that Act, insofar as it affects the carriers in Ontario, has been dealt with by the Ontario Highway Transport Board, as the deputed agent of the federal government.

Now we recognized that, with the enactment of The National Transportation Act and the implementation of part three, that is imminent, that we had to take a position on it and determine what was going to be best in the interests of Ontario. So, having discussed the matter with the federal Minister of Transport, we set up a conference between the

provincial ministers and federal minister and there dealt with the matter.

There is a continuing committee of staff following this matter up: how part three is to be implemented; what our position is going to be. And, in that committee's considerations, the presentation of the province of Ontario is the one that is emerging as the basis for the discussions.

I just make this very clear to the House, that we have been in the picture from the beginning, asserting the right of Ontario to the limit of Ontario's authority.

The member for Yorkview spoke on these matters that I have been dealing with that were raised first by the member for Windsor-Walkerville. In addition, he made a case for mass public transit.

You will recall, I think it was a year ago, in his budget the provincial Treasurer indicated that there would be a further unconditional grant to the municipalities that would be available for roads and transport. I think that was, perhaps, an inadequate and indirect way of satisfying them. Just as GO Transit was set up to provide better transportation for the people within the area reached and take them off the highways so subsidized municipal transit would likewise work to reduce the number of cars in the downtown area of any big municipality.

Mr. Trotter: Where are the grants?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: As I said, the provincial Treasurer made mention of that in his budget I think a year ago. In addition, the province has been making grants to municipalities for traffic studies with respect to roads and highways and extended problems within a region or municipality.

Reference was also made to the new airport and to the Lake Erie shore. I said in the House some time ago that we were involved on a technical basis with the federal government in studying the new international airport, but it was on a basis of confidentiality. I have to say to the House that I must still respect that position in its entirety.

The Lake Erie shore is a new matter that is emerging. It will have to be dealt with within the content of the traffic and land use policy of that area, but we have already been in conversation with The Department of Municipal Affairs on some of the problems that will be involved there.

There were many other matters raised that I expect will all fall clearly and definitely within the framework of our estimates and if members will refer to the set-up of our estimates this year they will find there are five votes. They are very fairly divided, so that there should be ease in following them and in determining where matters to be raised properly come.

Under vote 2302, which has to do with all the motor vehicle administration, you might say, there are six separate programmes dealing respectively with driver examinations; driver licensing; driver controls; vehicle registration; vehicle safety or vehicle inspection; and the highway safety programme. In vote 2303 there is common carriers. In vote 2304, the motor vehicle accident claims fund. And in vote 2305, the new transportation division, which is broken down into the sections of legal services, engineering services, research services, and the economic analysis, with assistance to northern air strips under the second section—namely, engineering services.

Are there any matters hon. members desire to raise that do not seem to them to fall clearly within any one of those votes or subdivisions? I would be glad to assist if the Chairman is not able to give clear direction.

With those few words, I await the comments of the various members with respect to specific matters and will do my best to give them the knowledge I have available, or to find the information on matters they require.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, I would like to get into this matter of—

Mr. Chairman: I have not called any votes yet.

Mr. Trotter: Oh, all right.

Mr. Chairman: In vote 2301 there appear to be six activities listed here, but they seem to be pretty closely related. I wonder if we should consider the whole vote as a unit?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Consider it all and carry it.

Mr. Chairman: All right, we will consider vote 2301 in its entirety. We might wait until the minister arrives.

On vote 2301.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to touch on this matter of the overall planning of our transportation needs. When the minister made that remark, I could not agree with him more. This is one of the great problems in the province of Ontario and, more particularly, in the urban centres, such as Toronto, that we need overall planning.

But what I find difficult to understand—in fact, I am completely aghast at the policy of this government—is that there is no overall planning. And this is the great danger—that we are going to get into a tremendous transportation mess, first, unless we not only have a plan and, then, secondly, that we act upon the plan. One reason there should not be a Department of Transport, such as we have today, is that it is virtually impossible to plan transportation without taking into consideration The Department of Highways. I would far rather see the two combined.

In essence, this department is really redundant in trying to meet the transportation problem. It simply does not have the power to have the overall planning. But when the minister talks about the difficulties he may have because of The National Transportation Act, and I think part of it has not been promulgated at the present time—as far as I know it is part three; I do not think it is even law yet. But regardless of what the federal government has done or has not done in regard to the railways, I do not think it has had a thing to do with what could have been done in the past.

This is why I ask the minister in what way has the federal government interfered with GO trains? I think in the discussions that have gone on over the years, the federal government has hardly been mentioned. The main reason they have not expanded rapid transit in the province of Ontario and particularly in Metropolitan Toronto is this government simply does not have a policy.

It is true that on occasion, particularly around election time, it holds out some carrot. For example, when Toronto is having difficulty in trying to finance the subway, you will see the headline that a 50 per cent grant comes to the city of Toronto for a subway. That figure, 50 per cent, looks pretty good, but then if you read the small print you find out it is 50 per cent for the roadbed.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: We did not arrange for the large print.

Mr. Trotter: Well, whatever it did, you certainly arranged the headlines. You have transit by headlines, just like the government has housing by headlines. You have rapid transit by headlines.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You mean the press does that for us?

Mr. Nixon: I think you do arrange for it. You have so many pr people over there who can arrange for it; you ought to cut their salaries.

Mr. Trotter: You spend about $10 million a year in advertising now in that government over there that we can nail down—

Mr. Nixon: Precisely. The offices are full of press relations people.

Mr. Trotter: In any event, Mr. Chairman, what is important to remember about that phoney headline is the truth of the matter, that the government pays 50 per cent for the cost of a roadbed for a subway, which amounts to about 15 per cent of the cost of the subway.

If you are going to have any overall plan, the one thing you are going to need first and foremost in a large urban area is rapid transit. I am not saying that this is the sole way you are going to solve the problem of transportation. There is no pat answer; I will be the first to admit it. But one of the major items is rapid transit and this has been almost completely neglected by the government of the province of Ontario.

It is no good whatsoever to say, "Well, let us solve it locally; it is a local problem." They do not have the money. Even a wealthy city like Toronto does not have the money to solve it. You might say that the Treasurer gives unconditional grants; let them use the money from the province's unconditional grants. All of our cities are fighting the problem of tax rates that are going up and where even older people find it very difficult to hang on to their homes.

It is just no answer to say let the cities use the money we give them from the unconditional grants. They still cannot afford it and that must be obvious to this government. They simply do not want to take any action. I want to repeat to the minister that the remarks he made on the opening of these estimates were just hogwash.

To say you are studying it—why you have had 27 years to study. Surely, within a very short period of time, with the expertise you must have within your own department and The Department of Highways, and within the government itself, you could come up with a plan that is going to serve us, particularly in the area we call the golden horseshoe. This is simply going to be a tremendously expanding area.

We know, for example, in Metropolitan Toronto that within another 10 years, there are going to be approximately one million more people. How are you going to transport them?

How are you going to do this if we are to avoid the chaos they have had in some of the American areas?

I am asking the minister, at least, telling the minister, that he simply has not measured up, nor has the government as a whole. It is not necessarily the particular fault of this minister; he shares the blame of the government. The real blame is on the Premier of this province. He is the man who is blocking rapid transit in the province of Ontario because he is the one who really decides where the money is going to be spent.

It is going to amount to a very major crisis in a short time in this province and particularly in the Metropolitan regions, such as Toronto or the city of Hamilton, unless we do something and we have to do something very major. We have asked, in this party, if the government will set up a select committee of members of this Legislature; having it sit while the House is sitting, and to come in with a decision within six months of how we should approach the major problems of transit in the province of Ontario. I would hope that the minister would support such a plan.

Quite frankly, it will cost the treasury of the province of Ontario money in order to implement the necessary plans. It will in the immediate future, but it is far cheaper in the long run to invest now than be faced with a situation where we have destroyed many of our cities and towns. I often emphasize this and people think I have a particular thing to push simply because I am from the city of Toronto. But I have had information sent to me that people in small towns are concerned because the highways are ripping through what were normally pleasant, quiet little places to live in Ontario. They ask why can the highways not go around the town and not through the very centre of the town. Why cannot, in many cases, rapid transit be used? Why cannot the railways be used?

There are no answers from the government. There can be answers if a government has a firm policy and really takes the actions that must be done. Unfortunately, so typical of this government, they do not do anything until they are forced into it. Just as we got into a mess in Medicare and the poor administration, because you were forced into it. This is what is going to happen with rapid transit, and what is happening now.

We talk about the expressway that is going to cut through the heart of Toronto. We are supposed to have rapid transit along that expressway, and yet they do not have the money. They have got the money for the expressway but they do not have the money to build the rapid transit line at the same time.

A lot of people are told, we have to have expressways, but they are also going to build the rapid transit line. They intend to build if they get away with the expressway now, but the rapid transit line—which is the business of this minister—as far as I know, is going to be held off for an indefinite period because they do not have the money. You cannot expect local taxpayers, really the homeowners or the tenants, to finance these major methods of transportation. There is really only one major source to get the money from, practically and legally, in the province of Ontario and that is through this minister.

Unless there is a very major about-face on the policy of this government, unless you just quit talking and quit giving us a lot of hogwash and give us some action, we who live in these large cities and really the province as a whole, particularly in the southern part, are going to be faced with a very serious problem.

Before sitting down, I would like to ask the minister one question. Would the minister favour giving grants to the cities for rapid transit on the same basis that they give roadways? In other words, would the minister favour giving 50 per cent to a municipality for the cost of a subway, the same as they would pay for 50 per cent of the cost of the Spadina Expressway?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, obviously I am not able to give the hon. member a direct answer to his question. The matter of grants is not in my jurisdiction.

Mr. T. Reid (Scarborough East): Whose is it then?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: The Provincial Treasurer and the government of Ontario. It is a matter of policy.

Mr. T. Reid: Are not you part of the government?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: But the hon. member will have to wait until May 5 for the Prime Minister's unveiling of the plan for development. I am hoping that he will get answers to some of the questions he has in his mind now.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, I would like to come back to part of the statement of the minister, following our presentation—a matter of general policy. I do not know whether I heard the minister correctly, but I saw a shock wave go through the line of civil servants here, his own staff, and certainly it shocked me when—

Mr. B. Newman: They are still shocked.

Mr. Young: Yes—when he said that he had to wait to evolve a transport policy until after the other departments had done their job—until after the Prime Minister has made his statement.

Now I may be wrong in that, but certainly I got the impression that the minister is holding off a transport policy until such time as the other people have made their decisions. The reason I feel so strongly about this is that transportation is fundamental and vital to the whole planning process. Surely the minister understands that. Perhaps his words were a bit carelessly put, I do not know, but the direction of transport will determine the direction of development.

The mistake we have made in the past is a very simple one. We have let the subdividers, the developers, the people who wanted to develop land, make the determination and then transport has followed this, to the great detriment of the transport system.

Surely, in the whole development of this area around about Metropolitan Toronto, the minister and his staff must be vitally concerned and must be in there helping, assisting, driving all the time, with a transport policy to direct and to implement the whole plan.

Perhaps the minister can give us some enlightenment on this, but certainly, the way the words came out seems to indicate that transport had to follow the other kinds of plans. That is the mistake we have been making for generations. I am sure we should not continue that kind of mistake.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Chairman, I think the member is quite right. I did not know that I gave the impression that transportation planning had to follow development.

What I said was that we found in the course of our Metropolitan Toronto and Region Transportation Studies that a specific transportation network or plan could not be superimposed on an area until we had determined the desirable land use of an area—and I think the member will agree with that—preferably in advance of developers, for sure.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2301. The member for Timiskaming.

Mr. D. Jackson (Timiskaming): Mr. Chairman, I follow along with what my colleague from Yorkview says. Surely The Department of Transport should serve more than just the function they are now serving?

One of the major parts of your policy right now should be encouraging development. It should be one of the instruments used to encourage development into the neglected parts of this province. Up until now—and it was borne out by a trip to The Department of Highways that we took the other day—we have always waited for The Department of Highways to make up its mind where they are going to build roads.

We were told when they built a new highway in the province of Ontario, it was done on the basis of need. In other words, through studies of traffic flow and studies of the population and development in the area, then The Department of Highways decide they are going to build a new highway, without any consultation with your department.

Surely, if The Department of Transport is going to serve a real, useful function, then it must be in liaison with all the other departments, at all times. When the Minister of Trade and Development, through cabinet action, decided that development should take place in one part of the province, you should set up a transportation policy to encourage that development and to back it up. That is not what is happening.

Your air strips throughout northern Ontario have been put in many places where surely, they are a need but they do not actually encourage the development of the area. If you are going to build an air strip in a place that you can fly into—sure you can put a DC3 on some of them—how do you get off the airstrip? All you have is nothing but a dirt road leading away. It does not make much sense when we talk of air strips and encouraging development in the north, if we do not have the roads to service the air strip and to serve the industry in the area in order that they can get to the air strip.

I think that surely you should be taking a major part in the development policies of this province. Another thing is that anyone who rides the Ontario Northland finds very shortly after his first trip, or on his first trip, the passenger service is not orientated towards encouraging passenger service. In fact, in my opinion, after riding it for many years,

it is doing just the opposite. It is discouraging passengers.

Whether this is what you want, or not, should be a decision that is made in consultation with the departments responsible for the Ontario Northland. Instead of that, the railroad decides it is going to destroy passenger service; they are going to cut out certain express freight services. They do not ask you. But I am sure it should be a major part of your department's policy to know what is going on in all railroads; to know what is going on in all of the trucking firms and their policies and know the needs of the area.

Until that happens, your department is nothing more than a regulatory body. It sits back and when it is necessary, you fill out licence permits, issue licence plates, and so on. But I see nothing to call it a department of transportation; really, we should call it department of licence plates.

I think that the setting up of the department of transportation, as you call it, is one step towards that, but unless they have much wider powers than you have given them in this estimate, they will serve no more purpose than your department is already serving, just to follow through on plans that someone else makes.

Surely that should not be the function of the department. I urge the minister to take into consideration—hopefully, something will be done this year—that you get together with your cabinet colleagues and work out an overall transportation policy for this province that will encourage development. And when the development takes place, that it will support the development rather than waiting for, as the hon. member for Parkdale says, the urgent need for transportation to take place; and then come along and say we are going to do something about it.

In northern Ontario, the Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) is spending quite a number of days each year trying to encourage tourists and he is wasting his time. How do you bring tourists into an area—no matter how good the accommodation is, or how many tourist attractions you have—how do you bring them into an area when you have, first of all, one of the worst passenger train services in the country? You have, I am sure, the worst roads in the country; we have limited air service and, on the new air strips, we have no road service to the air strips. Again, I urge the minister to take a complete look at the transportation picture in the province, get together with his colleagues and come up with a policy that will encourage development in this province for a change.

Mr. Chairman: The member for York Centre.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Before the member starts, some of the discussion right now would probably be more appropriate under 2305, research services. In 2301 it is just general overall policy.

Mr. Jackson: Mr. Chairman, could I just speak on that point? I agree with you in some regard, but surely 2305 says nothing about policy. The minister has already stated that transportation policy is not feasible at this time so—

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2305 covers, among other things, research services, which includes a lot of the discussion this morning.

The member for York Centre.

Mr. Deacon: Mr. Chairman, I feel that this is the time to make remarks about policy and the general approach of the minister to policy and I hope that is in order.

First of all, I do not think we have on the other side of the House a minister who has better intentions and is more conscientious in his approach to his task. He means well and I think we all agree with that. But this minister seems to be one who is so technical in his approach to his responsibilities that he has blinkers on him that consist of regulations that have been set.

He is rigid and fails so often to see the common sense and the overall position he must fight for and insist upon if he is going to be successful and if his department is going to be successful in carrying out its responsibilities. Perhaps he is too kind to his colleagues, to Ottawa, and to others he is dealing with in getting across the responsibility that he must carry out.

For example, in the matter of the legislation aspect and the regulations aspect of the department, take the school bus question down in the riding of the provincial Secretary, where they had so many accidents on the Queen Elizabeth Way. The question of the minister saying, "on a certain type of highway, drivers must do certain things," instead of having his whole programme and his legislation set up on the basis that it is up to the school board to get approval of the department for a certain type of stop. A stop

of one type, where there is no crossing of the highway required by the children at all; where the bus driver has a loading point off to one side; where the bus driver does not need to put on his flashers and therefore does not require traffic going in the other direction to stop.

That is a simple way of logically handling the problem he was faced with on the Queen Elizabeth Way. But no, he tries to set up regulations that, on certain types of highways the driver must do certain things regardless of danger.

The minister has the opportunity to have it where the motorist must stop if school bus lights are flashing; that is now a regulation. The motorists know that. There is no inconsistency there for them.

If a school bus driver has his route set out and approved by the department officials as to where he must pull off to one side and does not need to put on his flashers and where he must put on his flashers and require traffic to stop, then that ensures that we have a logical commonsense approach to the local need. But let us not try to have regulations imposed upon the public that endanger the lives of people, instead of safeguarding their lives.

So often we try to make standard guides that we insist upon across the board, but in this case it is not necessary. You could have all your school bus routes and the stops and the requirements here, the guidelines set down. You could have variations according to necessity, approved by your department, if they see it is in the best interests of safety in that particular circumstance.

There is another situation with regard to the regulations side of your department that I think the minister is failing to take advantage of.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): I think this might be a convenient point, sir, before the member starts on another point, that I would move the committee rise and report.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves that the committee of supply rise and report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, we will carry on with these estimates on Monday when we convene. It is my understanding that the whips have arranged a private members' hour for Monday afternoon and this will be provided for as well.

The list of estimates which was given will be amended after consultation with the other two parties. We are now in the estimates of The Department of Transport, which will be followed by the estimates of The Department of Mines and then by the estimates of The Department of Civil Service.

On Tuesday, it is our plan to go to the order paper to clean up some second readings and then resume estimates following the consideration of that legislation. We will not sit Monday night, but we will sit Tuesday and Thursday of next week.

Hon. Mr. Welch moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.00 o'clock, p.m.

JOURNALS AND PROCEDURAL RESEARCH BRANCH
DIRECTION DES JOURNAUX ET DES RECHERCHES EN PROCÉDURE
ROOM 1640, WHITNEY BLOCK
QUEEN'S PARK, TORONTO, ON M7A 1A2